

# ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON REGION

## Top 10 Star Jobs

*Top careers with high wages and employment growth by education requirements*

Advanced Degree	Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★ Physical Therapists	\$41.96	\$87,275
★ Speech-Language Pathologists	\$36.39	\$75,684
★ Nurse Practitioners	\$46.89	\$97,521
★ Healthcare Social Workers	\$22.47	\$46,737
★ Physician Assistants	\$45.99	\$95,657
★ Mental Health Counselors	\$30.06	\$62,535
★ Clinical, Counseling & School Psychologists	\$25.17	\$52,359
★ Occupational Therapists	\$42.86	\$89,156
★ Pharmacists	\$62.17	\$129,323
★ Education Administrators, Elementary & Secondary School	N/A	\$62,413

All wage information (except where noted) is Regional Median Hourly and Annual Wage data which was calculated based on 2016 release of the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The OES program produces employment and wage estimates annually for more than 800 occupations for the U.S., individual states, and metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas; National occupational estimates for specific industries are also available.

i. Prosperity Zone Median Wage

Note: Selected occupations for each education/experience category are based on the Star Jobs Methodology. Education categories in this brochure represent the minimum level of education required for entry according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Actual market conditions may require additional education and training.

## What are Star Jobs?

North Carolina's 5-Star Jobs represent occupations with the greatest projected employment potential through 2024. Occupations were rated from 1-5 stars based on wages, projected growth rates, and projected job openings. For a complete list of Star Jobs and explanation of the rating process, visit [www.nccommerce.com/lead/data-tools/star-jobs](http://www.nccommerce.com/lead/data-tools/star-jobs)



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**ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON REGION**  
**STAR JOBS**  
**TOP 10 BY EDUCATION**  
**2017**

Labor & Economic Analysis  
COMMERCE

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High School & Work Experience		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$21.73	\$45,201
★	Machinists	\$20.98	\$43,642
★	Electrical Power-Line Installers & Repairers	\$20.80	\$43,261
★	Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal & Plastic	\$17.78	\$36,982
★	Food Service Managers	\$32.27	\$67,131
★	Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers	\$18.71	\$38,920
★	Welders, Cutters, Solderers & Brazers	\$17.22	\$35,819
★	First-Line Supervisors of Police & Detectives	\$29.10	\$60,529
★	Refuse & Recyclable Material Collectors	\$13.66 <sup>i</sup>	\$28,419 <sup>i</sup>
★	Self-Enrichment Education Teachers	\$19.27	\$40,089

Associate Degree		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	Physical Therapist Assistants	\$32.35	\$67,297
★	Occupational Therapy Assistants	\$32.37	\$67,335
★	Preschool Teachers, <i>Except Special Education</i>	\$11.77	\$24,484
★	Chemical Technicians	\$23.00	\$47,849
★	Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technicians	\$17.92	\$37,282
★	Paralegals & Legal Assistants	\$16.49	\$34,303
★	Radiologic Technologists	\$25.00	\$51,991
★	Dental Hygienists	\$33.35	\$69,365
★	Electrical & Electronics Engineering Technicians	\$25.22	\$52,466
★	Civil Engineering Technicians	\$22.66	\$47,132

Postsecondary Training		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	Emergency Medical Technicians & Paramedics	\$15.15	\$31,515
★	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$16.90	\$35,151
★	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	\$13.45	\$27,977
★	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$20.35	\$42,323
★	Firefighters	\$13.80	\$28,695
★	Medical Assistants	\$14.10	\$29,338
★	Dental Assistants	\$20.39	\$42,413
★	Computer User Support Specialists	\$22.47	\$46,743
★	Heating, A/C & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	\$20.51	\$42,665
★	Library Technicians	\$12.64	\$26,286

Bachelor's Degree		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	Computer Systems Analysts	\$39.02	\$81,165
★	Software Developers, Applications	\$41.18	\$85,649
★	Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	\$24.56	\$51,078
★	Computer & Information Systems Managers	\$59.87	\$124,522
★	Marketing Managers	\$65.63	\$136,511
★	Personal Financial Advisors	\$31.47	\$65,448
★	Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers	\$21.89	\$45,522
★	Information Security Analysts	\$42.08 <sup>i</sup>	\$87,530 <sup>i</sup>
★	Operations Research Analysts	\$36.18 <sup>i</sup>	\$75,257 <sup>i</sup>
★	Child, Family & School Social Workers	\$19.62	\$40,818