

Philly Career Launch *Industry At-A-Glance*

The Information Technology Industry in Philadelphia

Information Technology (IT) is a very broad term that refers to companies or jobs dealing with computers, including computer hardware, computer software, telecommunications, and generally anything having to do with the movement of information or the systems that allow communication.¹

The IT industry offers products and services for both everyday people (ex. personal computers, mobile phones, video game consoles) and businesses (ex. databases, enterprise software). There are companies that just do IT, but many companies have IT departments to support their main business.

Many IT jobs do not require a college degree and they generally fall into three groups. The first is **programming and software**, where you are using coding languages. The second is **IT support and services**, where you are helping people choose, set up, and troubleshoot IT. The third is **cybersecurity**, where you help companies prevent and respond to hacking, data leaks, and other security issues. Here are some examples of IT careers in each of the three groups:

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CAREERS

PROGRAMMING AND SOFTWARE

Web Developer
Programmer

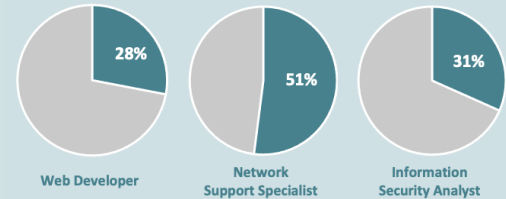
IT SUPPORT AND SERVICES

Network Support Specialist
IT Specialist
Computer User Support

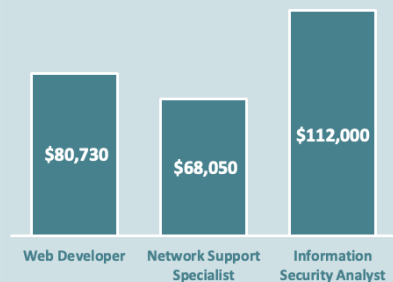
CYBERSECURITY

Information Security Analyst
Computer Forensic Analyst
Secure Software Developer

Percent of IT Workers with 2-Year Degree or Less²



Median Salaries²



Projected Growth



Openings in US Computer and IT jobs each year from 2022 to 2032, faster than the yearly average for all US jobs.³

WAYS TO EXPLORE CAREERS IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

#1. Identify your strengths, talents, and interests as a way to think about what IT careers might be best for you.

ACTION STEP: Check out [Career Cruising](#) for useful information on 16 career clusters (free with a library card).

#2. Look for training programs in IT careers that you think might be a good fit for you.

ACTION STEP: Visit the [Career Training Database](#) and connect with training programs.

#3. Seek guidance and support from a trusted friend, relative, or advisor as you launch your IT career.

ACTION STEP: Find [PA CareerLink® events](#) at neighborhood libraries that offer one-on-one job search guidance.