



Metro Atlanta



# INDUSTRY OVERVIEW



The Information Technology (IT) industry is thriving and is expected to continue to grow over the next decade.



IT jobs tend to pay far more than the average job.



Many IT jobs require a bachelor's degree; however, more and more companies are finding value in hiring skilled IT employees with industry certifications.



Multiple certifications and specific technical experience go a long way toward become an attractive hiring candidate.

## **ESSENTIAL SKILLS**

IT careers can be a calling or something you are truly interested in exploring. Today, there aren't many job opportunities that don't require some knowledge of IT. Explore why you are interested in the IT field and make certain you understand the expectations. IT professionals have a strong interest in technology and will be constantly learning new technology skills. Responsibilities and expectations of roles within the IT field include:

- Communication Skills
- Creativity
- Customer Service
- Detail-Orientated
- Microsoft Office

- Organizational Skills
- Problem Solving
- Project Management
- Quality Assurance
- Research

- Software Development (SQL, Java, Python)
- Teamwork / Collaboration
- Writing
- Written Communication



# COMMON CAREER PATHWAY

## Certificate (1 year)

Computer User Support Specialists

\$52,500

### Associate's Degree

Web & Digital Interface Designers

\$88.700

Computer Network Support Specialists

\$69.000

#### **Bachelor's Degree**

Software Developers & Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers

#### \$105.600

Network and Computer Systems Administrators

\$87,400

**Cyber Security Analysts** 

\$100,900

# **HOW DO I START MY CAREER?**

#### DO SOME RESEARCH

- Assess your interests, aptitudes, skills, personality and preferences.
- Getting to know yourself helps you match your interest and skills to different careers.
- Use ONETonline.org to learn about various careers.

#### **EXPAND YOUR NETWORK**

- Join a professional organization, take advantage of social media like LinkedIn, or go to a local Meetup.
- Use your network to help you learn about career pathways, educational opportunities, and job responsibilities and expectations.

#### **GET TRAINING**

- Many IT jobs don't require a bachelor's degree but do require some certifications.
- Check out
   WorksourceGAportal.com
   for a list of eligible training
   providers to get started in
   your IT career.

# WHERE CAN I WORK?

IT DEPARTMENT

Almost all companies, big or small, have an IT department that implements, maintains, and supports all the company's technology needs including infrastructure, hardware, and networks. IT professionals in this environment perform a number of duties to ensure that company employees have full access to the computer systems.

TECHNOLOGY COMPANY

IT companies provide internet services, software and manufacture digital devices. In a big company, IT professionals will usually work in a dedicated team and receive tasks according to their skillset.

EMERGING TECH (STARTUPS)

Working at a Start Up can be exciting and involves working with cutting edge technologies. Start Ups are generally "lean" operations, so employees tend to wear multiple hats. IT professionals in this environment need to be versatile, interested in learning, and entrepreneurial minded.

More information available at:

ATLworks.org/job-seekers

Find out more about WorkSourceGA's training services and see which top IT employers in Atlanta are hiring entry-level talent.