Thank you for downloading King University’s IT career guide! There are dozens of careers that you can pursue in IT, and this guide is designed to show you a few of these opportunities.

All employment figures are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.
COMPUTER NETWORK ARCHITECTS

Computer network architects design and build communication networks. Networks range from small office connections to next-generation cloud solutions that serve multiple customers. Computer network architects work with local area networks (LANs), wide area networks (WANs), and intranets, and they must have extensive business knowledge to understand how a network will help the organization reach its goals.

Requirements include a bachelor’s degree in a computer-related field and some experience, such as a background as a network and computer systems administrator.

The median annual wage for computer network architects is $101,210. Employment is projected to grow 6 percent by 2026.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS

Computer programmers write programs in a variety of languages, such as C++ and Java. They also update and expand existing computer applications and software programs. Computer programmers routinely test products for errors, fixing faulty code.

Most computer programmers have a bachelor’s degree. Most of them specialize in a few programming languages. Advancement opportunities include positions in computer systems analysis, software development, and computer and information systems management.

The median annual wage for computer programmers is $79,840. Employment is projected to decline 8 percent by 2026.

COMPUTER SYSTEMS ANALYSTS

Computer systems analysts help design solutions to help an organization operate more efficiently and effectively. They do this by studying current computer systems and procedures, researching emerging technologies, and analyzing cost and benefits to any upgrades. Computer systems analysts have expertise in both IT and business.

Requirements often include a bachelor’s degree in a computer or information science field. Courses in business are also helpful, because computer systems analysts are heavily involved in the business side of companies.

The median annual wage for computer systems analysts is $87,220. Employment is projected to grow 9 percent by 2026.

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DATABASE ADMINISTRATORS

Database administrators help ensure that databases operate efficiently and are secure. They back up and restore data, test modifications to database structure as needed, and merge old databases into new ones. Some database administrators specialize in the physical and technical aspects of a database (system database administrators) or databases designed for a specific application or set of applications (application database administrators).

Database administrators usually have a bachelor’s degree in a computer or information science field. An understanding of databases languages, such as Structured Query Language, is required.

The median annual wage for database administrators is $84,950. Employment is projected to grow 11 percent by 2026.

INFORMATION SECURITY ANALYSTS

Information security analysts protect an organization’s computer networks and systems. Duties include monitoring networks for security breaches and violations, installing security software, testing systems for vulnerabilities, researching the latest IT security trends, and developing security standards and best practices for the organization. Information security analysts plan and lead efforts after a disaster event.

Requirements include a bachelor’s degree in a computer-related field and related experience, such as a previous role as a network and computer systems administrator. Some employers prefer applicants with a Master of Business Administration.

The median annual wage for information security analysts is $92,600. Employment is projected to grow 28 percent by 2026.

NETWORK AND COMPUTER SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATORS

Network and computer systems administrators organize, install, and provide support for an organization’s computer systems. They determine system needs, install network hardware and software, maintain security measures, evaluate and optimize network or system performance, add users to a network, train users in the proper use of hardware and software, and manage servers, desktop, and mobile equipment.

Requirements include a bachelor’s degree in a computer-related field.

The median annual wage for network and computer systems administrators is $79,700. Employment is projected to grow 6 percent by 2026.

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SOFTWARE DEVELOPERS

Software developers create applications that allow people to do specific tasks on a computer or other device, while others work on the underlying systems that run the devices or that control networks. After analyzing users’ needs, software developers design, test, and develop software to meet those needs. They plan how designs will work together, create models and diagrams for programmers, document aspects of an application or system for future maintenance and upgrades, and collaborate with other specialists.

Software developers can specialize in certain areas. Applications software developers design computer applications like word processors and games. Systems software developers create systems that keep computers functioning properly.

Requirements include a bachelor’s degree and strong computer skills. Software developers can benefit from computer programming knowledge and industry skills, such as knowledge of finance for developers working in banking.

The median annual wage for software developers is $102,280. Employment is projected to grow 24 percent by 2026.

WEB DEVELOPERS

Web developers design and create websites. They discuss clients’ needs, create and test applications, write code, work with graphics and other designers to determine layout, and integrate media. After the website is complete, they monitor performance and capacity.

Web developers can specialize in certain areas. Back-end web developers oversee the technical construction of a website, creating the basic framework of a site. Front-end web developers oversee how a website looks, creating layout and integrating graphics, applications, and other content. Webmasters maintain websites and keep them updated, ensuring that websites operate correctly.

Requirements vary, depending on setting. An associate degree is the most common requirement, although for more specialized positions, such as back-end web developers, employers can prefer workers who have at least a bachelor’s degree.

The median annual wage for web developers is $66,130. Employment is projected to grow 13 percent by 2026.

PURSUING YOUR CAREER GOALS IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Achieve your goals with a fully online information technology degree from King University. In a convenient, flexible format, you’ll gain the knowledge and skills you need to pursue one of several IT careers. Students in King’s IT program may choose one of three tracks: cybersecurity, network management, or information systems. Undergraduate coursework at King University may be completed in 16 months.