

The 25 college majors with the highest salaries

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It's hard to pick the right college major. For those who don't know what to do with their careers, it may help to pick the major with the biggest paycheck.

Using data that [OneClass](#) compiled from [Payscale](#), we found the 25 college majors with the highest average mid-career salaries. We also noted early career salaries, possible careers with that major, and a "high meaning" rating, based on the percentage of workers who said their jobs made the world a better place. Graduate school degrees were excluded, so most well-paying bachelor's degree holders are engineers.

You may find your major or career on this list. Or, if you're still deciding on a major, you may find one that's right for you.

Managerial economics majors have a mid-career salary of \$117,800 a year



PhotoAlto/Frederic Cirou/Getty Images

Possible jobs with this major: Asset management researcher, cash management specialist, commercial credit analyst, consultant, corporate finance associate.

Early career pay: \$60,800

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 38%

Source: [Bentley University](#)

Engineering science majors have a mid-career salary of \$118,000 a year



Possible jobs with this major: Civil engineer, design drafter, software test engineer, industrial engineer.

Early career pay: \$63,900

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 39%

Source: [Zippia](#)

Electrical engineering majors have a mid-career salary of \$118,100 a year



[NASA Goddard Space Flight Center/Flickr/CC 2.0 Attribution](#)

Possible jobs with this major: Aerospace engineering, bioengineering, chemical engineering, civil engineering, engineering management.

Early career pay: \$69,900

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 52%

Source: [Worldwide Learn](#)

Construction engineering management majors have a mid-career salary of \$118,200 a year



milanvirijevic/Getty Images

Possible jobs with this major: Building control surveyor, building services engineer, building surveyor, construction manager, estates manager, quantity surveyor, site engineer, sustainability consultant.

Early career pay: \$64,000

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 45%

Source: [Prospects](#)

Engineering physics majors have a mid-career salary of \$119,100 a year



Caiaimage/Agnieszka Olek

Possible jobs with this major: Accelerator operator, applications engineer, data analyst, design engineer, high school physics teacher.

Early career pay: \$65,400

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 48%

Source: [Ohio State University](#)

Computer engineering majors have a mid-career salary of \$120,000 a year



[Flickr.com/alper](https://www.flickr.com/photos/alper/)

Possible jobs with this major: Computer programmer, mechanical engineer, electrical engineer, industrial engineer.

Early career pay: \$72,600

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 45%

Source: [Learn How to Become](#)

Computer science and engineering majors have a mid-career salary of \$120,100 a year



Reuters

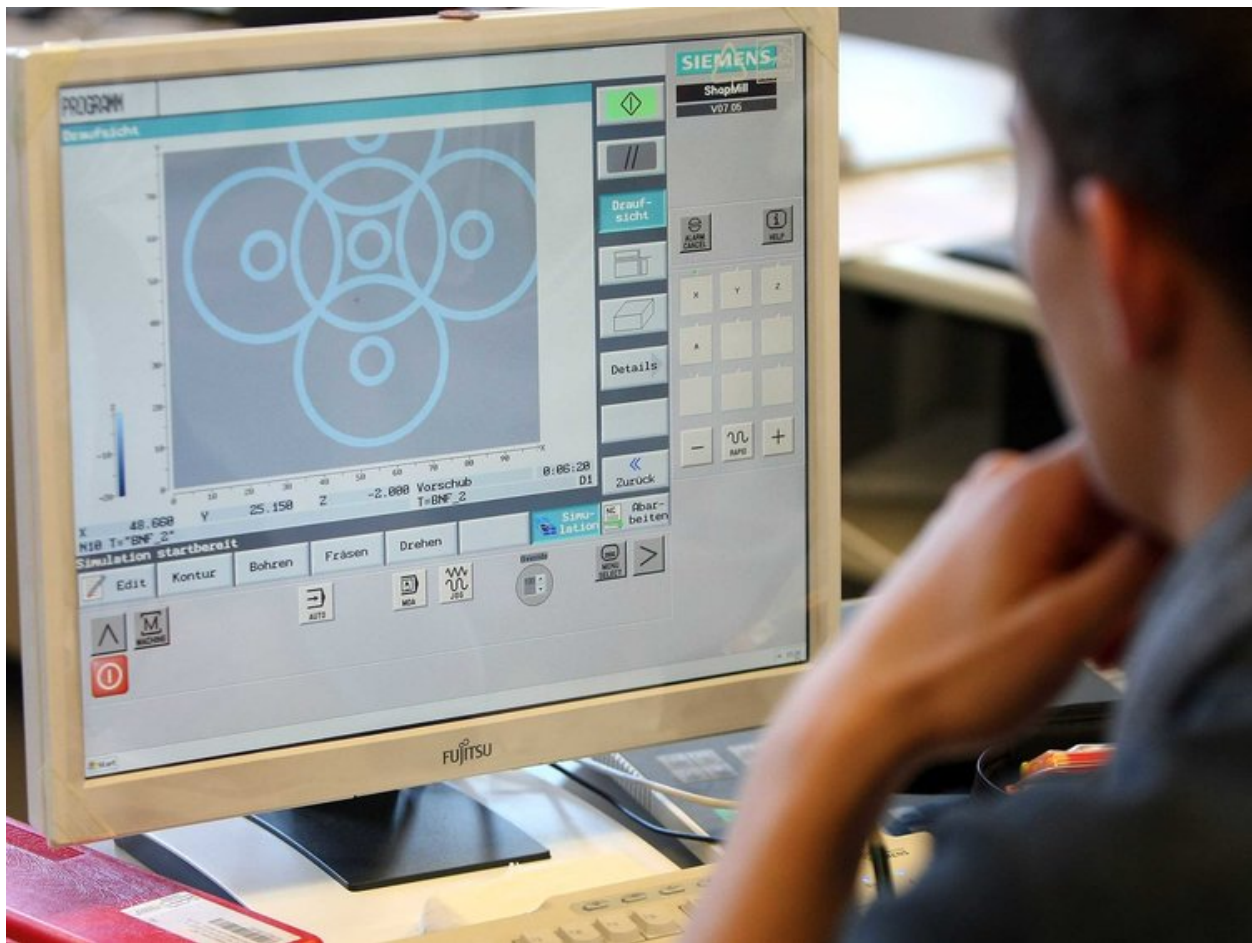
Possible jobs with this major: Software developer, database administrator, computer hardware engineer, computer systems analyst, computer network architect, web developer.

Early career pay: \$74,000

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 44%

Source: [The Balance Careers](#)

Electrical and computer engineering majors have a mid-career salary of \$120,400 a year



Adam Berry/Getty Images

Possible jobs with this major: Computer network architects, software developers, computer hardware engineers.

Early career pay: \$71,100

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 51%

Source: [Computer Science Online](#)

Ocean engineering majors have a mid-career salary of \$121,200 a year



Naruecha Jenthaisong/EyeEm/Getty Images

Possible jobs with this major: Ocean engineer, naval architect, structural engineer, marine engineer, mechanical engineer.

Early career pay: \$68,900

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: N/A

Source: [Florida Institute of Technology](#)

Nuclear engineering majors have a mid-career salary of \$121,700 a year



Westend61/Getty Images

Possible jobs with this major: Electrical engineer, machinist mate, radiological engineer.

Early career pay: \$70,700

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 59%

Source: [Zippia](#)

Electrical power engineering majors have a mid-career salary of \$122,300 a year



Moof/Getty Images

Possible jobs with this major: Power engineer, utilities engineer.

Early career pay: \$71,300

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 65%

Source: [All About Careers](#)

Aeronautical engineering majors have a mid-career salary of \$122,500 a year



Sean Gladwell/Getty Images

Possible jobs with this major: Commercial aerospace engineers, spacecraft designers, engineering, science and data processing managers, inspectors and compliance officers, mechanical engineers.

Early career pay: \$67,900

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 70%

Source: [Worldwide Learn](#)

Actuarial science majors have a mid-career salary of \$123,500 a year



[Dell Inc./flickr](#)

Possible jobs with this major: Actuary

Early career pay: \$62,700

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 45%

Source: [Etched Actuarial](#)

Marine engineering majors have a mid-career salary of \$126,500 a year



US Navy/Getty

Possible jobs with this major: Marine mechanical engineer, waterfront project engineer.

Early career pay: \$72,600

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 73%

Source: [College Grad](#)

(Tie) Chemical Engineering majors have a mid-career salary of \$126,900 a year



[Bobby Yip/REUTERS](#)

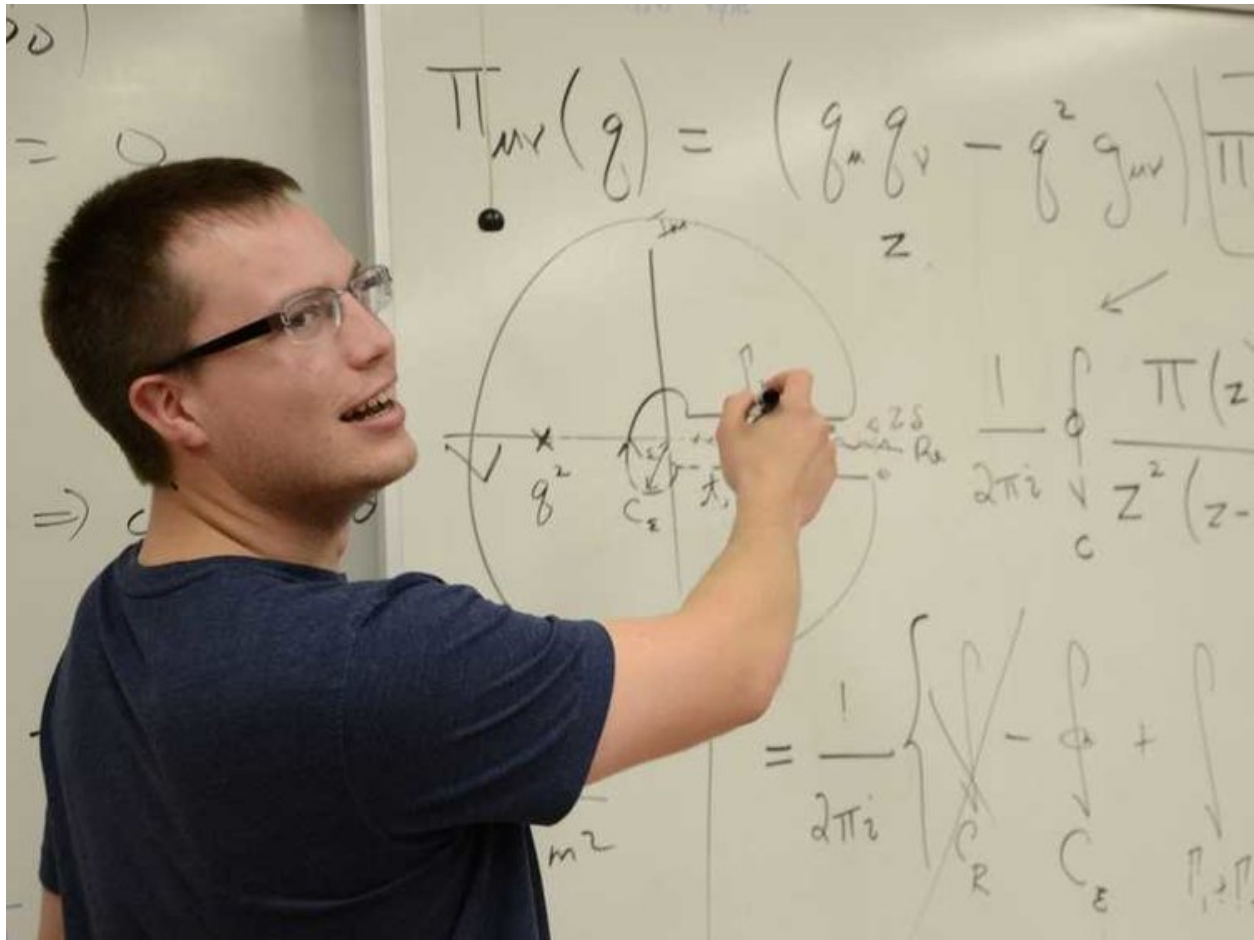
Possible jobs with this major: Chemical engineer

Early career pay: \$71,800

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 54%

Source: [College grad](#)

(Tie) Economics and mathematics majors have a mid-career salary of \$126,900 a year



[University of the Fraser Valley/flickr](#)

Possible jobs with this major: Cryptographer, mathematician, economist, actuary, financial planner.

Early career pay: \$63,200

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 36%

Source: [Richmond School of Arts and Sciences](#)

Business analysis majors have a mid-career salary of \$129,800 a year



PhotoAlto/Frederic Cirou/Getty Images

Possible jobs with this major: Consultant, solution architect role or a pre-sales consultant, product manager, lead business analyst, project manager.

Early career pay: \$53,400

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 49%

Source: [BA Times](#)

Systems engineering majors have a mid-career salary of \$131,200 a year



Maskot/Getty Images

Possible jobs with this major: Computer science, software engineering, information systems, computer networking.

Early career pay: \$70,800

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 52%

Source: [The Balance Careers](#)

Aeronautics and astronautics majors have a mid-career salary of \$133,300 a year



xenotar/Getty Images

Possible jobs with this major: Aeronautical engineer, astronautical engineer.

Early career pay: \$71,400

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 52%

Source: [All About Careers](#)

(Tie) Building science majors have a mid-career salary of \$135,000 a year



Evgenii Mitroshin/Getty Images

Possible jobs with this major: Building scientist, code official, fire protection engineer, sustainability specialist.

Early career pay: \$50,700

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 33%

Source: [WBDG](#)

(Tie) Public accounting majors have a mid-career salary of \$135,000 a year



filadendron/Getty Images

Possible jobs with this major: Public accountant

Early career pay: \$60,700

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 51%

Source: [AICPA](#)

Chemical and biomolecular engineering majors have a mid-career salary of \$138,100 a year



Nicola Tree/Getty Images

Possible jobs with this major: Chemical engineer, biomolecular engineer.

Early career pay: \$71,900

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 42%

Source: [University of Maryland](#)

Actuarial mathematics majors have a mid-career salary of \$158,100 a year



Petri Oeschger/Getty Images

Possible jobs with this major: Actuary.

Early career pay: \$54,700

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 46%

Source: [Etched Actuarial](#)

Operations research and industrial engineering majors have a mid-career salary of \$166,300 a year



Worldsteel/Getty

Possible jobs with this major: Industrial engineer.

Early career pay: \$79,600

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: N/A

Source: [College Grad](#)

Petroleum engineering majors have a mid-career salary of \$183,600 a year



Christian Lagerek/Shutterstock

Possible jobs with this major: Information specialist, petroleum engineer.

Early career pay: \$82,700

Percentage of workers who say their job makes the world a better place: 60%