

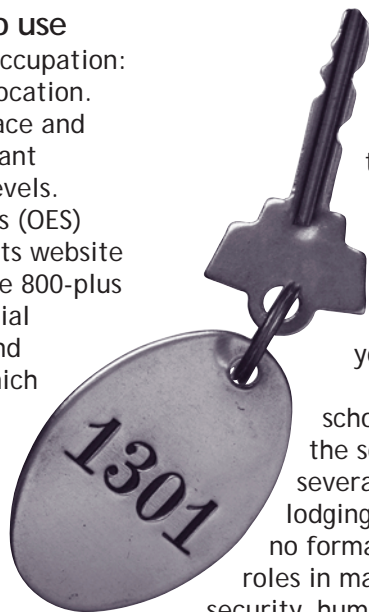


BLS earnings data: Now even easier to use

Planning a career is more than choosing an occupation: the industry you pick matters, too, as does location. Now, BLS makes it easier to find the right place and industry for an occupation and to get important details about its earnings and employment levels.

The Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program has added occupational profiles to its website to simplify data presentation. For each of the 800-plus occupations studied, a profile shows its official definition and national employment totals and earnings averages. The profile also shows which States, metropolitan areas, and industries have the most employment and highest pay for that occupation. Other links on each profile page take visitors to employment and earnings data for every State, area, and industry studied and to data that can be downloaded to a spreadsheet.

For information, call (202) 691-6569; to see the profiles visit the website, www.bls.gov/oes/2002/oes_stru.htm, or find them near the top of the OES homepage, www.bls.gov/oes. Like every survey, the OES has limitations. For example, it does not include data on self-employed workers or on demographics of workers in the occupation. For that information, call (202) 691-5200; or see the BLS Current Population Survey online by visiting the website, www.bls.gov/cps.



Hotel work: Room for many types

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects that the traveler-accommodation industry will add almost 300,000 new jobs to the economy between 2002 and 2012. That means lots of vacancies in hotel occupations. Free brochures from the American Hotel & Lodging Educational Institute can help you prepare for these varied jobs.

The brochures provide career advice, scholarship information, and a peek behind the scenes. One brochure tells the stories of several people who made careers in the lodging and resort industry; most started with no formal training and advanced to leadership roles in marketing and sales, management, security, human resources, or food preparation and service. A second brochure describes available scholarships. A third details the benefits of hotel work.

For free copies of the brochures, call toll free, 1 (800) 344-4381, or write the institute at

Suggestions welcome:
Do you have an item for the Grab Bag?
Send it to Olivia Crosby, PSB 2135, 2
Massachusetts Avenue NE., Washington,
DC 20212. Fax (202) 691-5745. E-mail:
ooqinfo@bls.gov

2113 North
High Street,
Lansing, MI
48906.

Peace Corps seeks associate-degree grads

Do you have an associate degree, a skill or work experience, and an interest in the Peace Corps? Heads up: You're being recruited.

The Peace Corps and the American Association of Community Colleges have joined forces to attract qualified community-college graduates whose skills are requested by developing countries. These sought-after skills are applied in Peace Corps assignments such as demonstrating sustainable agriculture and helping to set up clean-water systems. About 7,500 volunteers currently serve in 71 countries.

Since its inception in 1961, the Peace Corps has recognized the value of skills and work experience when recruiting volunteers. Experience—either paid or unpaid—can be paired with postsecondary training to qualify some applicants. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old and be U.S. citizens.



The Peace Corps service commitment is 2 years, plus a few months of training. Completion of service provides educational, financial, personal, and professional benefits—including preparation for some of the fastest growing occupations in the United States: BLS projects that between 2002 and 2012, many occupations that usually require an associate degree will grow significantly faster than the average for all occupations.

To learn more about the recruitment program for graduates who have an associate degree, contact the Peace Corps regional office nearest you (check the Federal Government pages of the telephone book); call toll free, 1 (800) 424-8580; write Peace Corps Headquarters, 1111 20th Street NW., Washington, DC 20526; or visit online, www.peacecorps.gov/index.cfm?shell=learn.whovol.collegestu.associate.