

Information Technology Career Pathway

13,800 Employers

120,700 Workers

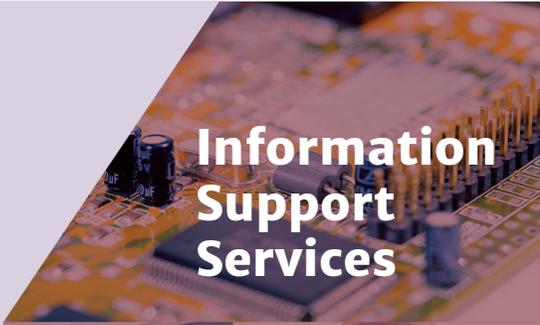
\$73,643 Average Wage

What are Career Pathways?

Career Pathways are a sequence of training and education programs designed to develop a person's academic and technical skills. By obtaining stackable credentials and developing new skills a worker can advance over time to successively higher levels of education and employment in a given industry or occupational sector.

Why Have a Career in IT?

IT professionals are drivers of innovation and interact with every level of an organization's structure. The Information Technology Target Industry Group has over 13,000 employers that provide jobs to over 120,000 workers. Wages in this industry average \$73,643, much higher than the state average of \$47,810. Employment in the Information Technology Target Industry Group has increased at an annualized 3.7 percent per year from 2012 to 2017, and represents 5.1 percent of all private sector employment. With a location quotient of .92, Missouri's IT industry overall has a slightly lower employment concentration compared to the rest of the nation, however, some sectors within this industry have higher location quotients, such as Data Processing and Related Services industry with an LQ of 1.69. From Help Desk Technicians to Software Developers, there is a variety of job opportunities in the IT sector. High wages and projected growth make IT occupations a good career choice in **Information Support Services** and **Programming and Development**.



Information Support Services



Programming and Development

Know the Basics

Soft skills, such as interpersonal skills, professionalism, and dependability, are important in all industries, including Information Technology. Information Technology careers often involve interactions with clients and team members so good communication skills and maintaining a professional demeanor are important. With technology constantly evolving and new innovations being discovered, a willingness to learn and apply new knowledge and skills is crucial for employment success in this industry.

Information Technology also has a set of industry-wide technical competencies that represent the knowledge and skills needed to be successful in this industry. Knowledge of databases, applications, networks, telecommunications, and software are important in this industry. IT professionals need to be able to provide assistance and technical support to customers and clients. Ensuring products and services comply with legal and regulatory requirements and applying critical and analytical thinking to address problems are some of the skills needed for success in this industry.

Who's Hiring?

Spectrum Enterprise
Jack Henry & Associates
DST Systems
Cerner Corporation
Infosys

Information Support Services

Programming and Development

Later

Bachelor's Degree or Advanced Degree

Computer Systems Analysts
Entry: \$65,550 Avg.: \$88,110

Network & Computer Systems Administrators
Entry: \$60,620 Avg.: \$80,280

Information Security Analysts
Entry: \$64,060 Avg.: \$91,630

Computer & Information Systems Managers
Entry: \$97,360 Avg.: \$130,240

Database Administrators
Entry: \$64,860 Avg.: \$87,910

Software Developers, Applications
Entry: \$75,590 Avg.: \$96,100

Computer Programmers
Entry: \$59,760 Avg.: \$80,030

Graphic Designers
Entry: \$34,810 Avg.: \$49,410

Software Developers, Systems Software
Entry: \$74,690 Avg.: \$96,200

Degrees: Computer Science, Information Technology

Degrees: Computer Science, Information Technology, Computer Engineering

Next

Long Term On-the-Job Training, Certificate, Associate's Degree

Computer User Support Specialists
Entry: \$34,390 Avg.: \$46,570

Web Developers
Entry: \$40,600 Avg.: \$59,210

Degrees: Computer Support Specialist, Information Technology

Certificates: Certified A+, Network+, Microsoft Certified Systems Administrator (MCSA)

Degrees: Computer Programming, Web Design & Multimedia App Development

Certificates: Certified Web Design Specialist, Certified Web Consultant, Site Development Associate

Now

Short Term On-the-Job Training

Most Information Technology occupations require proven skills beyond a high school diploma. Some industry-recognized certifications that may launch a career in Information Technology, such as CompTIA or Microsoft Technology Associate, may be obtained in as little as three months. Occupations in the Next and Later categories require knowledge and experience using specific programming languages and skill sets.

Sources:
Burning Glass Technologies Labor/Insight™ tool
Employment and Training Administration, Competency Model Clearinghouse
2017 Occupational Employment Survey Wage data, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



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