

Immigrant Job Opportunities



Map to Success

Alaska

Job Shortages



Potential Career
Advancement



Immigration in Alaska



Job Shortages

The tables below show the top three occupations that are projected from 2018-2028 of Alaska employers based on the level of education they require. There is a state minimum wage of \$10.34 in Alaska. The one highlighted occupation under each of the three education levels has been selected to expand on in terms of potential career advancement.

High School (HS) Diploma or Less			
Occupation	<u>Average Annual Job Openings</u>	<u>Median Hourly Wage</u>	<u>State Licensing Required</u>
Retail Salespersons	2,010	\$13.79	No
Cashiers	1,370	\$12.97	No
Waiters & Waitresses	1,000	\$11.49	No

More than HS Diploma, less than Bachelor's Degree			
Occupation	<u>Average Annual Job Openings</u>	<u>Median Hourly Wage</u>	<u>State Licensing Required</u>
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Audit Clerks	600	\$22.92	No
Teacher Assistants	460	\$24.69	Yes
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	350	\$27.84	Yes

Bachelor's Degree or Higher			
Occupation	<u>Average Annual Job Openings</u>	<u>Median Hourly Wage</u>	<u>State Licensing Required</u>
General & Operations Managers	420	\$45.81	No
Registered Nurses	360	\$43.54	Yes
Business Operations Specialists	300	\$38.06	No

Potential Career Advancement

1) Waiters & Waitresses to Certified Food Manager

	Entry Level Job (hourly wage)	Entry Level Requirements	Career Advancement (hourly wage)	Career Advancement Requirements
1	Waiters & Waitresses (\$11.49)	Obtain Food Handler Card Pass Training for Alcohol Professionals	Certified Food Managers (\$30.02)	Pass the ANSI food safety certification exam

Waiters & Waitresses Job Description:

- [Take](#) orders and serve food and beverages to patrons at tables in a restaurant

Entry Level Requirements:

- [Food Handler Card](#) must be obtained within 30 days of employment & is valid for 3 years
- Obtain Food Handler online [here](#) (\$7, 2 hours); click [here](#) to take exam in Español, 普通话, 한국어, Việt, American Sign Language, Tagalog, Serbo-Croatian

- [Municipality of Anchorage](#) requires a separate food worker test (\$10), which is available in Spanish, Korean & Chinese
- If serving alcohol, must obtain [Training for Alcohol Professionals \(TAP\)](#) Certification (\$55)

Certified Food Manager Job Description:

- Responsible for food safety to protect the public from illness as required by state regulations

Career Advancement Requirements:

- [Pass](#) the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) certification exam (\$55, 1.5 hours)
- [Online training courses](#) are not required, but provide knowledge to prepare for the 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 (\$22.92)	Associate’s Degree in Accounting or related field preferred	Accountants & Auditors (\$35.34)	Bachelor’s Degree with Accounting concentration 2 years experience in Accounting Pass the CPA exam Pass the AICPA Ethics exam

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 Alaska state law, but an associate’s degree is generally required
- Accounting training programs in Alaska are listed [here](#)
- There is no residency, citizenship or social security number [requirement](#)

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 2 years of accounting experience

- Pass the [CPA](#) exam (Approx. \$900 with \$185 application fee)
- Pass the [AICPA](#) ethics exam with minimum score of 90

3) Registered Nurse to Nurse Practitioner

	Entry Level Job (hourly wage)	Entry Level Requirements	Career Advancement (hourly wage)	Career Advancement Requirements
3	Registered Nurse (\$43.54)	Complete a state-approved nursing program Pass the NCLEX-RN exam	Nurse Practitioners (\$56.00)	Earn graduate degree in chosen nursing specialty 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 in Alaska
- [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
- [Apply](#) for license

Immigration in Alaska

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

- Immigrants comprise 8% of the state population and 11 % of the Alaska labor force
- Top industries of immigrant employment in Alaska:
 - Manufacturing, 8,973
 - Health Care and Social Assistance, 6,475
 - Accommodation and Food Services, 5,736
 - Retail Trade, 4,972
 - Educational Services, 4,658
- 2,552 immigrant business owners account for 6% of all self-employed Alaska residents
- 60% of immigrants in Alaska are naturalized and another 13% are undocumented

- Top foreign-born countries of origin:
 - Philippines, 32%
 - Mexico, 10%
 - Canada, 7%
 - Thailand, 7%
 - Korea, 5%

- 7% of native-born Alaskans are children of an immigrant

- Educational attainment of foreign born adults in Alaska:
 - High School diploma or less – 48%
 - More than HS diploma, less than Bachelor’s degree – 18%
 - Bachelor’s degree or higher – 34%
 - Share of [Brain Waste](#)* - 35%

* 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>