Hospitality and Tourism

- By 2027, 1.1 to 1.6 million new restaurant jobs are projected, and hotels have experienced six consecutive years of job creation. Opportunities for event planners will grow faster than average through 2026.
- Postsecondary certificates, degrees and industry certifications can improve employment opportunities and earnings in this sector. Meeting planners may need a bachelor’s degree.
- Meeting planners and food service and lodging managers can earn more than $47,000 per year, on average, while median earnings for a hotel’s security director and catering director top more than $70,000. Many employees have built career pathways from entry-level jobs to higher-paying positions: 80 percent of restaurant owners, and 90 percent of restaurant managers, report that their first job in the industry was an entry-level position.

Human Services

- Jobs in community and social service occupations—including social workers, counselors and early childhood workers—are projected to grow 14 percent from 2016 to 2026, faster than the average for all occupations. Job growth will be even higher—19 percent through 2026—in personal care and service occupations such as fitness trainers, personal care aides and cosmetologists, resulting in about 1.2 million new jobs.
- Varying levels of postsecondary education are required in human services: A home health aide may need a high school diploma and on-the-job training, while a marriage and family therapist or a mental health counselor must typically hold a master’s degree. Licenses are often required in personal care occupations.
- Individuals in community and social service occupations earn, on average, almost $44,000, which is higher than the national median wage. Fitness trainers make more than $39,000 per year, while skincare specialists earn about $30,000.

Education and Training

- By 2025, schools are expected to hire at least 1.5 million new teachers. Demand for education administrators will also grow: Opportunities for postsecondary administrators will increase by 10 percent through 2026.
- You must earn a professional license to teach. Licensure requirements are set on a state-by-state basis. Teachers typically must have some postsecondary education, while administrators often need a master’s degree.
- Primary and secondary teachers have an average starting salary of more than $38,000 per year, and more experienced teachers make almost $59,000. On the postsecondary level, teachers make an average of $76,000, although salaries vary widely by institution and instructor type. School principals and postsecondary administrators earn more than $90,000. Many positions have additional benefits such as insurance, paid leave and extended holiday breaks, which add to the overall financial value of these careers.

Visual Arts and Design—Fashion, Apparel and Interior Design

- Almost 34,000 new jobs will be open for fashion and interior designers through 2026. In addition, increasing retail sales contribute to the need for fashion merchandisers and buyers.
- Some postsecondary education is often required for visual arts and design occupations. Fashion merchandising managers can launch their careers with an associate degree, while interior and fashion designers typically have bachelor’s degrees.
- Interior designers earn about $51,500 per year, on average, while fashion designers make more than $67,000. Experienced fashion merchandising managers earn between $32,000 and $53,000.

FCS AND EMPLOYER CONNECTIONS

Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) prepares students for a wide variety of careers in a number of industry sectors that address the needs of children and adults. Yet, too few students and parents consider these pathways as career options despite the connection to fulfilling, high-demand, high-wage careers.

- FCS launches students on career pathways in the industry sectors of human services, hospitality and tourism, education and training, and visual arts and design.
- Half of the fastest growing CTE programs are related to early childhood education and culinary arts—two career fields that also are growing faster than average.
- Annually, 30,000 students surveyed by Family, Community and Career Leaders of America (FCCLA) report the development of key employability/personal effectiveness skills through their FCS education and participation in the FCCLA career and technical student organization: communication, conflict resolution, building strong relationships with peers, time management, organization and prioritization, being a team player and taking leadership roles. The U.S. Department of Labor has identified the need for personal effectiveness skills—collaboration, respect, responsibility, initiative and professionalism—to be successful in work and life.