

Industry Sector: Professional & Technical

Date: 2/08/2012

Business Services Consultant: Jeff Miller, (509) 532-3136 or [jemiller@esd.wa.gov](mailto:jemiller@esd.wa.gov)

## New Opportunities

Selected job posting opportunities:

- **WA2235714 Spare Parts Assistant (wage DOE)**
- **WA2235379 Senior Technical Writer (wage DOE)**
- **WA2237356 Project Manager – Boise (wage DOE)**
- **WA2237286 Mechanical Engineer – Boise (wage DOE)**
- **WA2237249 Purchasing Buyer – Boise (wage DOE)**
- **WA2237234 Purchasing logistics Specialist – Boise (wage DOE)**
- WA2235738 Shuttle Driver/Lot Porter (wage DOE)
- WA2237193 Planning & Environmental Coordinator (wage DOE)
- WA2237608 Low Voltage Tech/Apprentice (wage \$12 - \$18/hr DOE)
- WA2239126 Mow Crew Leader (wage is \$13/hr)
- WA2239223 Anchor (wage DOE)
- WA2240372 Carpenter Foreman (wage DOE)

## Industry Employment Trends & Observations

The former RAHCO now part of FI Smidt continues to grow, both here and in Boise (their positions are highlighted in bold above).

## Education and Training News

### Degrees for the Next Decade

**Find out which four degrees hold the most potential in the next decade.** By Chris Kyle on Yahoo.com  
Much can change in ten years. One career may explode in popularity while another may go cold. Your degree, however, lasts forever, which is all the more reason to earn the right one. Yahoo Education reviewed employment projections through 2020 to determine what graduates (with various degrees and educational backgrounds) can expect from the job market over the next decade. Keep reading for the degrees that rank highest in employment opportunities through 2020.

### #1 - Health Care Degrees

Love it or hate it, health care reform is creating many new, exciting positions in what is already the fastest growing sector of our economy. If you factor in the aging population, demand for health care graduates has never been higher.

**Top Degree Picks:** [Medical Assistant](#), [Nursing](#), [Medical Technician](#)

"We're moving not only toward a white-collar economy, but toward a white-coat economy," Derek Thompson wrote in "America 2020: Healthcare Nation", an article in *The Atlantic* magazine. With hospitals looking to control costs, most of the white coats will be worn by people who assist doctors and not the doctors themselves. This means new opportunities for nurses, medical assistants, and medical technicians. As Thompson points out, the White House and U.S. Department of Labor expect health care jobs to grow almost twice as fast as any other industry, with health care boasting three of the top five fastest growing jobs in the country.

### Average Earnings:

Medical Assistant: \$28,300

Medical Records and Health Information Technicians: \$30,610

Registered Nurse: \$62,450

## #2 - Business Degrees

New technology has forever changed the way people live their lives - and how companies do business. It seems change is constant in the business world (analogous to other environments). Today's business students will help define the way "business is done" in the next decade - and beyond.

**Top Degree Picks:** [Accounting/Finance](#), [Business Administration](#), [MBA](#)

Looking forward, the business sector's largest gains will be in management, scientific, and technical consulting service. The Department of Labor forecasts a "staggering" 83 percent rise in employment in these fields.

### Average Earnings:

Accountant: \$59,430

Management Analyst: \$73,570

Financial Manager: \$99,330

## #3 - Education Degrees

According to the Department of Labor, educational services is the second largest industry in the U.S. In fact, in 2008 there were about 13.5 million jobs in this industry. Population growth will fuel demand for jobs in this field through 2018.

**Top Degree Picks:** [Curriculum & Instruction](#), [Education Leadership](#), [Special Education](#), and [Teaching Certification](#).

Education Administrator might sound like an unlikely career "showcased" in a 2010 *Kiplinger* column about careers for the next decade, but the numbers back it up. After all, a rapidly growing population means more students, and that means more opportunities for educators. A 2010 report from the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce puts education behind only health care as a field facing the biggest shortage of qualified workers with degrees in 2018.

### Average Earnings:

Public School Teacher: \$47,100-\$51,180

Dean of Students: \$88,280

High School Principal: \$97,486

## #4 - Technology Degrees

Those with technology-related degrees, like network administration, will benefit from their grasp of cutting-edge technologies; such will fuel future advances in all sectors of the economy. From tech hot spots like Silicon Valley and Seattle to regional centers of innovation in Texas, North Carolina, and around the country, companies will be looking for qualified technology professionals to develop new technology products and service computers and networks.

**Top Degree Picks:** [Information Technology](#), [Systems Network Administration](#), [Programming and Applications](#), [Technology Support](#)

According to the Georgetown report, computer specialists alone stand to see a gain of 700,000 new jobs over the next eight years. Meanwhile, employment in computer system design and related services is expected grow a robust 45 percent through 2018, according to the Department of Labor.

### Average Earnings:

Network Administrator: \$66,310

Computer Scientist: \$97,970

Information Systems Manager: \$112,210

## Wage Information

**OLYMPIA** – Washington's unemployment dropped to an estimate of 8.5% in December (preliminary, latest estimate)

**Locally: Professional, Technical, and Scientific jobs had a slight uptick of jobs; the forecast for these industries for 2012 is +1%.**

**Industry Sector:** Transportation and Warehousing

**Date:** 2/3/2012

**Business Services Consultant:** Dirk Vastrick – (509) 532-3038 or [dvastrick@esd.wa.gov](mailto:dvastrick@esd.wa.gov)

## New Opportunities

- Shredding Specialist – dba Secure Shred – WA2240337
- Vehicle Licensing Agent – Wendle – WA2237245

## Trends

Year over year 2010 to 2011, this sector has been flat – neither growth nor shrinkage in positions. Employment opportunities remain strong due to retirement or disqualification of existing drivers. The sub-sectors of air travel, courier/delivery service, food manufacturing & bottling companies have shown growth.

## Wage Information – Current Average Wage for Spokane County

- Air Traffic Controller - \$47.66 per hr
- Commercial Pilot - \$28.07 per hr
- Heavy Haul Truck Driver - \$18.70 per hr
- Shipping/Receiving Clerk - \$13.26 per hr
- Courier - \$10.76 per hr

## Noteworthy News

Many people have earned their CDL and subsequently left commercial driving. As long as they renewed on time, the CDL remained active. Previously one didn't need to have a valid DOT health card to keep one's CDL active if not driving a commercial vehicle. This is changing in the state of Washington and nationally, due to a new regulation from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

Starting January 30, 2012 (and no later than January 30, 2014), all CDL holders must provide information to their state driver's licensing agency regarding the type of commercial motor vehicle they drive or expect to drive with their CDL. Drivers operating in certain types of commerce will be required to submit a current medical examiner's certificate to their state driver's licensing agency to obtain "certified" medical status as part of their driving record. CDL holders required to have "certified" medical status who fail to provide and keep current their medical examiner's certificate (with their state driver's licensing agency) will become "non-certified" and may lose their CDL.

What does this mean for those holding CDLs they've not used for a while? If you declare you don't plan to drive commercial vehicles, your CDL goes away. If you declare you are in, or expect to be in, interstate driving, you **MUST** supply a copy of the DOT medical certificate to the Washington State Department of Licensing at your next renewal date (if is before January 31, 2014), or when instructed to do so by letter from the department if your renewal date is after January 31, 2014. If you declare that you are currently (or plan to be) driving commercially only within the boundaries of the state of Washington, then you are **NOT** required to provide a DOT medical certificate.

Of course, there *are* exceptions to these rules! Drivers are exempt from filing their medical certificate if they cross state lines with a school bus (transporting students to and from school), occasionally transporting personal property (and not for compensation), operating a government or emergency response vehicle, or making emergency deliveries of propane or home heating oil. Intrastate drivers must file their medical certificate if they transport cargo that comes from outside Washington (or is going outside Washington State), or if they deliver cargo to Washington State ports.

**Industry Sector:** Healthcare

**Date:** 2/7/12

**Business Services Consultant:** Heather Davis (509) 532-3134 or [Hdavis@esd.wa.gov](mailto:Hdavis@esd.wa.gov)

## New Opportunities

WA2240487 Registered Nurse/Licensed Practical Nurse FT/DOE  
WA2237646 CAN/NAR FT/\$10.04/HR

## Industry Employment Trends & Observations

Occupational Therapy Assistant shows a short term growth projection of 3.5% and long term projections indicates a growth rate of 1.3%.

## Wage Information

Average annual wages are reported to be \$26,357 per yr or \$12.67 per hr.

## Education and Training News

Occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants help people throughout their lifespan to participate in activities and occupations they want and need, via therapeutic assistance. Common occupational therapy interventions include helping children with disabilities to participate fully in school and social situations, helping people recover from injury to regain skills, and providing support for older adults experiencing physical and cognitive changes. Occupational therapy services typically include:

- An individualized evaluation, during which the client/family and occupational therapist determine the person's goals
- Customized intervention to improve the person's ability to perform daily activities and reach goals
- An outcomes evaluation to ensure that the goals are being met. Modifications to the intervention plan may be made as needed.

SFCC offers [a two-year program](#) which includes study in anatomy and physiology, social science, occupation-based therapy courses and practical clinical experience in area health care facilities affiliated with the college. The technical courses for the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program do not transfer to four-year schools.

Occupational therapy assistant duties include: a) designing therapeutic activity treatments that are within the plan of care proposed by the occupational therapist; b) evaluating and training patients to use adaptive equipment, making life easier; c) assisting the occupational therapist with data collection for evaluation purposes; and d) keeping records and reporting to the occupational therapist on the patient's progress.

Occupational therapist assistants work with all ages and are employed in a wide variety of settings, including hospitals, rehabilitation centers, pediatric facilities or school systems, private occupational therapy clinics, mental health hospitals or clinics, home health care agencies, and extended care facilities.

## Other Noteworthy News

[Spokane Occupational and Hand Therapy](#) has staff with over 125 years of combined experience. They are locally owned and contribute directly to the community via several charitable endeavors. As Occupational Therapists (OTs), they assist people to improve their ability to perform tasks in their daily living and working environments. They work with individuals who have conditions that are mentally, physically, developmentally, or emotionally disabling by helping clients develop, recover, or maintain daily living and work skills. Therapists help clients to improve their basic motor functions and reasoning abilities; this assistance further compensates them for permanent loss of function. The primary goal is to help

**Industry Sector:** Manufacturing/Aerospace

**Date:** 02/08/12

Business Services Consultant: Sean Pelfrey (509) 532-3159 or [spelfrey@esd.wa.gov](mailto:spelfrey@esd.wa.gov)

## **New Opportunities**

[WA2241633](#) – Burn Table Operator, 40+ hours a week, 11.75hr plus Benefits

[WA2242444](#) – Laser Operator, 40+ hours a week, \$13 to \$16hr plus Benefits

## **Trends**

### **Manufacturing**

Manufacturers add value to raw products by creating manufactured items. For example, cotton cloth becomes more valuable than a boll of cotton through manufacturing processes.

Transportation equipment is Washington's most valuable manufactured product. The state is a leading producer in the aircraft and space industry. Washington is also a leading shipbuilding state.

Ranking second are computer and electronic products such as computer microchips, telephone and wireless communication equipment, medical equipment and navigational instruments.

Ranking third is food processing (milling flour, coffee and tea manufacturing, potato processing, fish and meat packing, canning, freezing and preserving fruits, vegetables, and berries, and production of butter, cheese, milk, wine, and breakfast foods).

### **Wage Information**

As additional job seekers inquire, it's imperative we share with them Labor Market Information and the living wage calculator. ( <http://www.livingwage.geog.psu.edu/counties/53063>). This information is imperative as job seekers discuss wages with employers; it gives them a better understanding of what they need to earn to survive.

### **Education and Training News**

#### **Good Jobs, Good Wages**

Manufacturing jobs command high wages and benefits that are among the best in the state. According to the Washington State Employment Security Department, the average annual manufacturing wage in 2000 was \$47,000, and in 2003, \$51,000. Of course, those figures include many experienced workers. Entry-level manufacturing salaries also compare favorably with starting salaries in other fields.

Over the past few years Spokane Community College has partnered with local business and agencies to ensure that the programs being offered in the new Career Tech Center are in line with industry. The redesign of various programs, along with updated curriculum and equipment, will allow students to exit school with highly needed experience and skills.

#### **Other Noteworthy News**

Having started as a small shop in the northern most reaches of Washington State, over the past few years Northwest Steel and Fabrication has grown to be a top notch, state of the art facility in Deer Park , Wa.

Northwest Steel Fab Inc offers a complete steel fabrication and sophisticated coatings service that has been providing the steel industry quality products for nearly 17 years. This premier fabrication division excels at fast track, tight tolerance projects and specializes in the fields of hydro-electric, oil, gas, commercial building and industrial plant

## Regional Industry Information at a Glance

fabrication. They offer pass-thru wheel-abrading and sandblasting services as well as specialty coatings. Their industrial coatings division is among the most knowledgeable and experienced in the industry. Northwest Steel Fab also offers 3D modeling and detailing services “in-house”, supplying customers with a comprehensive solution to steel industry needs. Their *“dedication to their customers and the success of their projects”* drives them to continually innovate and improve their services to better facilitate their customers.

The foundation of the company has been built around the customer. Northwest Steel Fab understands that satisfying the customer is core to their success and they maintain a strong commitment to focus on meeting clientele needs. Northwest Steel Fab ensures that everything is done right the first time and meets all contract requirements. Their long-lasting relationships, and retention of customers, are testimony to this commitment. [www.nwsfab.com](http://www.nwsfab.com)