

Starting Salaries by Major, 2013-2014

Starting Salary Rank	Major	Median Starting Salary
1	Petroleum Engineering	\$103,000
2	Chemical Engineering	\$68,200
3	Nuclear Engineering	\$67,600
4	Computer Engineering (CE)	\$65,300
5	Electrical Engineering (EE)	\$64,300
6	Aerospace Engineering	\$62,800
7	Materials Science & Engineering	\$62,700
8	Industrial Engineering (IE)	\$61,100
9	Mechanical Engineering (ME)	\$60,900
10	Software Engineering	\$60,500
11	Computer Science (CS)	\$59,800
12	Biomedical Engineering (BME)	\$59,000
13	Actuarial Mathematics	\$58,700
14	Electrical Engineering Technology (EET)	\$57,900
15	Nursing	\$55,400
16	Civil Engineering (CE)	\$54,300
17	Mechanical Engineering Technology (MET)	\$54,100
18	Management Information Systems (MIS)	\$53,800
19	Physics	\$53,100
20-tie	Applied Mathematics	\$52,800
20-tie	Supply Chain Management	\$52,800
22	Statistics	\$52,500
23	Information Systems (IS)	\$51,900
24	Construction Management	\$51,500
25-tie	Computer Information Systems (CIS)	\$50,800
25-tie	Industrial Technology (IT)	\$50,800
27	Occupational Health and Safety	\$50,500
28	Economics	\$50,100
29	Information Technology (IT)	\$49,900
30-tie	Environmental Engineering	\$49,400
30-tie	Mathematics	\$49,400
32	Finance	\$49,200
33	Civil Engineering Technology (CET)	\$49,200
34	Medical Technology	\$48,900
35	Biotechnology	\$48,700
36	Geology	\$46,100
37	Accounting	\$45,300
38	Food Science	\$45,200
39	Industrial Design (ID)	\$44,800
40	Dietetics	\$44,200
41	Chemistry	\$44,100
42	International Business	\$43,800
43	Business Administration	\$43,500
44	Government	\$43,200
45	Telecommunications	\$43,100
46	Biochemistry (BCH)	\$42,900
47	Marketing Management	\$42,100
48-tie	Architecture	\$41,900
48-tie	Organizational Management	\$41,900
50-tie	International Relations	\$41,700
50-tie	Political Science (PolySci)	\$41,700
52	Multimedia & Web Design	\$41,600
53-tie	American Studies	\$41,400
53-tie	German Language	\$41,400
55	Environmental Science	\$41,300
56	Nutrition	\$41,300
57	Landscape Architecture	\$41,200
58	Urban Planning	\$41,100
59	French Language	\$40,900
60-tie	Microbiology	\$40,800
60-tie	English Literature	\$40,800
60-tie	Geography	\$40,800
63-tie	Hotel Management	\$40,600
63-tie	Public Administration	\$40,600
65	Molecular Biology	\$40,400

Starting Salary Rank	Major	Median Starting Salary
66-tie	Marketing & Communications	\$40,200
66-tie	Biology	\$40,200
68-tie	Advertising	\$40,000
68-tie	Communication	\$40,000
68-tie	Forestry	\$40,000
71-tie	Philosophy	\$39,700
71-tie	Linguistics	\$39,700
71-tie	History	\$39,700
74	Global & International Studies	\$39,600
75-tie	Fashion Design	\$39,400
75-tie	Speech Communication	\$39,400
77-tie	Health Care Administration	\$39,300
77-tie	Sports Medicine	\$39,300
79	Fashion Merchandising	\$39,100
80	Human Resources (HR)	\$38,800
81-tie	English Language	\$38,700
81-tie	Classics	\$38,700
83	Agriculture	\$38,500
84	Health Sciences	\$38,400
85	Film Production	\$38,200
86	Journalism	\$38,100
87-tie	Humanities	\$37,900
87-tie	Radio & Television	\$37,900
89	Interdisciplinary Studies (IS)	\$37,600
90-tie	Zoology	\$37,400
90-tie	Public Relations (PR)	\$37,400
90-tie	Sociology	\$37,400
90-tie	Fine Arts	\$37,400
90-tie	Education	\$37,400
95-tie	Visual Communications	\$37,300
95-tie	Social Science	\$37,300
97-tie	Graphic Design	\$37,000
97-tie	Sports Management	\$37,000
99	Art History	\$36,900
100	Liberal Arts	\$36,600
101	Psychology	\$36,300
102-tie	Anthropology	\$36,200
102-tie	Theater	\$36,200
104	Photography	\$36,200
105	Art	\$36,100
106	Interior Design	\$36,000
107-tie	Public Health (PH)	\$35,900
107-tie	Human Development	\$35,900
109-tie	Hospitality & Tourism	\$35,700
109-tie	Music	\$35,700
111-tie	Kinesiology	\$35,600
111-tie	Drama	\$35,600
113	Biblical Studies	\$35,400
114	Criminal Justice	\$35,300
115	Horticulture	\$35,200
116-tie	Paralegal Studies	\$35,000
116-tie	Recreation & Leisure Studies	\$35,000
118-tie	Religious Studies	\$34,900
118-tie	Physical Education Teaching	\$34,900
120-tie	Culinary Arts	\$34,800
120-tie	Athletic Training	\$34,800
122	Theology	\$34,000
123	Special Education	\$33,800
124	Animal Science	\$33,600
125	Social Work (SW)	\$33,000
126	Broadcast Journalism	\$32,700
127	Exercise Science	\$32,600
128	Elementary Education	\$32,200
129	Child & Family Studies	\$30,300

Source: PayScale, Inc., <http://www.payscale.com/best-colleges/degrees.asp>

This table is based upon PayScale Salary Survey data for full-time employees in the United States who possess a bachelor's degree and no higher degrees and have majored in the subjects listed above. These results may not represent all graduates with these degrees. More than 1000 colleges and universities across the U.S. were included. As a result, median salary figures may be skewed toward large state universities, since these schools have the largest attendance. Salary is the sum of compensation from base salary, bonuses, profit sharing, commissions, and overtime, if applicable. Salary does not include equity (stock) compensation.

Starting Salaries by Major, 2013-2014: Alphabetical Listing

Starting Salary Rank	Major	Median Starting Salary
37	Accounting	\$45,300
13	Actuarial Mathematics	\$58,700
68-tie	Advertising	\$40,000
6	Aerospace Engineering	\$62,800
83	Agriculture	\$38,500
53-tie	American Studies	\$41,400
124	Animal Science	\$33,600
102-tie	Anthropology	\$36,200
20-tie	Applied Mathematics	\$52,800
48-tie	Architecture	\$41,900
105	Art	\$36,100
99	Art History	\$36,900
120-tie	Athletic Training	\$34,800
113	Biblical Studies	\$35,400
46	Biochemistry (BCH)	\$42,900
66-tie	Biology	\$40,200
12	Biomedical Engineering (BME)	\$59,000
35	Biotechnology	\$48,700
126	Broadcast Journalism	\$32,700
43	Business Administration	\$43,500
2	Chemical Engineering	\$68,200
41	Chemistry	\$44,100
129	Child & Family Studies	\$30,300
16	Civil Engineering (CE)	\$54,300
33	Civil Engineering Technology (CET)	\$49,200
81-tie	Classics	\$38,700
68-tie	Communication	\$40,000
4	Computer Engineering (CE)	\$65,300
25-tie	Computer Information Systems (CIS)	\$50,800
11	Computer Science (CS)	\$59,800
24	Construction Management	\$51,500
114	Criminal Justice	\$35,300
120-tie	Culinary Arts	\$34,800
40	Dietetics	\$44,200
111-tie	Drama	\$35,600
28	Economics	\$50,100
90-tie	Education	\$37,400
5	Electrical Engineering (EE)	\$64,300
14	Electrical Engineering Technology (EET)	\$57,900
128	Elementary Education	\$32,200
81-tie	English Language	\$38,700
60-tie	English Literature	\$40,800
30-tie	Environmental Engineering	\$49,400
55	Environmental Science	\$41,300
127	Exercise Science	\$32,600
75-tie	Fashion Design	\$39,400
79	Fashion Merchandising	\$39,100
85	Film Production	\$38,200
32	Finance	\$49,200
90-tie	Fine Arts	\$37,400
38	Food Science	\$45,200
68-tie	Forestry	\$40,000
59	French Language	\$40,900
60-tie	Geography	\$40,800
36	Geology	\$46,100
53-tie	German Language	\$41,400
74	Global & International Studies	\$39,600
44	Government	\$43,200
97-tie	Graphic Design	\$37,000
77-tie	Health Care Administration	\$39,300
84	Health Sciences	\$38,400
71-tie	History	\$39,700
115	Horticulture	\$35,200
109-tie	Hospitality & Tourism	\$35,700
63-tie	Hotel Management	\$40,600

Starting Salary Rank	Major	Median Starting Salary
107-tie	Human Development	\$35,900
80	Human Resources (HR)	\$38,800
87-tie	Humanities	\$37,900
39	Industrial Design (ID)	\$44,800
8	Industrial Engineering (IE)	\$61,100
25-tie	Industrial Technology (IT)	\$50,800
23	Information Systems (IS)	\$51,900
29	Information Technology (IT)	\$49,900
89	Interdisciplinary Studies (IS)	\$37,600
106	Interior Design	\$36,000
42	International Business	\$43,800
50-tie	International Relations	\$41,700
86	Journalism	\$38,100
111-tie	Kinesiology	\$35,600
57	Landscape Architecture	\$41,200
100	Liberal Arts	\$36,600
71-tie	Linguistics	\$39,700
18	Management Information Systems (MIS)	\$53,800
66-tie	Marketing & Communications	\$40,200
47	Marketing Management	\$42,100
7	Materials Science & Engineering	\$62,700
30-tie	Mathematics	\$49,400
9	Mechanical Engineering (ME)	\$60,900
17	Mechanical Engineering Technology (MET)	\$54,100
34	Medical Technology	\$48,900
60-tie	Microbiology	\$40,800
65	Molecular Biology	\$40,400
52	Multimedia & Web Design	\$41,600
109-tie	Music	\$35,700
3	Nuclear Engineering	\$67,600
15	Nursing	\$55,400
56	Nutrition	\$41,300
27	Occupational Health and Safety	\$50,500
48-tie	Organizational Management	\$41,900
116-tie	Paralegal Studies	\$35,000
1	Petroleum Engineering	\$103,000
71-tie	Philosophy	\$39,700
104	Photography	\$36,200
118-tie	Physical Education Teaching	\$34,900
19	Physics	\$53,100
50-tie	Political Science (PolySci)	\$41,700
101	Psychology	\$36,300
63-tie	Public Administration	\$40,600
107-tie	Public Health (PH)	\$35,900
90-tie	Public Relations (PR)	\$37,400
87-tie	Radio & Television	\$37,900
116-tie	Recreation & Leisure Studies	\$35,000
118-tie	Religious Studies	\$34,900
95-tie	Social Science	\$37,300
125	Social Work (SW)	\$33,000
90-tie	Sociology	\$37,400
10	Software Engineering	\$60,500
123	Special Education	\$33,800
75-tie	Speech Communication	\$39,400
97-tie	Sports Management	\$37,000
77-tie	Sports Medicine	\$39,300
22	Statistics	\$52,500
20-tie	Supply Chain Management	\$52,800
45	Telecommunications	\$43,100
102-tie	Theater	\$36,200
122	Theology	\$34,000
58	Urban Planning	\$41,100
95-tie	Visual Communications	\$37,300
90-tie	Zoology	\$37,400

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The Economic Research Institute of Erie (ERIE) is a research and outreach unit of the Sam and Irene Black School of Business at Penn State Erie. You can find information about ERIE, and much more interesting and useful data, at ERIEdata.org.