

▼ POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

# Job security comes with schooling

Just this past week, the provincial government launched a new WorkBC website.

This new online service was developed to help British Columbians find all sorts of job market information including training and education.

This new site is expected to help students research their career options, see what training, education and qualifications are required, and get a good idea of what careers will be in demand in the future.

The site calls these in-demand careers high opportunity occupations.

To determine which careers fell into this classification, the B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development looked at a number of indicators including current and expected job growth, employment size, earnings and job stability.

These indicators were then used to determine the labour market situation for 522 occupational groups found in the National Occupational Classification system.

From there a list of high opportunity occupations was developed.

For management positions which may require a business or other degree these include manufacturing managers, senior



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managers in financial and other business services, transportation managers, senior managers in trade and broadcasting, managers in community and correctional services, economic development officers, marketing researchers, managers in health care, and supervisors in finance and insurance.

Positions requiring technical skills including a background in science/health also requiring at least a diploma and in most cases a degree are information systems analysts and consultants, computer programmers and interactive media developers, forestry professionals, pharmacists, software engineers, stationary engineers, registered nurses and computer engineers.

Other high opportunity positions were police officers, correctional service officers, industrial electricians, contractors or supervisors of heavy construction equipment crews or carpentry trades, and administrative clerks.

Today, all these pos-

itions require some post-secondary education whether it is completion of a certificate or Red Seal trades certification.

What creates above average demand for these occupations, according to the B.C. government, is a combination of demographic challenges and economic growth.

For example, many of the management positions listed above may be held by baby boomers in their mid-50s, which indicates

that demand will be created due to retirement as opposed to economic activity. Increased demand for the technical jobs may be the result of technical innovation and consumer demand.

But what the list is really telling students is that if you want job security and good pay you need to get some post-secondary education.

The site also shows students which occupations are regulated in the

province of B.C.

So although you will require some post-secondary for many of those listed above, some require further examinations for licensing.

If you are looking at going to school or finding more information on the B.C. job market its worthwhile visiting this site at [www.workbc.ca](http://www.workbc.ca).

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