

Career Project

Musical Instructor:

For the most part, the instructor will meet with a student an 30 minutes to an hour a week. He will tell the student what to practice over the week. Usually the student will continue lessons with the teacher for several years, gaining expertise at his/her specific instrument. Most instructors have another job in a different field, but some have a full time job in a school system or teaching other instructors.

If they are teaching in a school they need a teaching degree. Most just need to be competent playing the instrument they are teaching. Good speaking skills and a talent for making it interesting for the student are also good traits to have.

The median salary is \$16.08 in 2006. The lowest paid instructors are paid around \$8.53. The highest salaries are usually around \$32.02. Instructors are paid by each class that they teach. They don't get any benefits though.

Jobs for music instructors aren't becoming scarce. There is an increasing demand for instructors because more and more students want to learn to play music. Instructors of this generation are also expected to retire, so employment will probably increase.

Patience is needed for this job, especially with young children. Instructors can have multiple students. They may have to give up there

weekends to accommodate students with hectic weekdays.

Music Performance:

Musicians usually perform on nights and weekends. They spend the other time rehearsing. Full time musicians can get long term contracts with orchestras or film companies and enjoy

steady work and less travel.

Solo musicians often

travel and

perform in a variety of settings and go on national or international tours. Most musicians work with a group of others, such as colleagues, employers, and audiences.



Musicians need to have extensive training in a variety of instruments and/or singing. They need to have a broad knowledge of many musical styles as well as the style that interests them the most. Creativity is a good quality to have when writing music. Physical stamina is required for musicians who perform concerts or in nightclubs to endure frequent travel and irregular performance times.

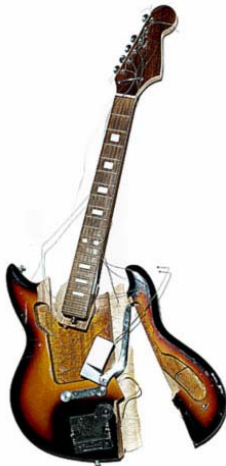
The average musician's salary in 2006 was \$19.73. The lowest earned around \$7.08. The highest paid got more than \$57.37. If you're good you could earn a lot of money, but only a select few earn that much money.

Employment is expected to grow about the average for all occupations. There is a lot of competition for full time jobs, especially. Talented individuals that can play more than one instrument have the best chance. This is good news for me since I play piano, guitar, bass, trombone, and am starting drums next fall.

Aspiring musicians usually begin studying an instrument at an early age. Rejection must be expected when auditioning for work, because it will happen more often than not.

Musical Instrument Repair and Tuning:

Repairing instruments requires a great deal of skill and attention to detail. In band instruments such as brass or woodwinds, the problem will usually be obvious and was caused by deterioration or an accident. Violins and guitars may



be harder to figure out. Instruments will be played to find defects. Cracked or broken sections are then replaced.

Not much education is required for this position. A high school diploma is the only thing required. Employers usually prefer applicants with some postsecondary education. Almost all repairers have some musical background. A basic ability to play the

instrument being repaired is usually desired.

The median annual salary for instrument repairers is \$29,200. The lowest salary is \$16,230. The highest salary is \$69,280. If you are an expert of your craft you can get paid fairly well.

Employment is expected to grow slightly slower than average. Band and Orchestra programs in school provide the most jobs for instrument repairers. As more kids start picking up music as a hobby there should be more opportunities soon.

About one out of six is self employed. Instrument repairers get most of their training on the job.

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