O*NET® OnLine Desk Aid

**O*NET OnLine** is the Occupational Information Network’s free Web site for easy access to information on over 965 occupations. View data on tasks, skills, knowledge, abilities, job zones, tools and technology, interests, work styles, work values, and work context. (online.onetcenter.org)

**OnLine Help** provides answers to questions about the content and use of O*NET OnLine. Each page links to Help topics specific to that page.

Use ‘drop-down’ menus in the headers of every page to easily navigate to any of the OnLine searches.

**Find Occupations**

Explore occupations related by industry (e.g., Health Care, Energy), training time (choose from 5 Job Zones), or other occupational descriptors (e.g., Abilities, Interests).

**Advanced Search**

Search for occupations that use your skills (e.g., Social Skills, Technical Skills), or require specific software (e.g., Medical Software, Presentation Software) or tools (e.g., Digital Cameras, Power Meters).

**Crosswalks**

Use Crosswalks to identify O*NET occupations matched to other classifications (e.g., MOC, CIP, SOC).

**Steps for exploring occupations:**

1. Use one of the search functions (Occupation Search, Find Occupations, Advanced Search, Crosswalks, Green) to find your occupation of interest. Or, use the Quick Search box in the upper right-hand corner of any OnLine page.
2. Select an occupation from the list presented.
3. View the occupation’s information (e.g., Knowledge, Skills, Abilities, Education and Training) in a Summary or Details Report, or create your own Custom Report.

**O*NET OnLine offers 3 report options:**

1. The **Summary Report** provides an overview of the selected occupation, focusing on the most important descriptors.
2. The **Details Report** displays all descriptors for the selected occupation and, where available, a rating of how important each descriptor is to the occupation.
3. The **Custom Report** allows you to select 14 different content areas to generate tailored reports about occupations. You can select the type of information (level, importance, frequency) you want displayed.

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O*NET Descriptors Listed in Summary, Details, and Custom Reports

Tasks: Work activities that are specific to each occupation, such as “analyzing and testing computer programs or systems to identify errors.”

Tools & Technology: Machines, equipment, tools, and software that workers may use for successful performance on the job, such as “laser measuring systems” or “computer-aided design CAD software.”

Knowledge: Organized sets of principles and facts that apply to a wide range of situations, such as knowledge of “mathematics,” “chemistry,” or “fine arts.”

Skills: Capacities developed through education or experience that help you perform your job, such as “reading comprehension.”

Abilities: Enduring attributes of an individual that influence performance, such as “deductive reasoning.”

Work Activities: Tasks that may be performed across multiple occupations, like “thinking creatively.”

Work Context: Physical and social factors that influence the nature of work, such as “the amount of time spent sitting.”

Interests: Preferences for work environments and outcomes. For example, an interest in “investigative occupations” signals an interest in working with ideas and thinking.

Work Values: Global aspects of work that are important to a person’s satisfaction, like “independence.”

Work Styles: Work characteristics that can connect what is important to a worker with occupations that reflect or develop those values, such as “Initiative,” “Persistence,” or “Cooperation.”

Job Zones: Job Zones group occupations into one of five categories based on levels of education, experience, and training necessary to perform the occupation.

Related Occupations: Occupations similar to the selected occupation in required knowledge areas, skills, abilities, work environment, and work activities.

Wages and Employment: National wage information and employment prospects for your selected occupation. State information is provided through a link to CareerOneStop. (www.careeronestop.org/)

Visit the O*NET Resource Center at www.onetcenter.org/ for O*NET products, including O*NET data, career exploration tools, and technical reports.

Downloads include:
- O*NET Computerized Interest Profiler and O*NET Work Importance Profiler
- Testing and Assessment Guides
- O*NET database and supplemental files such as Lay Titles, Detailed Work Activities, and Tools & Technology.

The O*NET Academy provides training and information on the use of O*NET through webinars, podcasts, and links to other resources. (http://www.onetacademy.com/)

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