



LABOR MARKET INFORMATION (LMI) News Packet

Department of Labor and Employment

Labor Communications Office

February 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

A career in construction is hot, Baldoz says

One does not need to shell out hefty cash for tuition fees in order to land a high-paying job.

This is the advice of Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz to young high school graduates as she encouraged them to take training courses related to construction.

“Construction is an industry which has been identified by stakeholders, including the DOLE in its Project JobsFit: DOLE 2020 Vision, as having a tremendous job-generating potential,” she said, as the department prepares to intensify its career advocacy program for school year 2012-2013.

Citing a report of the DOLE’s Bureau of Labor and Employment, Baldoz said Filipinos who are into construction careers earn monthly salary ranging from P13,000 to 40,000 per month.

“Salaries of construction workers can even go up as high as P50,000 for highly-trained workers. Meanwhile, tuition fees for courses related to construction only cost about P3,000 to P15,000, depending on the duration and type of training,” the labor and employment chief explained.

“In these times when the labor market has gone increasingly competitive, there are many construction-related jobs that pay well and favor experience and hard work, instead of degrees. Some of these jobs which only require minimum training cost but guarantee a return of high income are CAD operators, electricians, and metal fabrication Technicians,” Baldoz added.

The BLE reported that some computer schools offer courses on AUTO CAD for 48 to 60 hours at a range of P4,500 to P5,600 training fee. Locally, salaries for a CAD operator at the entry level ranges from P10,000 to P24,000 per month, plus allowances, and other incentives. There are numerous opportunities for CAD operators since architectural and engineering design are now mostly translated into detailed CAD drawings.

On the other hand, the training cost for electricians ranges from P3,000 to P5,000 in public technical-vocational schools. Entry level salary for electricians ranges from P8,000-P12,000

per month and may even go up to P15,000 per month for those highly-trained and experienced electricians.

“Among all occupations in the construction industry, Filipino electricians are highly in-demand whether here or abroad due to their impeccable expertise in electronic wiring and maintenance of equipment, appliances, apparatus, and fixtures.

Baldoz also said that high school graduates interested in becoming welders or metal fabrication technicians, who earn a monthly salary of P8,000 up to P20,000, can avail of the Department of Science and Technology-Science Education Institute Scholarship Grant.

“In the overseas market, Filipino welders are highly-in-demand and are among the top occupations with the highest recorded deployment in the construction industry.

Baldoz also said there are hundreds of other promising construction-related occupations in the labor market as proven in the past years, explaining that technical and vocational training has been a reliable engine for creating opportunities and putting the ‘impossible’ within reach.

“Vocational-technical training offers the fastest turnaround from classroom to workplace, from new skills to paychecks,” Baldoz noted.

Other in-demand occupations within the construction industry which require short term study but provide quick turn-out of income are heavy equipment mechanic and operator; computer technician; pipe layer; steam fitter; rigger; machinist; and mason.

The BLE has drawn up a Career Guide which provides basic information on the occupations identified in Project JobsFit: The DOLE 2020 Vision. The Career Guide features in-demand jobs/careers viable in the next five to ten years, and 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.

For more information, visit the BLE’s 101 Career Guides webpage at www.ble.dole.gov.ph/career.asp.

Banking and finance courses leads to high-paying jobs--Baldoz

High school graduates going to college in SY 2012-2013 should take courses related to banking and finance because jobs in the banking and finance services sector are in-demand and pay high.

This is another advice from Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz who said that those who work in the banking and finance services sector earn as much as P15,000 to P40,000 per month.

“Salaries of banking and finance workers could even go up to P100,000 per month, especially for those with specialized skills,” she said.

The labor and employment chief’s advice is part of the DOLE’s efforts at raising awareness on in-demand occupations in the next five to ten years and aimed at helping students and workers make wise career choices.

It is also part of the DOLE’s strategy of delivering current and relevant labor market information to address job-skills mismatch, a phenomenon in today’s Philippine labor market.

“High school and college graduates who wish to know more about in-demand and hard-to-fill jobs can browse the DOLE’s 101 Career Guide at www.ble.dole.gov.ph. The 101 Career Guide, which is updated every two years, is a list of careers that would be in-demand over the next 10 years in the country’s key employment generating sectors,” Baldoz said.

In-demand and high-paying jobs in the banking and finance services sector include accountants, accounting clerks, bookkeepers, auditors, finance analysts, and risk management officers.

“The DOLE’s study, JobsFit: DOLE 2020 Vision, show that these jobs are hard-to-fill because many applicants for these jobs do not have the critical skills that employers are looking for,” she explained.

“Thus, those currently employed, but are contemplating a career shift to this sector, are also advised to acquire the necessary critical aptitude, numeracy, and other skills to enable them to transit to the sector,” she said.

“Aside from a college degree in accountancy, banking and finance, or business management, graduates and those already working need strong math, analytical, and problem-solving skills to qualify for these occupations. Superior communication skills, both oral and written, are also an advantage,” she added.

Baldoz further said that operation managers and bank tellers are in-demand occupations because these jobs have higher turnover and replacement rates but are essential to the operation of businesses in the banking and finance services sector.

“As the Philippine economy grows, the foreseen increase in the number of business establishments in the country will require more workers with skills to set up books, prepare taxes and payrolls, and provide financial analysis and advice,” said Baldoz.

Based on the 101 Career Guide, banking and finance courses cost between P20,000 to P45,000 per semester in a private institution while in a government-owned school, the tuition fee is only around P3,500 per semester.

Employees in the banking and industry with adequate academic preparation may assume the position of chief accountant, budget director, controller or chief financial officer. Those who excel in their jobs may move to executive positions in other fields of specialization such as management accounting or internal auditing, occupying top positions as Vice-President for Finance or as Corporation President.

Plan your career. Now.



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Jobs aplenty beyond nursing in the Health and Wellness industry—Baldoz

Addressing the current issues affecting the nursing profession in the country, Labor and Employment (DOLE) Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz advised student and workers to consider other health-related courses and opportunities to mitigate local unemployment in the health and wellness industry.

“With the continuous glut of registered, yet, unemployed nurses, alongside with the recent developments highlighted by nurse-volunteerism in hospitals and institutions, I encourage students and workers to look at other healthcare professions if they want to get employed quickly,” Baldoz said.

Baldoz issued the statement in view of the new batch of successful examinees of the July 2011 Nursing Licensure examination to upsurge the surplus of nurse and to magnify jobs and skills mismatch cases.

Baldoz pointed students and workers to the 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, which include careers in the Health and Wellness industry.

“The Health and Wellness industry has been identified by DOLE’s Project Jobsfit as one of the 12 key employment generators (KEGs) that will provide more employment opportunities,” Baldoz said, adding that the industry has the potential for absorbing the most number of Filipino workers in the next 10 years.

The labor and employment chief said that Project Jobsfit identifies other careers under the industry, such as optometry, physical therapy, pharmacy, medical technology, clinical and internal medicine, surgery, and radiology. Wellness massage (Hilot) and spa/massage therapy were also dubbed as in-demand skills. These occupations are expected to propel more employment opportunities in the industry both local and overseas up to 2020.

Baldoz, citing the DOLE’s Career Guide section, said that the identified health and wellness professions have entry level

salaries ranging from P8, 000 -- P12,000 per month in the local labor market, but may go up to P20,000 or higher after years of experience. Opting for overseas, the average earning is about \$6,351 per month or higher.

“These kind of careers are in-demand not only in hospitals, but also in laboratories, clinics, health maintenance organizations, public health agencies, pharmaceutical firms, research institutions, scientific equipment companies, physicians’ offices, and schools offering clinical laboratory science programs. Indeed, their licenses can bring them to greater heights and greener pastures,” Baldoz added.

The career guide also recognizes wage employment for Massage Therapists in spa; salons; offices of physicians and chiropractors; fitness and recreational sports centers; and hotels. Massage therapy’s growing acceptance among medical practitioners will greatly increase employment opportunities as well.

“Massage therapists who have completed formal training programs and have passed the licensure exam are likely to have very good job opportunities,” Baldoz said.

Bringing the right labor market information ‘at hand’ to all labor force entrants, Baldoz advices students to check the summary information of all health-related courses in the career guide section posted at the Bureau of Local Employment website at www.ble.gov.ph/career.asp.

The career guide contains a series of occupational ‘briefs’ or summary information about hard-to-fill and highly in-demand occupations to aid students planning their university courses and workers who would like to shift careers.

“By educating students, workers, with the current labor market information, we are giving them the right signals to direct them towards careers with high employability,” Baldoz said as she stressed that deciding on a career is not a mere trial and error thing and taking popular course nowadays has been the common path of least resistance, which leads to the perennial problem of jobs and skills mismatch.

Go to agriculture courses and create more green, earn more, Baldoz tells high school students

Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz encouraged high school students to enroll in college courses related to farming and crop cultivation, sounding out anew the findings of Project Jobsfit: DOLE 2020 Vision, which highlights agribusiness as the industry having the highest potential of absorbing the most number of workforce in the next 10 to 15 years.

“The tropical nature of the country will work for the advantage of Filipino jobseekers skilled in farming and crop cultivation because agriculture and agriculture-based industries are seen to be the most prominent driver of the economy in terms of employment,” says Baldoz.

“Agriculture jobs are really sought after. These are jobs the demand for which never falter because our country is basically still agricultural. Before, farming is more of a necessity; but today, it has evolved into a profession which pays off with first-rate remuneration,” she added.

In making the pitch for agriculture courses, Baldoz cited the 101 Career Guides of DOLE’s Bureau of Local Employment, which show that a person who is into agriculture, hunting, and forestry careers earn an average salary of P12,000 to P22,000 per month.

“Incomes of agriculture workers may even go up as high as P35,000 to P50,000 for those highly trained and experienced,” she said.

The labor and employment chief said that the agricultural workforce is changing dramatically as the competition moves the scale of farming to levels where agriculture producers rely on a network of technical workers to get things done. Some of the professions which requires expertise in this field, but guarantee a return of high income, are agriculturists, horticulturists, and veterinary technologists, Baldoz explained.

As to the cost of acquiring agriculture education, the BLE says that a bachelor’s course for an agriculturist requires approximately between P7,000 to P10,000 per semester in public technical institutions. The course normally takes four years to finish.

“An agriculturist is a specialist in all areas of cultivation and raising livestock. He can work outside on fields and pastures, as well as indoors, on research laboratories and boardrooms, giving seminars, and information sessions. Locally, their entry level

salary ranges from P13,000 to P15,000 per month and may even go up to P22,000 per month for those who are highly-trained,” Baldoz said.

Similarly, the cost of a horticulturist’s course may range approximately from P7,000 to P15,000 per semester in public schools. Horticulturists earn monthly income ranging from P12,000 to P20,000 per month.

“There are many career opportunities for horticulturists. They can be employed in R & D companies; retail garden centers, or work as consultants and maintenance crew for botanical and horticultural gardens,” Baldoz added.

Locally, the demand for veterinary technologists in livestock and poultry farms and food, drugs, and disease research companies is quite sufficient for veterinary technology graduates. Entry level salary for veterinary professionals ranges from P10,000 to P15,000 per month and may even go up to P17,000 per month, while the cost of education is about P5,000 to P10,000 per semester in public training institutions.

Other highly in-demand occupations in the agriculture industry which guarantee high incomes for holders or occupants are agronomists, geologists, microbiologists, and surveyors.

The Phil-Jobnet, the government’s online portal for job search and job matching indicates that the latest number of vacancies for agriculture and agri-based related jobs has reached 2,358 on the week ending 10 February 2012 showing the demand strength of these occupations.

“Agriculture is the world’s biggest business and its scope is increasing all the time. Also, career opportunities have become unlimited due to global changes. With this, students who shall become potential jobseekers should wisely choose to follow courses that will directly fill in these vacancies,” Baldoz ended.

(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/career.asp.)

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Financial analysts are in-demand and earn premium salaries, Baldoz tells high school graduates

Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz encouraged high school students enrolling in college in SY 2012-2013 to become financial analysts, sounding out anew the findings of Project JobsFit: DOLE 2020 Vision, the labor market signaling study of the DOLE which highlights financial analysts as one of the occupations in the financial services sector having the highest potential of absorbing the most number of workers in the next five to 10 years.

Citing the Bureau of Local Employment’s 101 Career Guides which provide basic information on the occupations identified in the Project JobsFit: The DOLE 2020 Vision, Baldoz said a financial analyst need to have a bachelor’s or graduate degree and is strongly preferred by companies and individuals as personal financial advisor.

“Most companies require financial analysts to have at least a bachelor’s degree in finance, business administration, accounting, statistics, or economics. Coursework in statistics, economics, and business is required, and knowledge of accounting policies and procedures, corporate budgeting, and financial analysis methods is recommended,” Baldoz said.

“A master’s degree in finance or business administration is also desirable. Also useful are advanced courses in options pricing or bond valuation and knowledge of risk management,” she added.

According to the 101 Career Guides, a four-year study in any of the above-mentioned courses costs around P20,000 to P45,000 per semester in a private institution, while in a government-owned school, the tuition fee is only around P3,500 per semester. The cost is based on average tuition fees for SY 2010-2011.

Locally, a financial analyst’s entry level salary ranges from P14,000 to P30,000 per month and may even go up to P33,000 per month for those highly-trained and experienced. In the US, the median monthly pay is around US \$4,759.

A financial analyst provides analysis and guidance to businesses and individuals in making investment decisions. He/she gathers financial information, analyze it, and makes recommendations.

Specifically, the tasks of a financial analysts include assessing the economic performance of companies and industries for firms and institutions with money to invest; reading company financial statements and analyzing commodity prices, sales, costs, expenses, and tax rates in order to determine a company’s value and project its future earnings; evaluating the ability of companies or governments that issue bonds to repay their debts; and performing budget, cost, and credit analysis.

A financial analyst need to have skills and competencies that demonstrate strong mathematics, analytical, and problem-solving skills; good oral and written communication skills; orientation to detail, motivated to seek out obscure information, and familiar with the workings of the economy, tax laws, and money markets; computer literacy; ability to work with spreadsheets and statistical packages; and ability to present financial concepts to clients in easy-to-understand language.

“A financial analyst must also be able to interact casually with people from many different backgrounds; demonstrate self-confidence, maturity, and the ability to work independently; and polished and refined,” Baldoz said, urging high school graduates with physical attributes and characteristics and a strong inclination towards the career to consider a course which would lead them to become financial analysts.

The labor and employment chief said that growth in the financial services industry will create many new positions for financial analysts, but there are still far more people who would like to enter the occupation.

“For those aspiring for financial analyst jobs, a strong academic background is absolutely essential. Good grades in courses such as finance, accounting, and economics are very important to employers. An MBA is helpful in maintaining employment,” she said.

A financial analyst may be employed in wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods; hotels and restaurants; transport, storage and communication; financial intermediation; real estate, renting and business activities; and public administration and defense, and compulsory social security.

Once employed, a financial analyst may advance by moving into positions where they are responsible for larger or more important responsibilities. They may also supervise teams of financial analysts. Eventually, they may become portfolio managers or fund managers, directing the investment portfolios or funds of their companies,” Baldoz explained.

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Machinists, with pay of P20K up, are in-demand in the local manufacturing sector--DOLE

Filipino workers who opt to stay in the country can find jobs in the local manufacturing sector as machinists.

This is the assurance of Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz as the DOLE intensifies its campaign of delivering correct and relevant labor market information that will help students and jobseekers align their career plans with market demand, one of the solutions seen to reduce the country's job-talent mismatch phenomenon.

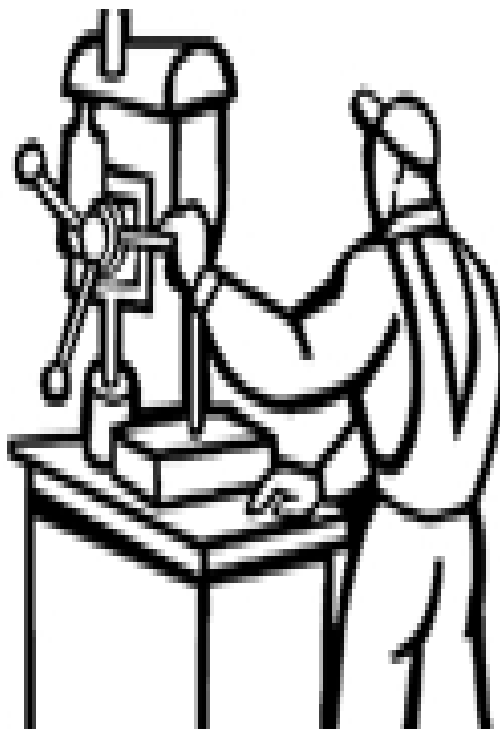
"There are enough promising job opportunities for Filipino machinists in the manufacturing sector who could get paid from P15,000 to P20,000 a month," says Baldoz, citing data from the DOLE's 101 Career Guide.

Baldoz said a machinist entry level salary ranges from P15,000-P20,000 per month, and may even go up to P30,000 per month for those highly-trained and experienced.

TESDA, for one, offers machining as a training course. The TESDA Training Center has an available Conventional Machining Training Course for 160 hours.

Baldoz said the manufacturing industry employs almost all classes of machinists who can also be employed in the electricity, gas and water supply, construction, wholesale and retail trade, and transport, storage and communication sectors.

The 101 Career Guide is a comprehensive list of 101 careers that would lead to jobs identified to be in-demand during the next ten years in the country's key employment gen-



erating sectors, or KEGS, namely (1) Agribusiness; (2) Cyberservices; (3) Health and Wellness; (4) Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism; (5) Mining; (6) Construction; (7) Banking and Finance; (8) Manufacturing; (9) Ownership Dwellings and Real Estate; (10) Transport and Logistics; (11) Wholesale and Retail Trade; and Overseas Employment.

The 101 Career Guide, which is available in hard copy upon request and on-line the Bureau of Local Employment website, www.ble.dole.gov.ph contains data and information on the nature of the jobs, basic educational requirements, skills and competencies, attributes and characteristics, salary and compensation, prospect for career advancement, employment opportunities, and cost of education and training.

The contents of the 101 Career Guide would be updated every two years to identify other up-coming in-demand jobs.

"For today's students, learners, and job seekers, they may do well to read the 101 Career Guide to help them make wise and correct career decisions and guide them towards the KEGs," said Baldoz.

The labor and employment secretary also said in-demand jobs in the local manufacturing sector are electrical technicians, finance and accounting managers, food technologists, machine operators, and sewers, while hard-to-fill vacancies include chemists, electrical engineers, industrial engineers, IT specialists, machinists, mechanical engineers, mechanical technicians, and chemical engineers.

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