Top Postsecondary Educational Programs in Virginia by Education Level and Median Pay of Graduates

Prepared for School Year 2025-2026

Education Level: Award of less than one academic year

Top 10 Programs Ranked by Median Pay of Graduates	Median 2023 Annual Wage (Three Years After Graduation)
Electrical, Electronic and Communications Engineering Technology/Technician	$55,633
Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse	$53,910
Emergency Medical Technology/Technician (EMT Paramedic)	$53,806
Accounting and Related Services, Other	$52,840
Electrician	$51,034
Automobile/Automotive Mechanics Technology/Technician	$49,640
Business Administration, Management and Operations, Other	$48,923
Mechanical Engineering Related Technologies/Technicians, Other	$47,981
Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation and Refrigeration Maintenance Technology/Technician	$47,324
Ground Transportation, Other	$45,126

Education Level: Award of at least one but less than two academic years

Top 10 Programs Ranked by Median Pay of Graduates	Median 2023 Annual Wage (Three Years After Graduation)
Precision Metal Working, Other	$65,496
Industrial Production Technologies/Technicians, Other	$61,696
Electrical, Electronic and Communications Engineering Technology/Technician	$61,400
CAD/CADD Drafting and/or Design Technology/Technician	$52,734
Electrician	$50,691
Business Administration, Management and Operations, Other	$50,605
Substance Abuse/Addiction Counseling	$47,487
Automobile/Automotive Mechanics Technology/Technician	$45,871
Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation and Refrigeration Maintenance Technology/Technician	$45,436
Surgical Technology/Technologist	$45,022

Education Level: Associate Degree (Bachelor Credit)

Top 10 Programs Ranked by Median Pay of Graduates	Median 2023 Annual Wage (Three Years After Graduation)
Computer Science	$79,957
Information Technology	$69,736
Engineering, General	$69,669
Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse	$62,369
Business/Commerce, General	$57,769
Business Administration and Management, General	$52,700
Criminal Justice/Safety Studies	$51,220
Religion/Religious Studies	$46,705
General Studies	$44,672
Accounting	$42,713

Education Level: Associate Degree (Occupational/Technical Credit)

Top 10 Programs Ranked by Median Pay of Graduates	Median 2023 Annual Wage (Three Years After Graduation)
Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse	$64,577
Emergency Medical Technology/Technician (EMT Paramedic)	$64,440
Dental Hygiene/Hygienist	$63,048
Industrial Electronics Technology/Technician	$62,214
Radiologic Technology/Science - Radiographer	$56,980
Industrial Technology/Technician	$56,198
Respiratory Care Therapy/Therapist	$55,738
Engineering Technology, General	$55,051
Automobile/Automotive Mechanics Technology/Technician	$53,122
Physical Therapy Technician/Assistant	$52,530

Education Level: Four-Year Bachelor's Degree

Top 10 Programs Ranked by Median Pay of Graduates	Median 2023 Annual Wage (Three Years After Graduation)
Computer and Information Sciences, General	$100,320
Mechanical Engineering	$82,441
Finance, General	$81,008
Economics, General	$75,327
Accounting	$74,360
Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse	$72,730
Marketing/Marketing Management, General	$64,201
Business Administration and Management, General	$62,731
Business/Commerce, General	$61,843
Mathematics, General	$59,605

Education Level: Post-Baccalaureate Certificate

Top 10 Programs Ranked by Median Pay of Graduates	Median 2023 Annual Wage (Three Years After Graduation)
Computer Systems Networking and Telecommunications	$130,701
Information Technology	$125,522
Purchasing, Procurement/Acquisitions and Contracts Management	$109,650
Industrial Engineering	$103,055
Information Science/Studies	$90,645
Human Resources Management/Personnel Administration, General	$89,281
Educational Leadership and Administration, General	$87,439
Public Administration	$87,156
Statistics, General	$86,888
Educational/Instructional Technology	$86,846

Education Level: Master's Degree

Top 10 Programs Ranked by Median Pay of Graduates	Median 2023 Annual Wage (Three Years After Graduation)
Industrial Engineering	$129,241
Computer and Information Sciences, General	$126,008
Physician Assistant	$113,334
Business Administration and Management, General	$104,484
Business/Commerce, General	$101,303
Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse	$101,277
Engineering, Other	$98,260
Accounting	$92,026
Public Policy Analysis, General	$84,964
Public Administration	$76,611

Education Level: Post-Master's Certificate

Programs Ranked by Median Pay of Graduates	Median 2023 Annual Wage (Three Years After Graduation)
Educational Administration and Supervision, Other	$85,101
Administration of Special Education	$84,108
Educational Leadership and Administration, General	$77,629
Education, Other	$65,396
Educational Psychology	$64,998
Reading Teacher Education	$64,486
Curriculum and Instruction	$64,324
Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling/Counselor	$62,272
School Psychology	$58,283

Education Level: First Professional Degree

Programs Ranked by Median Pay of Graduates	Median 2023 Annual Wage (Three Years After Graduation)
Dentistry	$164,954
Medicine	$147,185
Pharmacy	$129,890
Law	$87,321
Divinity/Ministry	$48,558
Theology/Theological Studies	$45,011

Education Level: Doctoral Degree

Top 10 Programs Ranked by Median Pay of Graduates	Median 2023 Annual Wage (Three Years After Graduation)
Nurse Anesthetist	$189,747
Computer and Information Sciences, General	$139,029
Electrical and Electronics Engineering	$129,665
Registered Nursing, Nursing Administration, Nursing Research and Clinical Nursing, Other	$121,573
Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse	$117,962
Engineering, General	$114,606
Mechanical Engineering	$112,364
Nursing Practice	$107,517
Educational Administration and Supervision, Other	$106,827
Civil Engineering, General	$100,000

Data source for all tables: State Council of Higher Education for Virginia. Data report WG01 - Wage and debt by institution and degree, three years post-completion, all reporting institutions, Virginia, 2023.
https://research.schev.edu/rdPage.aspx?rdReport=EOM.EOM_DegreeWageDebt_Inst&rdRequestForwarding=Form