



CAREER PATH

Natural Resources Agriculture

CAREER CLUSTER

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

CAREER PATHWAY

Animal Systems



ANIMAL TRAINER

Train animals for riding, harness, security, performance, or obedience, or assisting persons with disabilities. Accustom animals to human voice and contact; and condition animals to respond to commands. Train animals according to prescribed standards for show or competition. May train animals to carry pack loads or work as part of pack team.

Knowledge and Skills Needed

In addition to courses required for high school graduation, essential skills and knowledge needed for a career as an animal trainer are reinforced by taking rigorous and relevant courses, as well as participating in work-based experiences and student organization activities.

(See the Sample Personal Plan of Study for suggested coursework, activities, and knowledge and skills to pursue in preparation of an occupation in this Career Cluster.)

Education Requirements

Occupation	Percent of Missouri employees aged 25 to 44 in the occupation whose highest level of educational attainment is:		
	High School or Less	Some College	Bachelor Degree or More
Animal trainers	48.5%	27.7%	23.9%
Animal care and service workers	47.6%	32.4%	19.9%
Personal care and service	42.8%	35.9%	21.3%

Most Common Educational Level: Moderate-term on-the-job training

Note: Be sure to learn whether your occupation has a specific requirement for education or licensing. Apprenticeships are available for more than 240 occupations. Visit www.oe.doleta.gov/bat.cfm

National and State Wage Information

Location	Pay Period	2007		
		Entry*	Median	Experienced**
United States	Hourly	\$9.51	\$12.59	\$17.86
	Yearly	\$19,800	\$26,200	\$37,100
Missouri	Hourly	\$9.08	\$11.17	\$14.89
	Yearly	\$18,900	\$23,200	\$31,000

Based on (*) lower 25% and (**) upper 25% percentile of wages

National and State Employment Trends

Animal Trainer	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings*
	2006	2016		
United States	42,900	52,700	+ 23%	1,720
Missouri	380	420	+ 11%	10

*The estimate for Job Openings includes both turnover that results from people who leave the occupation (e.g. quit, retire, death) and new jobs that are created.

Educational Opportunities

Note: This list may not be all inclusive. For more information about Missouri schools and programs, visit www.dhe.mo.gov

Petropolis Academy of Grooming & Training

Chesterfield, MO
(636) 537-2322
www.petropolisacademy.com

Stephens College

Columbia, MO
(573) 442-2211
www.stephens.edu

William Woods University

Fulton, MO
(573) 642-2251
www.williamwoods.edu



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