THE FUTURE OF STEM CAREERS

STEM JOBS ARE GROWING

Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that STEM jobs will grow 13% from 2012 to 2022 (2 percentage points more than all other jobs). Additionally, the average pay of a STEM job exceeds all others by nearly $41,000 and is over $24,000 more than the median household income.

FEARLESS IN THE FACE OF UNEMPLOYMENT

STEM jobs are not unemployment-proof, but they do generally suffer less in times of economic recession. The above graph tracks the unemployment rate for STEM jobs vs. all other jobs from 1994 to 2010. This trend is expected to continue over the next decade, as STEM jobs become increasingly resilient to unemployment.

PERSONAL SKILLS

STEM work involves repeated trials, routine tasks, and frequent failure. Discoveries aren’t made alone; your team will be critical for success. Communicating your findings clearly enables your work to be widely used. Thinking through problems in creative ways with deep analysis is at the heart of the work.

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

High School Diploma
- Explore only the STEM careers available for those who earn only a high school diploma. Preparation for STEM future starts in K-12 when you register your interests and learn STEM classes.

Associate’s and Bachelor’s Degrees
- Technicians, specialists, and drafters require at least an associate’s degree. These degrees can pursue engineering, technical, programming, and applied sciences.

Graduate Degree
- Investing 1 to 2 more years in your education after college can mean making even bigger strides in your STEM career. Master’s degrees and doctorates permit you to work in deep research, medicine, and experimental fields.

TOP 10 MOST VALuable STEM MAJORS

What are the most up-and-coming STEM fields? We have your answer below—the average salary in the U.S. (2013 data) and projected percentage growth from 2012-2022 are listed beneath each of the fields of study.

1. Information Technology
   - $91,210
   - 36.5%

2. Applied Mathematics
   - $103,310
   - 22.7%

3. Civil Engineering
   - $85,640
   - 19.7%

4. Computer Engineering
   - $106,930
   - 7.4%

5. Computer Programming
   - $67,540
   - 20.1%

6. Environmental Engineering Tech
   - $41,180
   - 18.4%

7. Nuclear Engineering Tech
   - $73,450
   - 14.9%

8. Petroleum Technology
   - $58,780
   - 15.1%

9. Marine Sciences
   - $108,420
   - 15.8%

10. Computer and Info Services
    - $85,320
    - 24.5%

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