

# Immigrant Job Opportunities



**Map to Success**

## Maine

Job Shortages



Potential Career  
Advancement



Immigration in Maine



## Job Shortages

The tables below show the top three occupations that are projected from 2018-2028 of Maine employers based on the level of education they require. There is a state minimum wage of \$12.15 in Maine. 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>
Retail Salespersons	2,750	\$12.27	No
Waiters & Waitresses	2,620	\$11.71	No
Cashiers	2,570	\$11.63	No

<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>
Nursing Assistants	1,130	\$14.59	Yes
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,070	\$19.25	Yes
Bookkeeping, Accounting and Audit Clerks	800	\$18.41	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>
General & Operations Managers	1,090	\$39.90	No
Registered Nurses	920	\$33.14	Yes
Accountants & Auditors	490	\$30.37	Yes

## Potential Career Advancement

### 1) Waiter & Waitress 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>	Waiter & Waitress (\$11.71)	Food Handler Certification not required, but preferred	Certified Food Manager (\$27.12)	Pass the ANSI food safety certification exam

#### Waiter & Waitress Job Description:

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

#### Entry Level Requirements:

- Food handler certification is not required by Maine [state law](#), but employers may prefer it
- Obtain Food Handlers Certification online [here](#) (\$7, 2 hours); click [here](#) to take exam in Español, 普通话, 한국어, Việt, American Sign Language, Tagalog, Serbo-Croatian

### 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 (\$18.41)	Associate's degree in Accounting or related field preferred	Accountants & Auditors (\$30.37)	Bachelor's degree with Accounting concentration  2 years experience in Accounting  Pass the CPA 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 Maine law, but an associate's degree is generally preferred
- Accounting training programs in Iowa 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 2 years of accounting experience
- Pass the [CPA](#) exam (Approx. \$900 with \$170 application fee)
- There is no citizenship, residency or social security number [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 (\$33.14)	Complete a state-approved nursing program  Pass the NCLEX-RN exam	Nurse Practitioners (\$50.99)	Earn graduate degree in nursing specialty  Become nationally certified

#### 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)
- Instead of the NCLEX-RN exam, [State law](#) also allows the State Board to qualify applicants for licensure by endorsement

#### 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 in Maine

## Immigration in Maine

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

- Immigrants comprise 4% of the state population and 4% of the Maine labor force
- Top industries of immigrant employment:
  - Health Care and Social Assistance, 5,871
  - Retail Trade, 4,416
  - Educational Services, 3,889
  - Manufacturing, 3,755
  - Other Services (except Public Administration), 2,349
- 2,368 immigrant business owners account for 2% of all self-employed Maine residents
- 52% of immigrants in Maine are naturalized and another 9% are undocumented

- Top foreign-born countries of origin:
  - Canada, 18%
  - Philippines, 9%
  - Germany, 7%
  - India, 6%
  - Korea, 5%
  
- 7% of native-born Mainers are children of an immigrant
  
- Educational attainment of foreign born adults in Maine:
  - High School diploma or less – 40%
  - More than HS diploma, less than Bachelor’s degree – 25%
  - Bachelor’s degree or higher – 35%
  
  - Share of [Brain Waste](#)\* - 24%

\* 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>