

Majors by Salary Potential – Full List

RANK	MAJOR	STARTING SALARY	MID-CAREER SALARY
1	Petroleum Engineering	\$103,000	\$160,000
2	Actuarial Mathematics	\$58,700	\$120,000
3	Nuclear Engineering	\$67,600	\$117,000
4	Chemical Engineering	\$68,200	\$115,000
5	Aerospace Engineering	\$62,800	\$109,000
6 - tie	Electrical Engineering (EE)	\$64,300	\$106,000
6 - tie	Computer Engineering (CE)	\$65,300	\$106,000
8	Computer Science (CS)	\$59,800	\$102,000
9	Physics	\$53,100	\$101,000
10	Mechanical Engineering (ME)	\$60,900	\$99,700
11	Materials Science & Engineering	\$62,700	\$99,500
12	Software Engineering	\$60,500	\$99,300
13	Statistics	\$52,500	\$98,900
14	Government	\$43,200	\$97,100
15	Economics	\$50,100	\$96,700
16	Applied Mathematics	\$52,800	\$96,200
17	Industrial Engineering (IE)	\$61,100	\$94,400
18	Management Information Systems (MIS)	\$53,800	\$92,200
19	Biomedical Engineering (BME)	\$59,000	\$91,700
20	Civil Engineering (CE)	\$54,300	\$91,100
21	Environmental Engineering	\$49,400	\$89,800
22 - tie	Construction Management	\$51,500	\$88,800
22 - tie	Mathematics	\$49,400	\$88,800
24	Electrical Engineering Technology (EET)	\$57,900	\$87,600
25	Computer Information Systems (CIS)	\$50,800	\$87,400
26	Information Systems (IS)	\$51,900	\$87,200
27	Finance	\$49,200	\$87,100
28	International Relations	\$41,700	\$85,700
29	Geology	\$46,100	\$85,300

30 - tie	Chemistry	\$44,100	\$84,100
30 - tie	Information Technology (IT)	\$49,900	\$84,100
32 - tie	Biotechnology	\$48,700	\$84,000
32 - tie	Mechanical Engineering Technology (MET)	\$54,100	\$84,000
34 - tie	Supply Chain Management	\$52,800	\$83,700
34 - tie	International Business	\$43,800	\$83,700
36	Industrial Design (ID)	\$44,800	\$82,200
37	Industrial Technology (IT)	\$50,800	\$81,500
38	Telecommunications	\$43,100	\$81,200
39	Food Science	\$45,200	\$80,500
40	Occupational Health and Safety	\$50,500	\$80,300
41 - tie	Biochemistry (BCH)	\$42,900	\$80,200
41 - tie	Marketing Management	\$42,100	\$80,200
43	Civil Engineering Technology (CET)	\$49,200	\$79,700
44	Advertising	\$40,000	\$79,400
45	Philosophy	\$39,700	\$78,300
46	Marketing & Communications	\$40,200	\$77,600
47	Fashion Design	\$39,400	\$77,100
48	Political Science (PolySci)	\$41,700	\$77,000
49	Linguistics	\$39,700	\$76,800
50	Molecular Biology	\$40,400	\$76,400
51	Architecture	\$41,900	\$75,800
52	Accounting	\$45,300	\$74,900
53	Agriculture	\$38,500	\$73,600
54	Microbiology	\$40,800	\$73,400
55	Global & International Studies	\$39,600	\$73,200
56	Urban Planning	\$41,100	\$72,200
57	Nursing	\$55,400	\$71,700
58	Environmental Science	\$41,300	\$71,500
59	English Literature	\$40,800	\$71,400
60 - tie	Business Administration	\$43,500	\$71,000

60 - tie	History	\$39,700	\$71,000
62	Film Production	\$38,200	\$70,900
63	Biology	\$40,200	\$70,800
64	Health Sciences	\$38,400	\$70,500
65	Hotel Management	\$40,600	\$69,800
66	Communication	\$40,000	\$69,600
67	Forestry	\$40,000	\$69,400
68	American Studies	\$41,400	\$69,000
69	Broadcast Journalism	\$32,700	\$68,800
70	Landscape Architecture	\$41,200	\$68,700
71	Speech Communication	\$39,400	\$68,100
72	Journalism	\$38,100	\$67,700
73	Zoology	\$37,400	\$67,600
74	Geography	\$40,800	\$67,200
75	Public Administration	\$40,600	\$66,900
76	French Language	\$40,900	\$66,700
77	English Language	\$38,700	\$65,200
78	German Language	\$41,400	\$65,000
79	Human Resources (HR)	\$38,800	\$63,900
80	Public Relations (PR)	\$37,400	\$63,300
81	Hospitality & Tourism	\$35,700	\$62,600
82	Humanities	\$37,900	\$61,800
83	Anthropology	\$36,200	\$61,400
84	Multimedia & Web Design	\$41,600	\$61,300
85	Psychology	\$36,300	\$60,700
86 - tie	Medical Technology	\$48,900	\$60,500
86 - tie	Liberal Arts	\$36,600	\$60,500
88 - tie	Kinesiology	\$35,600	\$60,400
88 - tie	Visual Communications	\$37,300	\$60,400
90	Organizational Management	\$41,900	\$60,300
91	Interior Design	\$36,000	\$59,300
92 - tie	Nutrition	\$41,300	\$59,100

92 - tie	Fashion Merchandising	\$39,100	\$59,100
94	Art History	\$36,900	\$59,000
95	Sociology	\$37,400	\$58,800
96 - tie	Health Care Administration	\$39,300	\$58,600
96 - tie	Theater	\$36,200	\$58,600
98	Criminal Justice	\$35,300	\$58,400
99	Radio & Television	\$37,900	\$58,300
100	Fine Arts	\$37,400	\$58,200
101	Religious Studies	\$34,900	\$57,900
102	Sports Medicine	\$39,300	\$57,400
103	Art	\$36,100	\$57,100
104	Classics	\$38,700	\$57,000
105	Dietetics	\$44,200	\$56,600
106	Public Health (PH)	\$35,900	\$56,500
107 - tie	Physical Education Teaching	\$34,900	\$56,300
107 - tie	Drama	\$35,600	\$56,300
109	Graphic Design	\$37,000	\$56,000
110	Photography	\$36,200	\$55,500
111	Sports Management	\$37,000	\$55,400
112 - tie	Education	\$37,400	\$55,200
112 - tie	Animal Science	\$33,600	\$55,200
114	Social Science	\$37,300	\$54,800
115	Interdisciplinary Studies (IS)	\$37,600	\$53,400
116	Paralegal Studies	\$35,000	\$53,000
117	Theology	\$34,000	\$52,200
118	Recreation & Leisure Studies	\$35,000	\$51,900
119	Music	\$35,700	\$51,400
120	Culinary Arts	\$34,800	\$51,100

121	Exercise Science	\$32,600	\$51,000
122	Horticulture	\$35,200	\$50,900
123	Biblical Studies	\$35,400	\$50,800
124	Special Education	\$33,800	\$49,600
125	Human Development	\$35,900	\$48,000
126	Athletic Training	\$34,800	\$46,900
127	Social Work (SW)	\$33,000	\$46,600
128	Elementary Education	\$32,200	\$45,300
129	Child & Family Studies	\$30,300	\$37,200

Methodology

This chart is based upon PayScale Salary Survey data for full-time employees in the United States who possess a bachelor's degree and no higher degrees and have majored in the subjects listed above. These results may not represent all graduates with these degrees. More than 1,000 colleges and universities across the U.S. were included. As a result, median salary figures may be skewed toward large state universities, since these schools have the largest attendance. Salary is the sum of compensation from base salary, bonuses, profit sharing, commissions, and overtime, if applicable. Salary does not include equity (stock) compensation.