



Report for Carter Madison at GA State University

Careers and Occupations Guide

Support Manual for

CD2, Career Direction and **FUTUREFOCUS**

Version 5.0

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Welcome to your **Careers and Occupations Guide (COG)** Report!

This report combines career categories you find most interesting to help you:

- understand your unique personality,
- identify what occupations you might enjoy the most, and
- determine the education and training required to meet your career goals.

Your **COG** Report is based on your interests and provides suggestions in the following areas:

- high school courses
- extra-curricular and volunteer activities
- part-time jobs
- occupations detailed by people versus technical orientation and amount of education and training required
- occupations detailed by job description and income range

Remember, you are just exploring right now. You can create other **COG** reports using different career category combinations too.

You might want to share the information with your parents, your teacher, or a friend. This information will help you make good decisions as you plan for life in high school and beyond.

Before you begin, it will help you to understand some words used in this report.

1. **Technical, Trade, and Business Colleges** - in two years or less, these schools prepare you for job entry into specific trades, professions, or career fields.
2. **Two-year Junior or Community Colleges** - these colleges award an Associate's Degree. You can take freshman and sophomore level classes at a Junior College and then transfer to a four-year institution.
3. **Four-year College or University** - these are schools where you can earn a Bachelor's Degree and high level degrees such as a Master's or Ph.D.
4. **Master's Degree** - awarded for completing a one or two year program of study beyond a Bachelor's degree.
5. **Doctorate Degree (e.g. Ph.D., Ed.S, or Ed.D)** - awarded for completing a program of study that is often lengthy and that requires some

type of original research, as well as written and oral examinations.

Are you ready to explore your future career possibilities? Let's get started!



CHARACTERISTICS OF THE "A" CATEGORY

OUTDOOR

If you have a high score in category "A," you will probably prefer outdoor-related jobs. "Outdoor" has to do with work that involves tending and managing the environment. You are likely to be an active person who enjoys physical activities. You would enjoy a job where you can work with your hands building and repairing things. You are a practical person who appreciates nature. People with outdoor-related jobs are very important to society because they help preserve our environment.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE "D" CATEGORY

CLERICAL/ADMINISTRATIVE

If you have a high score in the "D" category, you are a person that others can rely on to get the job done. You prefer to know what is expected of you. You also prefer to have set procedures for routine tasks. You learn best by experience and like to know the facts. You want to know exactly what will happen.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE "H" CATEGORY

SCIENCE/MATHEMATICS

If you have a high score in category "H" you are more than likely very curious and a good "thinker." You are probably easily bored and tend to have a less outgoing personality. You are more than likely very creative and you like to explore and learn how things work.



Outdoor paired with Clerical/Administrative (AD)

If you had a high score in the "A" and "D" categories, you are probably a hard worker who likes to do things in a structured way. You also prefer to know what is expected of you and have a set procedure for tasks. You do well with order, paperwork, directions and time-oriented work details. You learn best by experience and like to know the facts. You want to know exactly what will happen. You may want to look for careers that will allow you to combine your interest in the outdoors with your ability to get things done.

Most occupations in "AD" combination require at least a bachelor's degree. Many require training through a vocational or technical program.

Courses you may want to consider taking in high school and beyond (in addition to English & Math):

You should consider taking life science courses that will continue to develop your interest in and understanding of the outdoors. Some business courses are very practical and may help you develop your organizational skills.

Computer Science

Agriculture

Business Technology

Economics

Bookkeeping

Botany

Industrial Technology

Environmental Science

Office Administration

Physical Education

Business Education

Health/Nutrition

Biology

Graphic Arts

Geography

Extracurricular/volunteer activities or organizations you may find interesting:

Experience is an important thing! If you are looking for an interesting activity, you should probably think about organizations that focus on nature and the environment. Don't forget to find a place where you can show how dependable you are.

Adopt-a-Mile	Athletics	Scouts	Parks/Recreation
Habitat for Humanity	Office Assistant	Teaching Assistant	Audio/Visual Services
Library Assistant	Newspaper/Yearbook	Class Officer	Community Volunteer
Future Farmers of America	Future Business Leaders		

Workplaces that you may wish to consider for a part-time job:

These workplaces may offer opportunities to help you decide and prepare you for what you want to do as an adult.

Accounting Firms	Landscaping Firms	Park Services	Clerical & Filing Offices
Repair Services	Farms	Lumberyards	Lawn Care Services

Here are some career possibilities for you to explore:

AD Career Possibilities

	More People Oriented	<----->	More Technical Oriented
	Outdoor Technical Environments	Nature/Office Environments	Nature/Animal Environments
More	Air Traffic Controller	Administrative Assistant	Livestock Auction Coordinator
	Army Officer	Land & Water Conservationist	Veterinary Clinic/Hospital <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Technician• Office Manager• Administrative Assistant• Records/Billing Clerk
	Community Relations Manager	Title Searcher	
Education or Training Required	Military Enlisted Personnel	Tour Guide	Secretary- Zoo, Farm, Ranch
	Aerial Photographer	Receptionist	Pet Store Clerk/Caretaker
	Safety Engineer	Ticket Agent- Wildlife Tours Agent	Pet Sitter
	Travel Agent		
Less	Air Quality Control Technician		
	Telephone Cable Installer		
	Highway Maintenance		

OUTDOOR TECHNICAL FIELD

Environmental pollution makes us more likely to get sick. We need more facts and new technologies to prevent damage to the environment and our health. Each occupation in this field helps preserve our future.

Community Relations Manager

Job Description

If you understand technical information, and you communicate well, you might become a community relations manager. In this job you would work for a manufacturer. You would tell people who live near the factory about any risks the factory might pose to them. You would also report any emergencies in the plant that could cause harm to its neighbors.



Education

You need a bachelor's degree in communications, public relations, or journalism to become a community relations manager.

Salary

The median annual wage of community relations managers was \$57,950 in May 2010.

Safety Engineer

Job Description

A safety engineer works to make products safer and easier to use. If you become a safety engineer, you would work for manufacturers, government agencies, or consulting firms. You might set safety standards for products. You might also inspect products to see that they meet these standards.

Education

You need at least a bachelor's degree to become a safety engineer. Many employers prefer a master's degree.

Salary

The median annual wage of safety engineers was \$75,430 in May 2010.

Air Quality Control Technician

Job Description

If you are concerned about the air we breathe, you might become an air quality control technician. In this job you would use special equipment to be sure that factories do not emit too much pollution into the air. You would also conduct laboratory experiments and pollution inspections.



Education

You need an associate degree or completion of a 1-year certification program to be trained as a technician. Some companies will want you to have some college education.

Salary

The median annual wage of air quality control technicians was \$42,530 in May 2010.

NATURE/OFFICE FIELD

If you're interested in nature and the environment, and are good at problem solving, then you may want to consider the following occupations.

Land and Water Conservationist

Job Description

As a land and water conservationist, you would protect the natural habitats of wildlife. You would likely work for a federal or state government agency. The purpose of your office would be to make the rules and regulations that keep land and water from being polluted or contaminated.



Education

Conservation scientists generally have at least a bachelor's degree in fields such as ecology, natural resource management, agriculture, biology, or environmental science.

Salary

The median annual wage of land and water conservationists was \$57,420 in May 2010.

Conservation Technician

Job Description

As a conservation technician, you would work with conservationists. You will help them to protect natural wildlife habitats. You might perform chemical tests on water and soil samples to check for pollutants.

Education

Most science technicians need an associate degree or a certificate in applied science or science-related technology.

Salary

The median annual wage of conservation technicians was \$33,930 in May 2010.

Tour Guide

Job Description

If you like to teach others about our environment, you might become a wildlife guide. People often tour parks, wildlife refuges, and other natural areas. As a wildlife guide, you would point out the interesting features of such areas to these people. You would need excellent public speaking skills to do this.

Education

The education you need varies with the employer and job. For some positions, you need a college education. For other positions, you need only a high school diploma. You must be interested in the park or museum where you want to work and have a pleasant disposition.

Salary

According to the job-search website indeed.com, the median annual wage of tour guides was \$32,000 in May 2010.

NATURE/ANIMAL FIELD

If you enjoy working with or around animals, consider the following occupations.

Veterinary Technician

Job Description

A veterinary technician works with animals in animal hospitals and clinics. In this job you would work closely with veterinarians. You would help conduct laboratory tests. You would also help dress wounds and prepare animals for surgery.



Education

There are primarily two levels of education and training for entry to this occupation: a 2-year program for veterinary technicians and a 4-year program for veterinary technologists. To become licensed or certified, you must pass a state test.

Salary

The median annual wage of veterinary technicians was \$29,710 in May 2010.

Animal Caretaker

Job Description

An animal caretaker does for animals many of the things that a practical nurse does for people. As an animal caretaker, you would work in an animal hospital or clinic. You would look after sick animals and report any changes to the veterinarian. You would also feed, walk, and care for the animals. You might even bathe them.

Education

Most employers have on-the-job training programs for employees. No college degree is required.

Salary

The median annual wage of animal caretakers was \$19,780 in May 2010.

Pet Sitter

Job Description

A pet sitter cares for pets while their owners are away. If you become a pet sitter, you will visit the animal's home or stay there until its owners return. You will feed, walk, groom, and play with the pet(s).



Education

No college degree or high school diploma is required for this position.

Salary

A pet sitter may charge by the visit, half-hour, hour, day, or week. The hourly pay rate may be \$10-20+. In 2012, Pet Sitters of America estimated a national pay amount of \$15 per visit.

Looking for more information on specific careers? Visit the *Occupational Outlook Handbook*: www.bls.gov/oco

You may also want to try the *Occupational Information Network* Web site: online.onetcenter.org/gen_search_page

Salary data from Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, 2012-13 Edition, visited 8/27/2012.

Additional average salary information acquired from job search website indeed.com in September 2012. The Indeed Salary Search data is based on an index of salary information extracted from over 50 million job postings from thousands of unique sources over the previous year.



Outdoor paired with Science/Mathematics (AH)

If you scored high in the "A" and "H" categories, you can play an important role in understanding, protecting and exploring the laws of nature. People with your interests have contributed much to our development, discovery and application of knowledge in this area. "AH" people are usually excellent thinkers and appliers of their knowledge. They are also creative scientists who have a great respect for nature. They often find new ways to solve old problems in all fields.

Most occupations in this pairing require at least a bachelor's degree and many will require a master's degree or Ph.D.

Courses you may want to take in high school and beyond (in addition to English & Math):

In high school you should take courses in math and science. Courses about the outdoors and nature will be of great interest to you. They will also help prepare you for a possible career in this field.

Agriculture	Calculus	Psychology	Trigonometry	Biology
Chemistry	Health/Nutrition	Technology Education	Physics	Economics
Business Math	Sociology	Environmental Science	Business Education	Telecommunications

Extracurricular / volunteer activities or organizations you may find interest:

If you have time for after-school activities or part-time jobs, make them count. You will especially enjoy club or activity where you can share your love for nature and use your thinking skills.

Adopt-a-Mile	Athletics	Scouts	Parks/Recreation
Habitat for Humanity	Math/Science Club	Hospital Volunteer	Environmental Activities
Computer Club	Tutoring	ROTC	Martial Arts
Future Farmers of America		Animal Care	Chess Club

Workplaces that you may wish to consider for a part-time job:

These places may offer valuable opportunities to help you decide what you want to do when you are an adult.

Animal Care	Farming	Medical Offices	Veterinary Offices
Landscaping	Park Services	Computer Services	Lawn Care
Archeological Projects	Theaters		

Here are some career possibilities for you to explore:

AH Career Possibilities

	More People Oriented	<----->	More Technical Oriented	
	Medical	Nature Sciences	Environment	Math
More	Professor	Microbiologist	Engineer	Astronomer
	Coroner	Archaeologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none">EnvironmentalGeotechnicalMiningPetroleumWaste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">AstrophysicistSolar
	Sports Psychologist	Geoscientist		Engineer
	Veterinarian	<ul style="list-style-type: none">PetroleumGeologistMineralogistPaleontologistOceanographer	Hazardous Materials Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none">AeronauticalIndustrial
	Horticultural Therapist			Financial Officer
Education or Training Required	Scientist	Ecologist	Landscape Architect	Military Budget Officer
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">AnimalBotanistEcologistFood	Conservationist	Environmental Health Inspector	Bio- statistician
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">SoilWildlife		Statistician
	Recreational Therapist	Political Scientist	Coast Guard	Surveyor
	Researcher	Climatologist	Surveyor	Mapping Scientist
Less	Meat Inspector	Firefighter	Water Treatment Plant	

<i>Tree Farmer</i>	<i>Operator</i>	<i>Researcher</i>
<i>Planetarium Technician</i>	<i>Engineering Technician</i>	<i>Technician</i>
	<i>Mining</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Airport Computer</i> • <i>Mapping</i>

MEDICAL

Your ability to reason and your no-nonsense approach to science can help you to become an expert in this field. Observation is very important in this field. Problem solving is important too. Here are three occupations found in this field.

Recreational Therapist

Job Description

Recreational therapists plan, direct, and coordinate recreation programs for people with disabilities or illnesses. They use a variety of techniques, including arts and crafts, drama, music, dance, sports, games, and field trips. These programs help maintain or improve a client's physical and emotional well-being.



Education

Most recreational therapists need a bachelor's degree in therapeutic recreation or a related field. Though less common, associate's, master's, or doctoral degrees are also available.

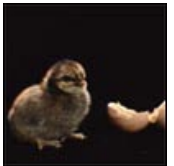
Salary

The median annual wage of recreational therapists was \$39,410 in May 2010.

Animal Scientist

Job Description

Animal scientists conduct research to improve the breeding and health of livestock and other farm animals. As an animal scientist, you would look for ways farmers and cattle ranchers could keep their animals healthy through better nutrition and disease control. For example, you might find a vaccine that helps prevent a disease found in cattle. You might work to solve problems in breeding.



Education

Most biological scientists need a Ph.D. degree in biology or one of its subfields to work in research or development positions.

Salary

The median annual wage of animal scientists was \$58,450 in May 2010.

Veterinary Technician

Job Description

A veterinary technician works in animal hospitals and clinics. In this job, you would work closely with veterinarians. You would help conduct laboratory tests. You would also help dress wounds and prepare animals for surgery.



Education

There are primarily two levels of education and training for entry to this occupation: a 2-year program for veterinary technicians and a 4-year program for veterinary technologists. However, many states require that you be licensed or certified. To become licensed

or certified, you must take a specific course(s) and pass a written test.

Salary

The median annual wage of veterinary technicians was \$29,710 in May 2010.

NATURE

Science thrives on curiosity. We know about the world and its history because there were people who were curious. The following occupations need people who aren't afraid to ask questions and who like finding answers.

Oceanographer

Job Description

Oceanographers (geoscientists) are scientists who study the ocean. As an oceanographer, you might study the ocean's movements. You might study the plants and animals that live under the ocean's surface. You might focus on what lies on the ocean floor. The oceans still hold many mysteries. As an oceanographer, you would search for what is unknown.



Education

A master's degree is the primary educational requirement for most entry-level positions.

Salary

The median annual wage of oceanographers was \$82,500 in May 2010.

Soil Conservationist

Job Description

A soil conservationist protects the soil needed for plant and crop growth. As a soil conservationist, you would work with other scientists. Your goal would be to find ways to get the most crops from the land without hurting the environment. You would find solutions to problems such as erosion and share your solutions with farmers, ranchers, and government agencies.



Education

You will need at least a bachelor's degree to get a job. In this area, the more you know and the more experience you have, the better your chances for employment. Your part-time jobs and extracurricular activities may play an important role in your job prospects.

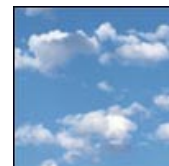
Salary

The median annual wage of soil conservationists was \$23,900 in May 2010.

Climatologist

Job Description

Climatologists (atmospheric scientists) study the earth's climates. As a climatologist, you would look at past weather records and research weather pattern changes to determine and predict area climates. You might study the effect of people's activities on the atmosphere and the effect of pollution on our air. Your work could contribute to maps that show the world's climates. It could contribute to other reports as well.



Education

You need at least a bachelor's degree to work as a climatologist. In this occupation, the more education you have, the better off you

will be.

Salary

The median annual wage of climatologists was \$87,780 in May 2010.

ENVIRONMENT

A desire to help improve our environment plays an important role in these occupations.

Landscape Architect

Job Description

Around office buildings and malls are beautiful areas of flowers and trees. During construction, these areas are nothing more than mud or dirt. The person who plans the landscaping around a new building is a landscape architect. As a landscape architect, you would look over the area surrounding a project or building site. You would think of a way to change the ugliness into a beautiful natural looking environment. To succeed in this job, you must appreciate nature and have an "eye" for beauty. You must also have the technical skills to draw up plans that can be followed easily. Finally, you must be able to "see" how the area will look after your plans are followed before the project begins.



Education

You need a bachelor's degree in landscape architect for this profession. Some programs require 5 years of study for this degree. Also, you must get an architect's license.

Salary

The median annual wage of landscape architects was \$62,090 in May 2010.

Environmental Health Inspector

Job Description

Environmental health inspectors usually work for a state government. In this job, you would work to keep our food, water and air clean and safe. You would monitor factories, businesses, and hospitals to be sure that they obeyed government safety regulations that help to keep our environment safe.

Education

Most states agencies prefer hiring people who have bachelor's degrees. Many states require a license as well. To apply for a license, you must pass a written exam.

Salary

The median annual wage of environmental health inspectors was \$61,700 in May 2010.

MATH

It takes a person who is good at reasoning and is very curious to fill positions in this field. Here are three occupations that you might find interesting.

Astrophysicist/Solar Astronomer

Job Description

If you are fascinated by the stars in the sky and the solar system, you might become an astrophysicist or a solar astronomer. People in these professions track, study and review data related to the stars and planets. You need an imagination to work in this area. You need good math skills too.



Education

For most occupations in the field of astronomy, a Ph.D. is required.

Salary

The median annual wage of astrophysicists was \$105,430 in May 2010.

Surveyor

Job Description

If you are a down to earth person and enjoy working outdoors, you might become a surveyor. As a surveyor, you would chart, study, measure, and map the earth's surface. This occupation requires someone who is detailed and precise.



Education

In most states, a surveyor needs a four-year degree in surveying or civil engineering.

Salary

The median annual wage of surveyors was \$54,880 in May 2010.

Mapping Technician

Job Description

A mapping technician helps a surveyor. As a mapping technician, you would work with a team headed by a surveyor. You would handle and use the surveying instruments used to measure distance and altitude.

Education

You can get on-the-job training. But it is easier to get a job if you complete a vocational tech program. There are one-year, two-year, and three-year programs for those who want to study mapping technology.

Salary

The median annual wage of mapping technicians was \$37,900 in May 2010.

Looking for more information on specific careers? Visit the *Occupational Outlook Handbook*: www.bls.gov/oco

You may also want to try the *Occupational Information Network* Web site: online.onetcenter.org/gen_search_page

Salary data from Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13 Edition*, visited 8/27/2012.



Clerical/Administrative paired with Science/Mathematics (DH)

If you scored high in categories "D" and "E," you naturally understand that there are always ways to improve a situation. You can probably handle several tasks at one time. People like you have made important contributions in business. You are an excellent thinker. You are also likely to be a no-nonsense kind of person. You are creative and like to ask the question, "Why?" Because of this, you will look for new ways to do tasks.

Most occupations in this pairing require at least a bachelor's degree. In some of these jobs, it helps to have a master's degree or a Ph.D.

Courses you may want to consider taking in high school and beyond (in addition to English & Math):

In high school you should take courses that emphasize math and science. Any courses that help you develop efficiency will be of great interest to you. They will also help prepare you for possible career opportunities in this area.

Business Education	Biology	Sociology	Business Math	Geography
Computer Information Systems	Calculus	Economics	Communications	Life Science
Computer Programming	Accounting	Psychology	Foreign Language	Computer Sciences
Environmental Science	Physics	Trigonometry	Public Relations	

Extracurricular/volunteer activities or organizations you may find interesting:

If you have time for afterschool activities or part-time jobs, make them count. You will most enjoy any club or activity where you can use your thinking skills.

Environmental Activities	Computer Club	Hospital Volunteer	Teaching Assistant
Future Business Leaders	Library Assistant	Office Assistant	Community Volunteer
Math/Science Club	Chess Club	Newspaper/Yearbook	Class Officer
Audio/Visual Services	Tutoring		

Workplaces that you may wish to consider for a part-time job:

These places may offer valuable opportunities to help you decide what you want to do when you are an adult.

Printing Companies	Veterinary Offices	Theaters	Libraries
Computer Sales Companies	Accounting Firms	Computer Services	Restaurants
Archeological Projects	Landscaping Firms	Libraries	Data Entry
Engineering Firms	Printing Companies	Medical Offices	Landscaping Firms
TV/Radio Stations	Architect Firms	Electronic Stores	Restaurants
Photographic Laboratories	Newspaper Offices	Veterinary Offices	Newspaper Offices

Here are some career possibilities for you to explore:

DH Career Possibilities

	More People Oriented	<----->	More Technical Oriented
	Administrative Services	Medical Services	Math Services
More	Medical Record Administrator	Geriatric Assessment Coordinator	Accountant
	Medical	Physician's Assistant	Bio- statistician
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">TranscriptionistAssistantSecretaryReceptionist	Nurse Supervisor	Public Health Program Specialist
		Research Analyst	Researcher
Education or Training Require d	Pharmacist's Assistant	Medical Librarian	Bookkeeper
	Research Assistant	Dental Hygienist	Purchasing Agent
	Laboratory/Clinic Manager	Science Technician	Computer

	<i>Medical Office Manager</i>	<i>Laboratory Technologist</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Systems Analyst</i> • <i>Programmer</i>
Less	<i>Human Service Worker</i>	<i>Licensed Practical Nurse</i>	<i>Clerk</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Accounting</i> • <i>Statement</i> • <i>Brokerage</i>
	<i>Medical Coding Specialist</i>	<i>Outpatient Coordinator</i>	
		<i>Home Health Aide</i>	<i>Bank Teller</i>

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

If you work in an occupation in this field, you will work in a medical facility. This may be a hospital, clinic, hospice, or laboratory.

Medical Records and Health Information

Job Description

Technicians assemble patients' health information making sure that patients' initial medical charts are complete, that all forms are completed and properly identified and authenticated, and that all necessary information is in the computer.

Education

Medical records and health information technicians entering the field usually have an associate degree from a community or junior college. Many employers favor technicians who have become Registered Health Information Technicians (RHIT).

Salary

The median annual wage of medical records and health information technicians was \$32,350 in May 2010.

Pharmacy Technician

Job Description

Pharmacy technicians help licensed Pharmacists provide medication and other health care products to patients. Technicians usually perform routine tasks to help prepare prescribed medication such as counting tablets and labeling bottles. They also perform administrative duties such as answering phones, stocking shelves, and operating cash registers.



Education

Most pharmacy technicians are trained on-the-job, but employers favor applicants who have formal training, certification, or previous experience. Strong customer service skills also are important. Certification is required in some states.

Salary

The median annual wage of pharmacy technicians was \$28,400 in May 2010.

Medical Assistant

Job Description

As a medical assistant, you would help a nurse or doctor collect medical information from patients. You would also help store these records and make sure they were accurate and easy to find. If you worked in a doctor's office, you would greet the patient. You would also take his/her temperature and blood pressure and listen to the patient's heart before the doctor or nurse sees him/her.



Education

Some medical assistants are trained on-the-job, but many complete one-year or two-year programs.

Salary

The median annual wage of medical assistants was \$28,860 in May 2010.

MEDICAL SERVICES

The occupations in this field help others who are in need.

Medical Doctor

Job Description

Physicians and surgeons diagnose illnesses and prescribe and administer treatment for people suffering from injury or disease. Physicians examine patients, obtain medical histories, and order, perform, and interpret diagnostic tests.

Education

The common path to practicing as a physician requires eight years of education beyond high school and three to eight additional years of internship and residency.

Salary

The median annual wage of medical doctors was \$166,400 in May 2010.

Dental Hygienist

Job Description

As a dental hygienist, you would teach your patients how to care for their teeth. You would clean your patient's teeth and take x-rays. Also, you would be an extra set of hands if the dentist needed help.



Education

Most dental hygiene programs grant an associate degree, although some also offer a certificate, a bachelor's degree, or a master's degree. A minimum of an associate degree or certificate in dental hygiene is generally required for practice in a private dental office.

Salary

The median annual wage of dental hygienists was \$68,250 in May 2010.

Home Health Aide

Job Description

Demand for home health aides is growing because more sick and elderly people prefer to stay home to recover from illnesses. As a home health aide, you would help patients take care of their daily activities such as eating and bathing. You would also be in the home to talk and listen to the patient. This would help to keep the patient's spirits up.

Education

In some states, the only requirement for employment is on-the-job training which generally is provided by employers. Other states may require formal training which is available from community colleges, vocational schools, elder care programs, and home health care agencies.

Salary

The median annual wage of home health aides was \$20,170 in May 2010.

MATH SERVICES

For many of the occupations in this field, you must have a background in computers. Also you would need math and reasoning abilities.

Computer Programmer

Job Description

Computer programmers write, test, and maintain the detailed instructions, called programs, that computers follow to perform their functions. Programmers also conceive, design, and test logical structures for solving problems by computer.



Education

A bachelor's degree commonly is required for computer programming jobs, although a two-year degree or certificate may be adequate for some positions. Employers favor applicants who already have relevant programming skills and experience. Skilled workers who keep up to date with the latest technology usually have good opportunities for advancement.

Salary

The median annual wage of computer programmers was \$71,380 in May 2010.

Computer Scientist

Job Description

Computer scientists work as theorists, researchers, or inventors. The areas of computer science research range from complex theory to hardware design to programming-language design. Some researchers work on multidisciplinary projects, such as developing and advancing uses of virtual reality, extending human-computer interaction, or designing robots.



Education

Most computer scientist positions require a Ph.D. degree as their main job function is research. Computer scientists having only a bachelor's or master's degree are generally limited in their ability to advance. Technological advances come so rapidly in the computer field that continuous study is necessary to keep one's skills up to date.

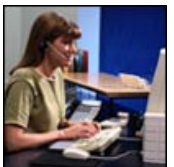
Salary

The median annual wage of computer scientists was \$100,660 in May 2010.

Bill & Account Collector

Job Description

As a bill and account collector you would make sure that customers paid their overdue bills. You might work for a collection agency, bank, or department store. Your job would be to contact customers who had not paid their bills. You would work with these customers to encourage them to pay their bill.



Education

Most employers require collectors to have at least a high school diploma and prefer some customer service experience. Employers usually provide on-the-job training to new employees.

Salary

The median annual wage of bill and account collectors was \$31,310 in May 2010.

Looking for more information on specific careers? Visit the *Occupational Outlook Handbook*: www.bls.gov/oco

You may also want to try the *Occupational Information Network* Web site: online.onetcenter.org/gen_search_page

Salary data from Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, 2012-13 Edition, visited 8/27/2012.



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We protect. We defend.

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