

# GET THE JOB

## Best Trade Jobs of the Future

There is a perception that trade-school jobs are low paying. Have you ever hired a plumber? They don't earn a pittance. The reality is the highest-paying trade jobs come with salaries near or above the U.S. household median income of \$61,937, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

There are some with the potential to crack six figures. Your hands and a bag of tools can be very valuable. The top paying trade jobs, as compiled by TheInterviewGuys.com.

### **1 Plumbers**

The median salary for plumbers is \$55,160, but the top 10% bring in more than \$97,000. In Illinois, the average annual wage is more than \$86,000. This career is six-figure territory, and if you saw what they saw, you'd understand why.

### **2 Construction manager**

The median salary for



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spending your days overseeing projects and supervising a variety of tradespeople — which probably will require some college — is more than \$95,250.

### **3 Elevator mechanic**

Elevator mechanics repair, install and maintain elevators and, at times, deal in moving walkways and escalators. The median annual

salary is about \$84,990.

### **4 Electrical power line technician**

Also called power utility technicians, these guys work

ensuring that homes, businesses and everything else has access to electricity. They install, maintain and repair high-voltage power lines, at times by climbing power poles and standing in cherry pickers.

The median salary is about \$65,700.

### **5 Aircraft mechanic**

You spend your days making sure the flying machine descendants of the Wright Brothers are tuned up, maintained and safe to fly. And you're certified through a Federal Aviation Administration-certified school. The annual salary is about \$64,310.

### **6 Geological and petroleum technician**

If you enjoy some math and getting your hands dirty, this trade profession might be for you. Installing equipment, collecting and testing samples, recording data and producing a range of reports. The median salary is \$51,130, but you get to spend your time outdoors and in a lab.

### **7 Boilermaker**

These tradespeople install, maintenance and repair closed vats, boilers and other containers that store gases and liquids. The median annual salary is \$63,100.