

Career Project

Veterinarian

Description: Vets should have the love for animals and the ability to get along with the owners. Vets care for pets, livestock, and animals in zoos, racetracks, and laboratories. Some vets use their skills to protect humans against diseases carried by animals and conduct medical research on human and animal health problems. Others work in basic research, increasing our knowledge of animals and medical science.



Education: Graduation from a qualified college of veterinary medicine and a State license are required. Future veterinarians must graduate with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from a 4-year program at a qualified college of veterinary medicine. Many programs do not require a bachelor's degree for entrance, but all require a significant number of credit hours—ranging from 45 to 90 semester hours—at the undergraduate level.

Salary: In May 2006 the annual earnings of vets were \$71,990. The 50 percent of vets earned between \$56,450 and \$94,880. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$43,530, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$133,150.

Job Outlook: In planning for this future, it is important to consider possible job growth and job opportunities. New technology can either create new job

opportunities or get rid of jobs by making workers obsolete. The substitution of one product or service for another can also affect employment projections.

More Information: Veterinarians held about 62,000 jobs in 2006. About 3 out of 4 veterinarians were employed in a solo or group practice. I would probably work in solo practice, but I might start a business with my friend.

Teacher

Description: Teachers play an important role in fostering the intellectual and social development of children during their formative years. The education that teachers impart plays a key role in determining the future prospects of their students. Whether in preschools, high schools, private, public schools, and teachers provide the tools and the environment for their students to develop into responsible adults.

Education: Traditional education programs for kindergarten and elementary school teachers include courses designed specifically for those preparing to teach. These courses



include mathematics, physical science, social science, music, art, and literature, as well as prescribed professional education courses, such as philosophy of education, psychology of learning, and teaching methods.

Salary: Median annual earnings of kindergarten, elementary, middle, and secondary school teachers ranged from \$43,580 to \$48,690 in May 2006; the lowest 10 percent earned \$28,590 to \$33,070; the top 10 percent earned \$67,490 to \$76,100. Median earnings for preschool teachers were \$22,680.

Job Outlook: Employment of preschool, kindergarten, elementary, middle, and secondary school teachers is projected to grow about as fast as average. Job prospects are expected to be favorable, with particularly good prospects for teachers in high-demand fields like math, science, and bilingual education, or in less desirable urban or rural school districts.

More Information: Preschool, kindergarten, and elementary school teachers play a vital role in the development of children. What children learn and experience during their early years can shape their views of themselves and the world and can affect their later success or failure in school, work, and their personal lives. Preschool, kindergarten, and elementary school teachers introduce children to mathematics, language, science, and social studies. They use games, music, artwork, films, books, computers, and other tools to teach basic skills.

Physical Therapists

Description: Physical therapists provide services that help restore function, improve mobility, relieve pain, and prevent or limit lasting physical disabilities of patients suffering from injuries or disease. They restore, maintain, and promote overall fitness and health. Their patients include accident victims and individuals with disabling

conditions such as low-back pain, arthritis, heart disease, fractures, head injuries, and cerebral palsy.

Education: Among the undergraduate courses that are useful when one applies to a physical therapist education program are anatomy, biology, chemistry, social science,



mathematics, and physics. Before granting admission many programs require you to take a volunteer course at a clinic or hospital, so you know

exactly what it will be like for

sure.

Salary: The normal earnings of physical therapists were \$66,200 in May 2006. 50 percent earned between \$55,030 and \$78,080. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$46,510, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$94,810. Median annual earnings in the industries employing the largest numbers of physical therapists in May 2006 were

- ◆ Home Health care services:
\$70,920
- ◆ Nursing care facilities: \$68,650
- ◆ General medical and surgical hospitals: \$66,630
- ◆ Offices of physicians: \$65,900
- ◆ Offices of physical, occupational and speech Therapists and audiologists: \$65,150

Job Outlook: Employment of physical therapists is expected to grow much faster than average. Job opportunities will be good, especially in acute hospital, rehabilitation, and orthopedic settings.

Bibliography

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