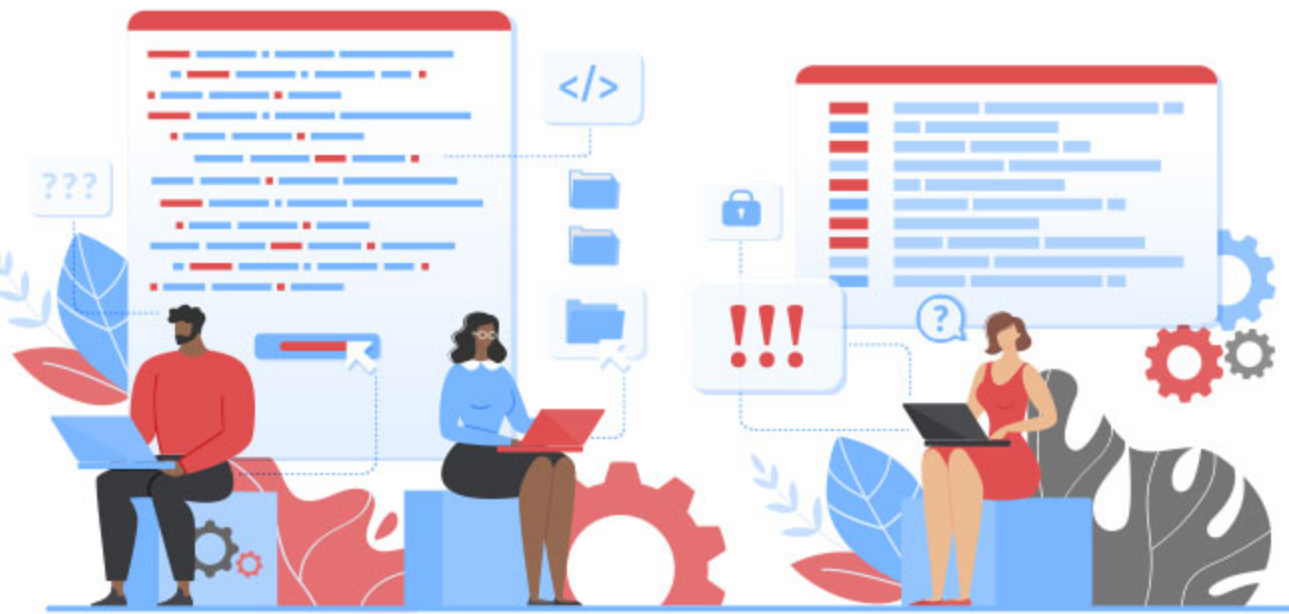


Information Technology

The Literacy of the 21st Century



In the wake of COVID, IT jobs surge!

With lockdowns from coast to coast, the coronavirus pandemic has spurred a massive change in how millions of Americans work and learn. Employment ads have now adopted the acronym WFH—“Work from home”—because it’s become so commonplace.

But many companies struggle with the new heavy-duty infrastructure and programming requirements to sustain this model. Information technologists at all levels are needed by schools adopting distance-learning, retailers moving entirely online, the logistics industry, and just about every form of business.

Computer and information technology fields have surged. In fact, IT is one of the 10 occupations with the largest job growth, according to the employment website Glassdoor. This year jobs have grown by 33%, even as the overall job market contracted by 29%. Consider the astronomical growth of the healthcare information technology market. It is projected to reach \$270.3 billion by 2021, up from \$227.5 billion this year, according to a Research and Markets report. And that’s just one industry!

Computer science and machine-learning have become fundamental to every aspect of society. It is the “literacy” of the 21st Century.

Are you logical? Methodical? Technically proficient? There are many career opportunities within IT,



from developing apps and software to installing advanced technologies to support communications and logistics. They all require a trained and computer-literate workforce—and you can gain many of these in-demand skills at Your Community College.

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The “internet of things”

With each passing year, the internet gets less “virtual” and more “reality.” Along with computers and smartphones, we use a growing number of electronic devices connected to the internet and transmitting information. Ordinary objects like thermostats, cars, even refrigerators, are now equipped with sophisticated sensors to collect data and network with other devices.

The “internet of things” is the integration of the physical world into computer-based systems. Sensors can now interact with light, temperature, location, voices and fingerprints, air quality and chemicals, and more. Health devices record data on heart rate, blood pressure, and the steps you take. The “wearable” computing and integration of everyday physical items into the internet are transforming every aspect of work, economic transactions, and personal interactions.

Stability in the future

The median annual wage for jobs in the computer and IT field currently offered on Glassdoor is over \$51,000. Demand is projected to grow. Moreover, this is an excellent industry for upward mobility. You can get your foot in the door with an associate’s degree and continue your training while simultaneously getting on-the-job experience. Build yourself a career path for the future, in a field where you’re guaranteed a stable job.

Computer and IT Careers



Computer systems analysts
Entry-level education: Bachelor’s degree
Median pay: \$90,920
Number of jobs: 633,900
Projected job growth: 56,000



Database administrators
Entry-level education: Bachelor’s degree
Median pay: \$93,750
Number of jobs: 116,900
Projected job growth: 10,500



Information security analysts
Entry-level education: Bachelor’s degree
Median pay: \$99,730
Number of jobs: 112,300
Projected job growth: 35,500



Software developers
Entry-level education: Bachelor’s degree
Median pay: \$105,590
Number of jobs: 1,365,500
Projected job growth: 284,100



Web developers
Entry-level education: Associate’s degree
Median pay: \$73,760
Number of jobs: 160,500
Projected job growth: 20,900



Computer network architects
Entry-level education: Bachelor’s degree
Median pay: \$112,690
Number of jobs: 159,300
Projected job growth: 8,400



Computer systems analysts
Entry-level education: Bachelor’s degree
Median pay: \$90,920
Number of jobs: 633,900
Projected job growth: 56,000

All data from the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019.