



Career Outlook Information Technology

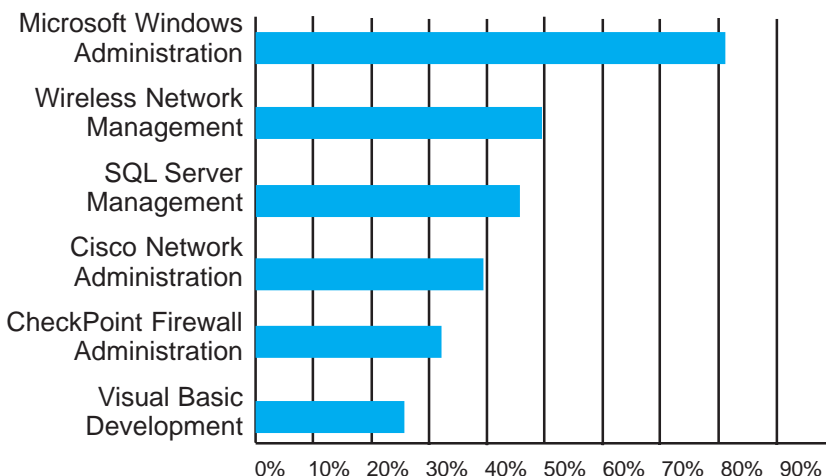
Job Growth: Going Up

The U.S. Department of Labor is expecting rapid job growth in the area of computer technology jobs over the next eight years. While the U.S. Department of Education has reported a sharp decrease in the number of students entering the computer technology related fields of study. The demand for workers in the computer technology fields is going to exceed the supply of students who are entering the job market. **What this means to a perspective student is that there will be an abundance of jobs in the computer technology related fields.**

Computer Technology jobs are listed five times in the top fifteen fastest growing job areas by the U.S. Department of Labor (see chart below). In total, Computer Technology is second only to healthcare type jobs. The long-term shift from goods-producing to service-providing employment is expected to continue. Service-providing industries are expected to account for approximately 98.9% of the new jobs generated over the 2004-14 period. Technical services will grow by 28.4 percent by 2014. Employment in computer systems design and related services will grow by 39.5 percent. Employment growth will be driven by the increasing reliance of businesses on information technology and the continuing importance of maintaining system and network security. Information contains some of the fast-growing computer-related industries such as software publishers; internet publishing and broadcasting; and internet service providers, Web search portals, and data processing services. Employment in these industries is expected to grow by 67.6 percent, 43.5 percent, and 27.8 percent, respectively.

The Hot Jobs

Robert Half Technology Inc., a leader in computer technology jobs placement services, surveys thousands of perspective employers as to what their current employment needs are for the computer technology field. As you can see from the graph below the hottest jobs are in server administration, programming and networking related areas.



Projected Growth

Percent change in employment 2004-2014

The U.S. Department of Labor lists the expected growth for the top fifteen occupations in the *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2006-07 Edition*.

Occupation

Home Health Aides	58%
Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts	57%
Medical Assistants	55%
Physician Assistants	52%
Computer Software Engineers, Applications Programmers	51%
Physical Therapists Assistants	46%
Dental Hygienists	46%
Computer Software Engineers, System Software Programmers	45%
Dental Assistants	45%
Personal and Home Care Aides	43%
Network and Computer Systems Administrators	41%
Database Administrators	40%
Physical Therapists	39%
Forensic Science Technicians	38%
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	37%

Contact us

General admission materials and questions

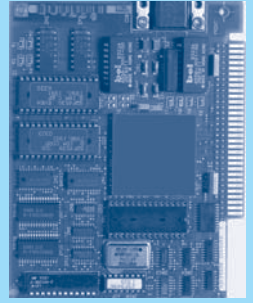
651-450-8500

www.inverhills.edu

Network Technology and Security Degree/Certificates

651-450-8655

<http://depts.inverhills.edu/cnt>



How to succeed in today's technology job market

A college degree will increase your job prospects and salary

In today's highly competitive job market, a high school diploma is not enough. If you are looking to advance your existing career or change to a new career, you will need to obtain an education beyond high school. A 2004 report from the U.S. Census Bureau states that a person with a high school diploma can expect to earn around \$29,000 per year. With a two year college education your earnings will increase to \$40,000 per year. With a four year degree your earnings will increase to almost \$60,000 per year.

When pursuing your college education, be sure the College that you choose is a regionally accredited college. For example, the most prestigious accreditation agency is The Middle States Commission on Higher Education. This will help ensure that you will receive the highest quality education and allow your college credits to transfer more easily to other institutions of higher education.

Hands-on education

Employers are looking to hire entry level employees that not only understand the skills that are required but are able to do them successfully. This type of experience can only be gained through extensive hands-on learning and cooperative education internship experiences.

Industry Standard Certifications

In the rapidly changing arena of computer technology, employers are looking for an indicator of the level of technical training that you have accomplished. This is measured through industry standard examinations and certifications given by independent testing companies. Some of the most sought after certifications are Microsoft Certified System Engineers, Cisco Certified Networking Engineers, CompTIA A+ and Security+ certifications.

Keep your options open

To work in high technology doesn't mean you have to work for a firm that produces the high technology. In fact 90% of computer technology professionals work for companies that do not manufacture high technology, but use computer technology to run their business. Relocation across town, across the state or across the country may increase your job opportunities tremendously. Keep your options open as to whom you work for and where you work.

Keep your skills sharp

The technology that you learn today will be obsolete in a number of years. Therefore, to always remain competitive in the job market, you must keep your skills up to date with the current technology. This entails a lifelong learning process as the technology changes. Some of this can be formal education (college courses or technical training) or independent study of a new technology.

Well-paying jobs

Robert Half Technology Inc., a leader in computer technology jobs placement services conducted a survey on current salary trends in a large technological market similar to the Twin Cities. Below are median annual salaries for 2006 for several IT positions.

<u>Job Title</u>	<u>Salary</u>
PC Technician	\$30,754
Help Desk – Entry	\$28,320
Help Desk – Experienced	\$42,259
Systems Administrator	\$53,764
Software Developer	\$65,269
Software Engineer	\$71,243
Computer Operator	\$30,201
Telecommunications Specialist	\$50,888
LAN/WAN Administrator	\$52,989
Network Manager	\$69,141
Web Designer	\$50,998
Web Administrator	\$53,321
Web Developer	\$57,857
Senior Web Developer	\$73,676
Database Administrator	\$73,898
Technical Writer	\$49,560
Lead Applications Programmer	\$75,336
Business Systems Analyst	\$63,499
Systems Analyst	\$65,158

Source: Robert Half Technology, Inc.,
www.roberthalftechnology.com/FreeResources