

# Immigrant Job Opportunities



**Map to Success**

## Missouri

Job Shortages



Potential Career  
Advancement



Immigration in Missouri



## Job Shortages

The tables below show the top three occupations that are projected from 2018-2028 of Missouri employers based on the level of education they require. There is a state minimum wage of \$10.30 in Missouri. The one highlighted occupation under each of the three education levels has been selected to expand on in terms of potential career advancement.

<b>High School (HS) Diploma or Less</b>			
<b>Occupation</b>	<a href="#"><u>Average Annual Job Openings</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Median Hourly Wage</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>State Licensing Required</u></a>
Food Preparation Workers	15,920	\$10.64	Yes
Cashiers	13,770	\$10.58	No
Personal Care Aides	12,220	\$11.10	Yes

<b>More than HS Diploma, less than Bachelor's Degree</b>			
<b>Occupation</b>	<a href="#"><u>Average Annual Job Openings</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Median Hourly Wage</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>State Licensing Required</u></a>
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	5,870	\$21.97	Yes
Nursing Assistants	5,180	\$11.92	Yes
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Audit Clerks	3,570	\$18.34	No

<b>Bachelor's Degree or Higher</b>			
<b>Occupation</b>	<a href="#"><u>Average Annual Job Openings</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Median Hourly Wage</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>State Licensing Required</u></a>
Registered Nurses	5,530	\$30.03	Yes
General & Operations Managers	4,610	\$38.34	No
Accountants & Auditors	2,870	\$30.22	Yes

## Potential Career Advancement

### 1) Food Preparation Worker to Certified Food Manager

	<b>Entry Level Job (hourly wage)</b>	<b>Entry Level Requirements</b>	<b>Career Advancement (hourly wage)</b>	<b>Career Advancement Requirements</b>
<b>1</b>	Food Preparation Worker (\$10.64)	Food Handler Certification required in certain counties	Certified Food Manager (\$26.13)	Pass the ANSI food safety certification exam

#### Food Preparation Worker Job Description:

- [Perform](#) a variety of food preparation duties other than cooking

#### Entry Level Requirements:

- Food Handler Certification – [not required](#) by Missouri state law, but it is required in Cass, Clay, Boone, Jefferson, Platt & St. Charles counties and [Kansas City](#) within 30 days of hire
- Obtain Food Handler Certification online [here](#) (\$7, 2 hours); click [here](#) to take exam in Español, 普通话, 한국어, Việt, American Sign Language, Tagalog, Serbo-Croatian

- In Kansas City, [certification](#) is offered online (\$25) or [in-person](#) (\$20) at the Health Department

**Certified Food Manager Job Description:**

- Responsible for food safety to protect the public from foodborne illness

**Career Advancement Requirements:**

- [Pass](#) the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) certification exam (\$55)
- Online courses are not required, but provide knowledge for the ANSI exam

**2) Bookkeeping, Accounting & Audit Clerks to Accountant & Auditor**

	Entry Level Job (hourly wage)	Entry Level Requirements	Career Advancement (hourly wage)	Career Advancement Requirements
2	Bookkeeping, Accounting & Audit Clerks (\$18.34)	Associate’s degree in Accounting or related field preferred	Accountants & Auditors (\$30.22)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bachelor’s degree with Accounting concentration</li> <li>1 year of experience in accounting</li> <li>Pass the CPA exam</li> <li>Pass the Ethics exam</li> </ul>

**Bookkeeping, Accounting & Audit Clerk Job Description:**

- [Compute, classify and record](#) numerical data to keep financial records accurate and complete

**Entry Level Requirements:**

- Certification is **not** required by Missouri law, but an Associate’s degree is generally preferred
- Accounting training programs in Missouri are listed [here](#)

**Accountant & Auditor Job Description:**

- [Analyze](#) financial information and prepare financial reports on activities in an organization

**Career Advancement Requirements:**

- A Bachelor’s degree with Accounting concentration
- At least 1 year of accounting experience
- Pass the [CPA](#) exam (Approx. \$900 with \$180 application fee)
- Pass the [AICPA exam](#) with minimum score of 90
- Residency and social security number are [required](#), but there is no citizenship requirement

### 3) Registered Nurse to Nurse Practitioner

	Entry Level Job (hourly wage)	Entry Level Requirements	Career Advancement (hourly wage)	Career Advancement Requirements
3	Registered Nurses (\$30.03)	Complete a state-approved nursing program  Pass the NCLEX-RN exam	Nurse Practitioners (\$48.97)	Earn graduate degree in nursing specialty  Become nationally certified  Apply for license

#### Registered Nurse Job Description:

- [Assess](#) patient health problems and needs, develop and administer nursing care

#### Entry Level Requirements:

- [Complete](#) a state-approved nursing program
- [Pass](#) the National Council Licensure Examination-Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN) exam (\$200)

#### Nurse Practitioner Job Description:

- [Diagnose](#) and treat patients independently or as part of a healthcare team

#### Career Advancement Requirements:

- Earn a graduate degree in a chosen nursing specialization
- Become [nationally certified](#) by an accredited agency
- Apply for license

## Immigration in Missouri

The following are facts about the [immigrant community in Missouri](#):

- Immigrants comprise 4% of the state population and 5% of the Missouri labor force
- Top industries of immigrant employment:
  - Manufacturing, 31,399 workers
  - Health Care and Social Assistance, 24,605 workers
  - Accommodation and Food Services, 19,363 workers
  - Educational Services, 18,873 workers
  - Professional, Scientific and Technical Services, 15,545 workers
- 14,795 immigrant business owners account for 5% of all self-employed Missouri residents

- 49% of immigrants in Missouri are naturalized and another 23% are undocumented
  
- Top foreign-born countries of origin:
  - Mexico, 15%
  - China, 8%
  - India, 7%
  - Vietnam, 5%
  - Bosnia & Herzegovina, 4%
  
- 4% of native-born Missourians are children of an immigrant
  
- Educational attainment of foreign-born adults in Missouri:
  - High School diploma or less – 35%
  - More than HS diploma, less than Bachelor’s degree – 21%
  - Bachelor’s degree or higher – 44%
    - Share of [Brain Waste](#)\* - 23%

\* Share of [immigrant professionals](#), who are unemployed, employed at poverty-level wages in High School diploma or less jobs, or significantly underemployed in more than HS diploma, less than Bachelor’s degree jobs

## Sources

### Jobs

Projections Managing Partnership (PMP), Projections Central – State Occupational Projections, “Long Term Occupational Projection (2018-2028)”; <http://www.projectionscentral.com/Projections/LongTerm>

Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2019 State Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates; <https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oesrcst.htm>

Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Employment Projections*, “Education and training assignments by detailed occupation,” 2019; <https://www.bls.gov/emp/tables/education-and-training-by-occupation.htm>

National Council of State Legislatures, “State Minimum Wages”, December 2020; <http://www.ncsl.org/research/labor-and-employment/state-minimum-wage-chart.aspx#Table>

Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Economic News Release*, “Employees on Nonfarm Payrolls by State, Seasonally adjusted”, November 2020; <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.t03.htm>

### Potential Career Advancement

National Conference of State Legislatures, “The National Occupational Licensing Database”, March 2020: <https://www.ncsl.org/research/labor-and-employment/occupational-licensing-statute-database.aspx>

### Immigration

American Immigration Council, State by State Fact Sheet, August 2020; <https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/topics/state-by-state>