



Career Information

Computer Network Specialist

Overview

Career title: Computer Network Specialist (CNS)

Industry/Field: Information Technology

Get into the fast-growing field of information technology. The Computer Network Specialist program prepares you to build, maintain, and support a small business network. With the increasing digitization of the workplace, the demand for those with expertise in networking, cybersecurity, cloud computing, information technology, and troubleshooting is on the rise.

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| Date | February 2025 Updated |
| Required Education & Skills | <p>Hard skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network security knowledge • Data analysis skills • Understanding of network topologies • Setting up and configuring network devices (routers, switches and access points) • Diagnosing and resolving network connectivity issues <p>Soft skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem-solving and attention to detail • Logical thinking skills with the ability to study complex problems • Communication and teamwork • A keen interest in keeping up with technology • The ability to stay calm and efficient under pressure |
| Job Market & Outlook | <p>Current Demand: The demand for Computer Network Specialists in Canada is expected to remain stable over the coming years. According to the Government of Canada's Job Bank, between 2022 and 2031, there will be approximately 18,800 new job openings for computer network technicians, with about 21,500 new job seekers projected to fill these roles. This suggests a balanced labor market for this occupation during this period.</p> <p>Salary Information: These figures can fluctuate based on factors such as industry demand, certifications, and regional economic conditions.</p> <p>Entry-level: \$75,000.00 per year. Mid-level: \$86,000.00 per year. Experienced: \$91,000.00-\$112,000.00+per year</p> |
| Pros & Cons of this Career | <p>Pros:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highly employable and in demand -job stability with the growing reliance on IT infrastructure. • Positions available in government, healthcare, finance, community organizations, and educational institutions all need Computer Network Specialists. • Job market across Canada, positions available in rural settings as well as larger urban settings. <p>Cons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demanding with high levels of responsibility and pressure. • Flexible and open to continuous learning, technology evolves quickly, meaning constant skill upgrades are required. • Can mean on-call or irregular hours of work. • Repetitive tasks. |

This information has been compiled using publicly accessible provincial and federal data sources.

