



LABOR MARKET INFORMATION NEWS PACKET

Department of Labor and Employment

Labor Communications Office

July 2012

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Written in a news format, the LMI News Packet features courses—technical-vocational, college, and entrepreneurial—that would lead course takers to in-demand and 'hot' occupations and skills identified by the DOLE's labor market signaling study, Project JobsFit: The DOLE 2020 Vision. The featured careers in the News Packet are lifted from the 101 Career Guides, produced by the Bureau of Local Employment, and contain the career's job nature, education and competency requirements, earnings, employment, and job outlook. The 101 Career Guides can be browsed on and downloaded from www.ble.dole.gov.ph/career.asp.

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— Sec. ROSALINDA DIMAPILIS-BALDOZ

Tourism boom will require more chefs – DOLE

As the Philippines's campaign to boost the tourism industry through the slogan, "It's more fun in the Philippines," intensifies, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) also sees a corresponding boom in the hotel and restaurant industry.

"The hotel and restaurant industry is a pillar of the tourism sector. It goes without saying that increased tourist arrival means increased hotel and restaurant activities," said Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz.

Data of the Department of Tourism shows that 1,497,851 visitors came to the Philippines from January to April 2012, an increase of 14.61% over the previous year's volume of 1,306,944 for the same period.

"If this current trend continues, the growth in the hotel and restaurant industry is expected to provide more employment opportunities to our workers," Baldoz said.

In anticipation of this demand, the DOLE has included the occupational position of chef in its 101 Career Guides as one of the featured careers under the hotels and restaurant industry. The 101 Career Guides can be accessed at the Bureau of Local Employment's website: <http://ble.dole.gov.ph/career.asp>.

According to the career guide, there are no specific educational requirements for chefs. However, most employers prefer to hire high school graduates who have completed a course on commercial food preparation.

A four-year degree in International Hospitality Management (IHM), with specialty in culinary arts, will give a chef a distinct advantage when applying for a high-paying job, such that of an executive chef in a prestigious restaurant or hotel.

"For those who were not able to enroll in college this year, there are culinary schools that offer short-term courses in culinary arts for one year and two months; a three-month training program for the certification of the fundamentals in culinary arts; or a four-month training in commercial cooking, or a five-day culinary course," said Baldoz.



A four-year IHM degree, with specialty in culinary arts, cost around P170,000 to P200,000 per semester, inclusive of the materials (utensils and ingredients) that will be used during the whole course.

Salaries of chefs vary according to the type of food service establishment in which they work. The monthly salary for entry level chefs starts from P10,000 to P18,000, depending on the level of education they have achieved and if they are able to land a job in elegant restaurants and hotels.

Specifically, a chef is tasked to plan and direct food preparation and cooking activities; plans menus, ensures food meets quality standards; estimates food and labor cost; supervises activities of cooks and other kitchen staff; demonstrate new cooking technique; instructs cooks in preparation, cooking, garnishing of food displays; and plans the requisition of food and kitchen supplies.

"There are many employment and business opportunities for a chef, which includes authoring a cookbook, going into catering business for weddings, and business functions, among others. They can also work as consultants for restaurant owners who want to develop special menus," Baldoz added.

Be a dietician and land a job easily, earn well, Baldoz urges HS grads and graduating HS students

Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz said the job of a dietician pays well and is in-demand. It is also a hard-to-fill job. Thus, she encouraged high school graduates and those who are graduating from high school this year to consider becoming a dietician because there are enough jobs for holders of such skills.

Sounding out anew the results of Project JobsFit: DOLE 2020 Vision, the labor and employment chief said a dietician's job is not only to plan but also to organize, conduct, and supervise programs in nutrition, diet, and food service.

Project JobsFit: DOLE 2020 Vision is a pioneering, nationwide research study that involved environmental scanning of the labor market, information gathering, consultation, and 'signaling' activities aimed at identifying local and global industries, including the corresponding skills requirements, that would drive employment growth in the country in the next ten years. The study was conducted by the DOLE's Bureau of Local Employment.

Based on the study, the BLE developed the 101 Career Guides, a list of 122 careers that would lead to jobs identified to be in-demand during the next ten years in the country's key employment generating sectors (KEGs) identified in Project JobsFit: The DOLE 2020 Vision.

Listed as one of the occupations in the Career Guides is dietician, whose tasks include developing, administering, and supervising nutrition and food preparation and service programs in hospitals, nursing homes, schools, company cafeterias, or similar settings.

"A dietician is often involved in evaluating nutritional status of individuals and provides nutrition counseling and consulting to health professionals, dietetic interns, community groups, government, media, and individuals. He or she aids in the prevention and/or treatment of inadequate nutrition," explained Baldoz.

A dietician, who need to have a bachelor's degree in Nutrition, or a related field, such as Food and Nutritional Science or Biochemistry, also plans, evaluates, and conducts

nutrition education programs and develops educational materials for various audiences.

To become a skilled dietician, a degree holder must undergo at least a two-year supervised training. To be a full-fledged dietician, one must also pass the licensure examination of the Professional Regulation Commission. The cost of a four-year course on Nutrition, or a related field, normally ranges from P8,000 to P29,000 depending on the educational institution one is enrolled in.

Part of the skills and competencies of a dietician is that he or she must also have tact and patience when persuading people to change their eating habits. She added that a dietician must be patient, respectful, and responsive to clients' needs; flexible and a team player, with very good organizational skills and aptitude for and interest in science; and with a very good verbal and written communication skills.

"The employment prospects for dieticians are expected to grow due to changes in people's lifestyles that put increased emphasis on disease prevention; concern about a growing and aging population; and public interest in nutrition and healthy food," Baldoz said, adding:

"Based on the number of dietician positions in some hospitals, the demand for dieticians is expected to grow at a gradual pace as hospitals continue to contract out food service operations. Employment of dieticians is also expected to grow fast in contract providers of food services, social service agencies, including physicians' offices and clinics."

The entry-level salary of a dietician ranges from P10,000 to P16,000 per month. Aside from basic pay, a dietician also gets allowances and other incentives. In the U.S., a dietician may receive between US\$3,000 to US\$4,200 a month.

To move up in the career ladder, a dietician may specialize in such areas as administrative dietetics, clinical dietetics, community dietetics, public health dietetics or research dietetics. A dietician may progress to a management position through additional experience.



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From P50K to P100K per project, interior designers command their fees – DOLE



Graduating high school students who are creative, imaginative, and have the ability to turn their artistic ideas visually might consider taking interior design in college.

Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz said had this, adding that:

“Demand for interior design services from the construction; hotel and restaurant; real estate; tourism; renting and business activities; education; and other community, social and personal service activities is expected to be high because of increasing demand for facilities of good design.”

Baldoz said students who dream to be interior designers and expect to be employed in architectural firms, furniture

retailers, and private business must have a bachelor's degree in interior design and must pass the board examination given by the Professional Regulations Commission (PRC).

A four-year course in interior design normally costs around P35,000 to P45,000 per semester in private schools and universities. However, tuition fee cost 20 to 40 percent less in public education institutions that offer the same discipline.

Citing the 101 Career Guides, Baldoz said that aside from a college degree, an interior designer must also have skills and competencies on design techniques, tools and principles involved in production of precision technical plans, blueprints, drawings and models, construction, and must also have the ability to make good proposals for the clients for career advancement or for those who want to set-up their own business.

Interior design salaries may range from P20,000 to P50,000 per project or design. It may even go up to P100,000 depending on the complexity and intricateness of the project or design.

In Singapore and Canada, the entry level salary for an interior designer is \$2,416 a

month.

“There is also a demand for interior designers in Middle East, US and Europe because of the rise in construction and design activities in said countries. They also have high regards to interior designers as well as architects and engineers,” Baldoz added.

An interior designer can be promoted as senior designer or project coordinator, depending on his/her performance and experience.

(For more information on interior designer, as well as other featured careers in the DOLE's Career Guides 101, you may access the Bureau of Local Employment's website: <http://ble.dole.gov.ph/career.asp>.)

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The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) is encouraging graduating high school students to consider taking up architecture if that is their inclination and if they wish to easily land a job after college.

An architect is a hard-to-fill occupation identified in the DOLE study, Project JobsFit: The DOLE 2020 Vision.

Project JobsFit: The DOLE 2020 Vision, is a nationwide research study, conducted by the DOLE through its Bureau of Local Employment that involved environmental scanning, information gathering, consultation, and 'signaling' activities aimed at identifying local and global industries that would drive employment growth, including the corresponding skills requirements, for the next ten years.

Based on the findings and recommendations of the study, the DOLE, through the BLE, developed the 101 Career Guides, a body of relevant and updated information on the basic education requirements of a job, skills competencies, salary, prospect for career advancement, and employment opportunities meant to be disseminated and shared mainly to students to help them make wise career decisions.

The 101 Career Guides describes an architect as a licensed professional trained in the art and science of building design and who provides a wide variety of professional services to individuals and organizations planning a construction project.

An architect is required to have a professional degree in architecture and, prior to taking up licensure examination, a period of practical training and internship.

However, although graduate education beyond the professional degree is no essential for practicing architecture, it is normally required for research, teaching, and other specialized areas of architectural work.

A degree in architecture costs around P30,000 to P45,000 per semester in private schools and universities. However, tuition fee cost 20 to 40 percent less in public education institutions that offer the same discipline.

An architect must have the skills and competencies to communicate ideas to clients; conceptualize and understand spatial relationship' artistic and drawing ability; excellent communication skills; computer literacy knowledge of computer aided

design and drafting (CADD); strong organizational skills with attention to details; including managerial and supervisory skills.

"Having these credentials, an architect may receive salary that ranges from P18,000 to P40,000 a month depending on the type of employer," Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz said. "And if they are employed in other countries, such as the Middle East, they could receive a monthly salary of between \$1,500 to \$3,000," she added, saying also that pay and benefits are definitely higher than the local rates.

Specifically, an architect provides pre-design services that includes conduct of feasibility and environmental impact studies, site selection, and requirements specification of the design; drawing preparation and report presentation for a client's review; development of final construction plans; and preparation of cost analysis. He assists client in obtaining construction bids; selecting a contractor, and negotiating the construction contract; visits construction site to ensure that the contractor is following the design, using specified materials and meeting the specified standards for the quality of work; makes long-range planning for land development; and directs activities of workers engaged in preparing drawings and specification documents.

"With the growing trend of outsourcing to local architectural firms the drafting of construction plans from foreign countries and the unprecedented growth in the business process outsourcing (BPO) industry in the Philippines, demand for this profession will also increase," Baldoz predicted.

Jobs for architects are aplenty – DOLE





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Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz said the job of a heavy equipment operator is in-demand and hard-to-fill, thus, she encouraged high school graduates to try taking up career as a heavy equipment operator.

Sounding out anew the findings of Project JobsFit: DOLE 2020 Vision, the labor and employment chief also urged jobseekers to train and become heavy equipment operators if they find it difficult to land jobs in their current line of skill.

Project JobsFit: DOLE 2020 Vision is a labor market signaling study highlighting occupations which are in-demand, but hard-to-fill, and those with the highest potential of absorbing the most number of workers in the next five to ten years.

Based on the occupations listed in Project JobsFit, the DOLE's Bureau of Local Employment developed the 101 Career Guides which provide basic information on the occupations, including tasks of the job holder, salary, prospect for advancement, educational requirements & skills competencies, physical attributes & characteristics, and employment opportunities – information that could help job market entrants and jobseekers make wise career moves.

One of those jobs identified is heavy equipment operation. The career guide on heavy equipment operation provides no specific educational requirement for entrants, but said most employers prefer to hire high school graduates with specialized training in heavy equipment operation and maintenance which are very essential to the job.

A heavy equipment operator should have the following skills and competencies: (a) can operate a variety of heavy equipment safely via hand signals, radio communication, and using occupant safety devices; (b) can perform pre-operational checks of equipment as well as basic maintenance on track or rubber tire undercarriage, buckets and attachments; (c) knowledge in site planning and set up; and (d) ability to acquire and use the technology of earthmoving fundamentals (soil characteristics, ground conditions, map reading).

Locally, a heavy equipment operator receives a monthly salary of P12,000 to P20,000, depending on the industry or sector, but in the United States, heavy equipment operators could receive a monthly pay of \$3,500 to \$6,000, again depending on the industry. In other foreign countries, pay and benefits are definitely higher than local rates.

According to the Career Guides, most heavy equipment operators start their career in a particular type of equipment, such as a bulldozer, a backhoe, a grader, or a crane. However, through experience and advance training, operators become



familiarized and are able to operate all types of heavy equipment machinery.

Heavy equipment operators, as they progress, become supervisors, while others become trainers of less skilled heavy equipment operators.

Baldoz said employment opportunities for heavy equipment operators are plentiful as they are in-demand in many different fields, mostly on a construction site or in a mining area. "They can dredge waterways and canals, work on paving projects, excavate rocks, load and unload cargo, or be in major assembly lines for massive items.

"Typical employers of heavy equipment operators are municipal governments, heavy construction firms, manufacturers of primary steel products, mining companies, logging companies, construction site maintenance firms, and quarry companies," Baldoz said.

The training to become a heavy equipment operator will cost approximately P7,000 to P10,000, with training lasting about three (3) months. But there are also instances that training are usually conducted in-house, meaning, on-the-job, particularly if employers have basic heavy equipment.

The 101 Career Guides is a comprehensive list of 101 careers that would lead to jobs indentified to be in-demand during the next five to ten years in the country's key employment generating sectors, or KEGS, namely, (1) Agribusiness; (2) Cyber services; (3) Health and Wellness; (4) Construction; (5) Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism; (6) Mining; (7) Banking and Finance; (8) Manufacturing (9) Ownership Dwellings and Real Estate; (10) Transport and Logistics; (11) Wholesale and Retail Trade; and (12) Overseas Employment.

The 101 Career Guides is available in hard copy upon request and on-line through the Bureau of Local Employment (BLE) website, www.ble.dole.gov.ph.

Looking for a better career? Be a rigger! – Baldoz



Out-of-school youth or high school graduates who were not able to enroll this year may consider training for a job as a rigger.

This piece of advice came from Department of Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz who said that the government's public-private partnership programme and the expansion of the country's tourism sector will produce major opportunities in the construction industry and will require more skilled workers, such as riggers.

"Although most employers require high school graduates, the trade or a skill of a rigger can only be learned through apprenticeship," Baldoz said, adding that the training begins by working on the job as rigger's helpers.

Based on the DOLE's 101 Career Guides, riggers are employed directly by building and construction companies, or by subcontractors, and they require language skills sufficient to understand written and verbal safety instruction and the ability to recognize one's own and other's limitations in work situations.

As the Career Guides indicate, a rigger's work involves helping in the operation of machines that move heavy objects including steel plates, bundles of steel rods, drilling towers, platforms, and heavy construction equipment used to build and take down steel structures. The work of a rigger requires that the applicant must be physically fit, alert and agile, able to work at heights, and as part of a team.

In the local labor market, a rigger's entry level salary ranges from P10,000 to P15,000 per month, but once he has gained enough experience and undergone additional training, a rigger can work overseas and may receive an average monthly earning of \$3,857.

(Out-of school youths, high school and college graduates who wish to know more about the basic education requirements of a job, skills and competencies, salary / compensation, prospect for career advancement and employment opportunities can browse the DOLE's 101 Career Guide at www.ble.dole.gov.ph.)

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“The Power and Utilities industry is among the industries likely to provide employment opportunities faster than the output growth; and has the resources to highly compensate its workers in the long term.”

This is the message of Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz as she encouraged students and young jobseekers who have the knack for microelectronics and in reading blueprints to consider a career in power and utilities industry as heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) technician.

“As the DOLE has said time and again, it is imperative for students to soak up early on the latest labor market information so that they may be able to hone their skills and acquire competencies that would immediately fit them into jobs or entrepreneurship opportunities in the labor market,” Baldoz said.

The HVAC technician is a professional associated with the installation process of HVAC systems and who repairs and maintains systems that are already in place. He may work as an independent contractor or be employed by a company that specializes in climate control solutions for business and residential purposes.

An individual, to become an HVAC technician, may acquire skills through trade and technical schools as well as other vocational colleges. The HVAC program may generally take two years to complete, and may also include an apprenticeship with a certified HVAC provider.

“Generally, an apprenticeship may last from two to four years, and may be conducted concurrently with the formal education process. Upon completion of the formal study, additional testing is administered before certification is awarded,” Baldoz said.

“Training cost for HVAC technician is approximately P16,000 for 48 hours, but entry salary may range from P12,000 to P22,000 per month,” she added.

In the United States, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the US Department of Labor reported that HVAC technicians earn as much as \$19.76 per hour with a median annual salary at \$41,100.

Baldoz shared that career advancements in this profession takes the form of increased compensation. Apprentice technicians normally receive half the salary of their experienced counterparts. But as they become seasoned technicians, they could advance to supervisory positions as building superintendents, cost estimators, systems test and balance specialists, or move into sales and marketing jobs.

HVAC Technicians can work in the following industries: manufacturing, electricity, gas and water supply; construction; wholesale and retail trade; hotels and restaurants; transport, storage and communication; real estate, renting and business activities; and other community, social and personal service activities.

“The job outlook for HVAC technicians is excellent. Demand is projected to grow faster, through 2018, than

other occupations that require post-secondary training or an associate degree,” Baldoz said.

She explained that the demand for more HVAC technicians can be derived from the number of establishments; which needs heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems being put up today; in addition to families installing cooling systems at home due to high levels of humidity.

“So instead of taking popular courses, one may want to become an HVAC technician. It may prove to be the best paying and most productive job.”

HVAC Technicians get hot jobs and cool pay – DOLE



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“There are plenty of local jobs for automotive technicians.”

The Department of Labor and Employment had emphasized this as it again issued a strong pitch for technical and vocational courses that will lead to rewarding careers.

According to the DOLE, the need to transport the country's large population has led automobiles to mushroom on Philippine roads, streets, and highways. And just as human beings need doctors for health and preservation, machines like automobiles need skilled hands for repair and maintenance.

This is where automotive technicians—auto diesel mechanics, automotive electricians, power train and under chassis mechanics, and auto body repairmen—come in.

“The local labor market is in great need of automotive technicians,” said the DOLE.

“An automotive technician is a person who assembles, operates, troubleshoots, repairs, maintains, and tests the performance of all automotive equipment and machine tools,” Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz declared, adding that automotive technicians are among the most in-demand skills in the country today as shown by the labor market study conducted by the DOLE, dubbed, “Project JobsFit: The DOLE 20/20 Vision.”

Based on the study, the BLE developed the 101 Career Guides, a list of 122 careers that would lead to jobs identified to be in-demand during the next ten years in the country's key employment generating sectors (KEGs).

Listed in the 101 Career Guides as one of the occupations is automotive technician, among whose tasks are the following: (1) inspection, maintenance, and repair of automobiles and light trucks that run on gasoline, diesel, electricity, or alternative fuels, such as ethanol; (2) testing and lubricating engines and other major components; (3) repair and replacement of worn parts of these vehicles; (4) examination of every critical part, such as belts, hoses, plugs, brake and fuel systems, and other potentially-troublesome items.

To be an automotive technician, one has to undergo a three-year post secondary non-degree course in automotive technology. A technology course for automotive technician costs approximately P7,500 to P20,000 per term. There are also short term courses which costs between P3,700 to P6,500 per course for 48-60 hours.

Some of the country's best schools that offer automotive technician courses are Don Bosco College, Guzman College of Science and Technology, Samson College of Technology, Technological University of the Philippines, University of Southern Mindanao, University of Northern Philippines Vigan, and Cebu State College of Science and Technology.



Jobs await tech-voc course takers of automotive technology – DOLE

The Career Guides lists down the desired skills and competencies for an automotive technician, as follows: (1) broad knowledge of how complex components of a vehicle work and interact; (2) ability to diagnose the source of problem quickly and accurately; (3) good reasoning ability and a thorough knowledge of automobiles; (4) ability to work with electronic diagnostic equipment and digital manuals, and reference materials; (5) able to keep up with new technology and learn new service and repair procedures and specifications through reading.

In the Philippines, an automotive technician's entry level salary ranges from P8,000 to P17,500 per month. Overseas, such as the US and Canada, the entry level salary of automotive technician ranges from US\$1,900-US\$3,500, or C\$2,319-C\$3,325 per month.

For an automotive technician, career advancement is dependent on further studies or training along one's area specialization. After gaining working experience, an automotive technicians may assume the position of supervisor, trainer, or even a chief mechanic in the repair and maintenance section of an automotive service firm.

The automotive technician faces various opportunities for employment as engine over-hauler, troubleshooter, machinist and equipment operator, power train serviceman, automotive instructor, power plant mechanic, heavy equipment mechanic or service station manager. He or she can easily be employed by automotive service firms, automotive parts manufacturing enterprises, and farm machinery and heavy equipment service companies.

Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods; and transport, storage, and communication companies also employ variedly-skilled automotive technicians.

He or she may also establish and operate his own service shop. As an entrepreneur, there are also opportunities to earn more and at the same time, create jobs.

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Engineering courses could lead to jobs in manufacturing, power, and renewable energy – DOLE

Labor and Employment Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz is encouraging forthcoming college students, the high school seniors now, to consider taking engineering courses related to demands of emerging industries where they could land a job after graduation.

"We urge our future workforce members to check related courses in the country's emerging industries and acquire the skills for these industries where employment opportunities are highly expected to flourish in the next 10 years. One of these courses is engineering," Baldoz said.

She pointed students to the rich trove of relevant labor market information (LMI) available in the DOLE's Project Jobs Fit which details a wide range of opportunities in the country's key employment generators (KEGs). These KEGs identify manufacturing, along with the emerging power and renewable energy, as industries where industrial and electrical engineers will be in-demand up to 2020.

"The manufacturing and power and renewable energy industries are among the emerging industries identified to generate jobs," Baldoz said, adding that job seekers with appropriate skills will readily get employed in these sectors.

Citing the Bureau of Local Employment's (BLE) Career Guides which provide basic information on the occupations identified in the Project JobsFit, Baldoz said an industrial and electrical engineer need to have a bachelor's or graduate degree. A license from the Professional Regulation Commission is also required to practice electrical engineering.

"There are many career opportunities that await industrial engineers. They can work in manufacturing, aviation, transportation, communications, electric, gas and sanitary services, government, insurance, and real estate," Baldoz said.

Electrical engineers, who are specialists in designing, developing, and supervising the manufacture of electrical equipment, systems, and facilities, are well-sought in industries such as mining, water supply, construction, transport, storage, electricity, and gas.

Locally, an industrial engineer's entry level salary may range from P15,000 up to P20,000 per month. In the US, highly-trained and experienced IEs can earn an annual average salary of around US\$90,080 or \$6,259 per month.

The local basic salary of an engineer in specialized fields may range from P16,000 to P35,000 per month depending on the industry he is employed. A monthly income of US\$4,700 to \$6,700 can be earned by those who opt to work overseas.

"Once employed and trained, electrical engineers may advance to become technical specialists, team supervisors, or engineering managers, who are responsible for larger or more significant work functions and duties," Baldoz said.

Baldoz said educating students and workers with current and relevant labor market information signals them towards careers with high employability. She stressed that deciding on a career is not a mere trial-and-error thing.

"Taking popular courses has been a common path of least resistance, which leads to the perennial problem of jobs and skills mismatch," she admonished.

(The DOLE's 101 Career Guides feature in-demand jobs/careers viable in the next five to ten years. It describes the basic education requirements of a job, skills and competencies, attributes and characteristics, salary/compensation, prospect for career advancement, employment opportunities, and cost of education or training. It seeks to aid and supplement students and jobseekers alike, with current information on particular jobs to make informed decisions about their chosen careers. To know more about other upcoming in-demand jobs, visit DOLE's 101 Career Guide at www.ble.dole.gov.ph.)





Aircraft mechanic is in-demand, but hard-to-fill, job – Baldoz

Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz said the job of an aircraft mechanic is in-demand and hard-to-fill, thus she encouraged high school graduates to take up a career in aircraft maintenance.

Citing anew the findings of Project JobsFit: DOLE 2020 Vision, the labor and employment chief also urged jobseekers to consider becoming aircraft mechanics if they find it difficult to land jobs in their current line of skill.

Based on the occupations listed in Project JobsFit, the DOLE's Bureau of Local Employment (BLE) developed the 101 Career Guides which provide basic information on the occupations, including tasks of the job holder, salary, prospect for advancement, educational requirements & skill competencies, physical attributes & characteristics, and employment opportunities – information that could help job market entrants and jobseekers make wise career moves.

One of those jobs identified in the Project JobsFit is aircraft mechanic. The career guide on aircraft mechanics provides no prescribed course or field of study for prospective entrants, but an aviation-related course would be an advantage. Among the courses offered are Bachelor of Science in Aircraft Technology (4 years) and Aircraft Technician Course (2 years).

The career guide said aircraft mechanics are required to have a license from the Air Transportation Office (ATO) before they can perform their duties. The licensing process includes written examinations and panel interviews, for which

an applicant with a longer period of study in an aviation-related field has an advantage.

For aircraft mechanics, the rules stipulate a practicum, or on-the-job experience, in authorized aircraft maintenance or repair station. Due to the technical requirements of the job, new entrants to the workforce need to familiarize themselves with the equipment and must have a theoretical and practical knowledge of the job.

An aircraft mechanic should have mathematical, analytical, and communication skills, including mechanical aptitude with a thorough knowledge of basic math. He should have the following attributes and characteristics: (a) physically fit; (b) must have an excellent mind and hand coordination; and (c) possess an analytical mind since this occupation involves work activities that include practical, hands-on problems and solutions.

Locally, an aircraft mechanic receives a monthly salary of P15,000 to P25,000. For an aircraft mechanic "A" position, the base pay starts at P30,000 to P35,000. Additional benefits include premiums for overtime work on rest days, holidays, and special days; car acquisition; rice subsidy; training opportunities; and health care maintenance.

In the United States, the base pay is much higher at an average of US\$3,015 per month. In Singapore, the rate is around S\$3,000 to S\$3,500 per month, while in the United Arab Emirates; the pay scale is about 3,700 to 4,000

dirhams per month.

According to the guide, it takes five to six years before an aircraft mechanic can acquire a Mechanic A position which will give them opportunities to become aircraft inspectors. Those with broad experience in maintenance and overhaul can advance to lead inspector or shop supervisor positions. Those who undergo additional business and management training can open their own aircraft maintenance facilities.

"Due to business expansion and the promotion of various tourist destinations all over the world, it was projected that air passenger traffic will grow by 5% per annum, and will require a delivery of about 16,601 new passenger aircrafts. By 2023, there will be 21,759 passenger aircrafts in service throughout the world. This will mean that airlines will be competing for skilled aircraft personnel including aircraft mechanics," Baldoz said.

The training to become an aircraft technician will cost approximately P100,000 to P150,000 covering 2 years of schooling. A 4-year course on Aircraft Maintenance Technology would cost about P160,000 to P200,000.





LABOR MARKET INFORMATION NEWS PACKET

Department of Labor and Employment

Labor Communications Office

July 2012

The Department of Labor and Employment issues this Labor Market Information News Packet as part of its grassroots campaign in raising awareness and fostering understanding about relevant careers and occupations in the labor market. It is designed to help students, who would be future entrants to the world of work, make intelligent decisions on careers that would secure them the best jobs, fast.

Written in a news format, the LMI News Packet features courses—technical-vocational, college, and entrepreneurial—that would lead course takers to in-demand and 'hot' occupations and skills identified by the DOLE's labor market signaling study, Project JobsFit: The DOLE 2020 Vision. The featured careers in the News Packet are lifted from the 101 Career Guides, produced by the Bureau of Local Employment, and contain the career's job nature, education and competency requirements, earnings, employment, and job outlook. The 101 Career Guides can be browsed on and downloaded from www.ble.dole.gov.ph/career.asp.

I sincerely hope this LMI News Packet will truly empower young Filipinos to make wise and excellent career decisions and lead them to occupations that the labor market needs, not to what are in vogue or popular. If this is realized, then this LMI News Packet would have achieved its purpose.

— Sec. ROSALINDA DIMAPILIS-BALDOZ

Explore other uncommon, yet, related and in-demand careers, and do not stick with the popular ones.

This is the advice of Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz to students, particularly high school graduates, who are planning to take up 'oversubscribed' courses identified by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED).

"I urge you to consider other related disciplines or fields to mitigate the glut of graduates on these oversubscribed courses," she said.

Earlier this year, the CHED already declared a moratorium on the opening of new programs in oversubscribed disciplines, namely, business administration, nursing, teacher education, hotel and restaurant management, and information technology education.

The CHED reported that large numbers of the 2,937,847 students enrolled for academic year 2010-2011 were concentrated in certain courses, to wit: business administration and related courses with 785,305 students, or 26.73 percent; education, science and teacher training, with 400,912 students, or 13.65 percent; and medical and health allied with 363,147 students or 12.36 percent share.

"As the DOLE addresses current employment and jobs mismatch issues, I encourage our nursing students, for example, to look at other courses as alternatives if they want to land a job in the local labor market," she said, adding that the uneven concentration of students in the oversubscribed fields contribute to jobs- skills mismatch.

Baldoz pointed to the students the featured healthcare and hotel and restaurant management-related careers in according to the DOLE's Career Guides, which can be accessed at the Bureau of Local Employment's website, <http://ble.dole.gov.ph/career.asp>, specifically in such occupations as dental assistants, medical and clinical laboratory technicians, and receptionists/front office agents.

These careers require graduates with a bachelor's degree, with PRC-licensed medical and clinical laboratory technicians having an edge against other graduates.

Go against the flow. Try alternative courses and careers that the labor market needs, Baldoz advises

Medical laboratory technicians in the healthcare industry perform routine medical laboratory tests for diagnosis treatment and prevention of diseases. Meanwhile, dental assistants are in-charge of a wide range of patient care and laboratory duties in dental clinics.

As alternatives to nursing, these technicians have starting monthly salaries ranging from P11,000 to P15,000, and may even go up to P20,000 per month for those licensed, highly-trained, and experienced. Medical laboratory technicians working overseas earn an annual income of \$36,030 or \$3,002, per month.

The alternative careers in the healthcare industry, together with other health and wellness careers, which include laboratory technicians; physical therapists; pharmacists; medical technologists; and massage therapists, have been identified by DOLE's Project Jobs Fit as occupations expected to absorb more workers and create more employment opportunities in the industry up to 2020.

As for students who still want to enroll in oversubscribed hotel and restaurant management courses, they may consider tourism-related careers, such as front service agents or receptionists, reservation officers, and other frontline occupations.

These careers have starting monthly salaries ranging from P10,000 to 15,000. Receptionists and front service agents may advance to a better paying job as executive secretary or any supervisory position.

Other than front service occupations, careers as food servers and handlers, waiters, room attendants, tour guides, bartenders, and other food and beverage service jobs are also identified as emerging careers to prosper in the next 10 years.

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Agribusinesses need veterinarians – Baldoz

Considered as a key employment generator (KEG) in 14 regions and an emerging industry in one, the agribusiness industry today is one of the country's main employment drivers.

“The results of Project JobsFit: The DOLE 2020 Vision tell us that students and jobseekers alike should consider starting a career in agri-business, one of the KEGs, and choosing one, such as veterinarian, which is in-demand and/or hard-to-fill.

According to Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz, one of the in-demand occupations in agribusiness, a veterinarian is a person who has a strong affinity to animals and strong compassion for others. “Those who love animals will have a great shot in this profession,” she said.

“Not only does a veterinarian treat animals, but he, or she, also plays a major role in the healthcare of pets, livestock, and zoo. A veterinarian also protects humans against diseases carried by animals; conducts clinical research on human and animal health problems; and works in basic research broadening the scope of fundamental theoretical knowledge and applied knowledge,” Baldoz said, quoting the Bureau of Local Employment’s career guide on veterinarians.

The career guide says that in order to become a veterinarian, however, a potential entrant or job holder should take up a Veterinary Medicine course which costs around P25,000 to P35,000 per semester in private universities and around P5,000 to P10,000 in public institutions.

Top universities that offer veterinary medicine are University of the Philippines-Los Banos, Bicol State University of Agriculture, Central Luzon State University, Pampanga Agricultural College, Visayas State University, and Cavite State University.

A veterinarian would also need to pass the board exam and obtain a license from the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), a DOLE attached agency.

There are 7,782 licensed veterinarians in the country today, according to the Professional Regulations Commission.

Other than in agri-business industry, a veterinarian could work in the healthcare, pharmaceuticals/drugs, and disease research industries. In government, he or she can find a job as meat and poultry inspector, animal welfare and safety worker, or epidemiologist.

A veterinarian can progress to become a veterinary specialist. Veterinary specialists are expected to come from bio-medicine, bio-security, public health, regulatory medicine, and agricultural animal health.

There are also a variety of opportunities for a veterinarian in the academe and in research firms.

The regular functions of a veterinarian involve diagnosing animal health problems. He or she vaccinates against diseases, such as distemper and rabies; medicates animals suffering from infections or illnesses; treats and dresses wounds, set fractures, perform surgery; and advise owners about animal feeding behavior and breeding.

A veterinarian’s entry level salary ranges from P15,000 to P20,000 a month and may even go up to P25,000 per month for those highly trained. Those who have small private clinics charge a consultation fee which ranges from P100 to P250.

“A potential veterinarian should have excellent communication and business skills and the ability to exercise good judgment and make decisions,” Baldoz said, adding that they must have manual dexterity and should be highly professional in their manners.

Plan your career. Now.



visit www.ble.gov.ph