



# Connecticut Career Resource Network Update

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**Connecticut Career Resource Network (CCRN) UPDATE Winter/Spring 2016**

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## Minimum Wage Information

As of January 1st 2016, the minimum wage for Connecticut is \$9.60 per hour, and will increase to \$10.10 by 2017. In Connecticut, for minors working in agriculture or government, it is 85% of minimum wage (\$8.16), and for minors working in other industries, it is 85% (\$8.16) for the first 200 hours.

The federal minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour effective July 24, 2009. The federal minimum wage provisions are contained in the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). Many states also have minimum wage laws. In cases where an employee is subject to both the state and federal minimum wage laws, the employee is entitled to the higher of the two minimum wages.

There are 29 states (including Washington DC) that have a minimum wage greater than the federal minimum wage. The top ten states are listed in the box to the right. Fourteen states have a minimum wage that equals the federal minimum wage of \$7.25, while Georgia and Wyoming have a minimum wage less than federal. Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Tennessee have no minimum wage requirements.

State Minimum Wages	
Effective 01/01/2016	
DC	\$ 10.50
MA	\$ 10.00
CA	\$ 10.00
AK	\$ 9.75
VT	\$ 9.60
RI	\$ 9.60
CT	\$ 9.60
WA	\$ 9.47
OR	\$ 9.25
NY	\$ 9.00

A number of U.S. cities approved the gradual raising of their minimum wages to \$15 an hour. On July 1, 2018, San Francisco will become the first U.S. city to raise its minimum wage to \$15 an hour.

Source: <http://www.dol.gov/general/topic/wages/minimumwage>

For questions on wage and hour laws, overtime and record keeping requirements, employment for minors, etc. check out the frequently asked questions page at: <https://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/wgwkstnd/faqs-employers.htm>.

***Save the date:*****Friday, May 13, 2016****22nd Connecticut Learns and Works Conference****Sheraton Hartford South Hotel**

100 Capital Boulevard, Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Phone: (860) 263-6275

**Theme: Climbing to New Heights****Keynote: Anne Parmenter**

The CT Learns and Works Conference is an annual conference for educators, counselors, employment and training specialists and business persons interested in career and workforce development. Professionals from the business community, education, higher education and workforce development boards were brought together to form the Learns and Works committee. Our goal is to better inform educators, counselors and job developers how changes in the workplace will affect jobs and careers in the future.

**Registration fee is \$95. Please visit [www.ctlearnsandworks.com](http://www.ctlearnsandworks.com) for details.**

**Which industries need workers? Exploring differences in labor market activity.**

Check out the Bureau of Labor Statistics Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/2016/article/which-industries-need-workers-exploring-differences-in-labor-market-activity.htm> for questions like:

- ◆ Where should new graduates look for jobs?
- ◆ What about career changers?
- ◆ In what direction should career counselors and job placement programs direct clients?
- ◆ Which statistics can government officials use to help determine how to stimulate job growth?
- ◆ How do employers know if their turnover and worker demands are typical?

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Monthly Labor Review

**Comprehensive American Job Centers**

The American Job Center (AJC) system is a partnership of organizations working as a team to promote a universal approach to providing effective workforce assistance to job seekers and businesses. This collaboration of state, regional and local organizations is designed to provide a seamless delivery system of programs and services.

Comprehensive and Affiliate AJC's are located throughout the state and offer walk-in and other job seeker resources. AJC services are available to anyone, regardless of employment status.

**Bridgeport**

2 Lafayette Square, Bridgeport, CT 06604  
Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Hamden**

37 Marne Street, Hamden, CT 06514  
Office Hours - Monday - Friday, 8:00a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**New London**

Shaw's Cove Six, New London, CT 06320  
Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Danielson**

95 Westcott Road, Danielson, CT 06239  
Office Hours - Monday - Friday, 8:00a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Hartford**

3580 Main Street Hartford, CT 06120  
Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

**Waterbury**

249 Thomaston Avenue, Waterbury, CT 06702  
Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Updated Connecticut Career Paths for Career Planning, Job Search

The popular *Connecticut Career Paths* publication, a must-have resource for jobseekers, students and career counselors, has recently been updated. The current edition can be found on the Connecticut Department of Labor's website at [www.ct.gov/dol](http://www.ct.gov/dol) under the "Labor Market Information" page.

Printed copies can be obtained at the state's *American Job Centers*, local Workforce Investment Board offices, libraries, adult education centers, vocational rehabilitation offices, and several other state agencies. Copies of the *Connecticut Career Paths* have also been provided to high schools, higher education facilities, and private schools so students will have them when returning from summer vacations.

Choosing a career is one of the most important decisions we make in life. This publication is created to provide you with all the information you need on skills and training to prepare yourself for a successful career in one of the many occupations available in our state's workforce. Filled with valuable labor data and information, the 52 page publication is designed to assist as a personal guide to making employment and career decisions. Topics addressed in the publication include choosing a career, strategies in financing college, Connecticut's Career Pathways Initiative, and available programs and resources that can help people with career decisions. Occupational descriptions, number of individuals employed in a field, annual job openings, salary information, training required, education and training sites, and basic skills employers require are highlighted in the publication.

The free publication combines the resources of the Connecticut Departments of Labor and Education with those of the Connecticut Career Resource Network. Please contact the CTDOL Office of Research at (860) 263-6275 or [ccrn@ct.gov](mailto:ccrn@ct.gov) for copies.

### Maximum Weekly UI Benefit is \$598

The annual revision of the Unemployment Insurance benefit rate will result in claimants receiving a maximum amount of \$598 per week effective October 4, 2015. The revised rate is four dollars more than the previous \$594 weekly maximum rate. The weekly dependency allowance for each dependent of \$15 with a maximum of \$75 remains unchanged.

### Important Unemployment News

To ensure the best possible customer service, follow the instructions to file for unemployment benefits in Connecticut at: <http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/UI-OnLine/index.htm>. You can also download the ***Claimant's Guide to Unemployment Insurance*** at <http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/progsupt/unemplt/claimant-guide/uc-288.pdf>



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[https://twitter.com/DOL\\_Research](https://twitter.com/DOL_Research)



<http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/index.asp>



[DOL.LMI@ct.gov](mailto:DOL.LMI@ct.gov)

## Occupational Outlook Handbook

The *Occupational Outlook Handbook* (OOH) provides information on what workers do; the work environment; education, training, and other qualifications; pay; the job outlook; information on state and area data; similar occupations; and sources of additional information.

Many occupations and job titles are covered in the Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH). To find more about an occupation you are interested in, look under the A–Z index, using similar occupational titles.

The OOH can help you find career information on duties, education and training, pay, and outlook for hundreds of occupations. For example, as the tax season approaches, you may find the career outlook on the following occupation interesting.

### Career Outlook: Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents

Tax examiners and collectors, and revenue agents ensure that federal, state, and local governments get their tax money from businesses and citizens. They review tax returns, conduct audits, identify taxes owed, and collect overdue tax payments.

**Tax examiners** usually deal with the simplest tax returns. Much of a tax examiner’s job involves making sure that tax credits and deductions claimed by taxpayers are lawful.

**Revenue agents** specialize in tax-related accounting for the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and for equivalent agencies in state and local governments. Like tax examiners, they review returns for accuracy. However, revenue agents also handle complicated tax returns of large businesses and corporations. Many experienced revenue agents specialize in a particular area. For example, they may focus exclusively on multinational businesses. Regardless of their specialty, revenue agents must keep up to date with changes in the lengthy and complex tax laws and regulations.

**Collectors**, also called *revenue officers* in the IRS, deal with overdue accounts. Collectors work for federal, state, and local governments primarily in an office environment; others spend most of their time doing field audits in taxpayers’ homes or places of business. The level of education and experience required varies by position and employer, although most need a bachelor’s degree in accounting or a related field.

**The median annual wage** for tax examiners and collectors, and revenue agents was \$51,120 in May 2014. Employment is projected to decline 6 percent from 2014 to 2024 and the employment change will depend primarily on future changes to federal, state, and local government budgets.

To read the full article, please go to: <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/business-and-financial/tax-examiners-and-collectors-and-revenue-agents.htm>.

EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS		
Largest Growth 2012-2022		
	2012-2022 Employment Change	
Occupational Group / Group Title / Job Title	Number	Percent
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	18,229	17.2
Education, Training, and Library	18,505	13.7
Personal Care and Service	17,572	22
Office and Administrative Support	11,861	4.3
Management	11,459	6.4
Food Preparation and Serving Related	10,546	12