

Arts & Communications



COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHER

Photograph persons, subjects, merchandise, or other commercial products. May develop negatives and produce finished prints. Includes scientific photographers, aerial photographers, and photojournalists.

Knowledge and Skills Needed for this Career

In addition to courses required for high school graduation, essential skills and knowledge needed for a career as a commercial photographer 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
Photographers	18.7%	35.6%	45.7%
Media & Communication Equipment Workers	18.8%	39.0%	42.2%
Arts, Design, Sports, Entertainment, & Media	15.9%	29.9%	54.2%

Most Common Educational/Training Level: Long-term on-the-job training
Apprenticeships are available for more than 240 occupations. Visit www.oa.doleta.gov/bat.cfm
Note: Be sure to learn whether your occupation has a specific requirement for education or licensing.

National and State Wage Information

Location	Pay Period	2008		
		Entry*	Median	Experienced**
United States	Hourly	\$9.91	\$14.15	\$20.93
	Yearly	\$20,600	\$29,400	\$43,500
Missouri	Hourly	\$8.88	\$12.86	\$20.26
	Yearly	\$18,500	\$26,700	\$42,100

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

National and State Employment Trends

Commercial Photographer	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings*
	2006	2016		
United States	122,500	135,100	+ 10%	3,960
Missouri	2,700	2,710	N/A	60

*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

Avila University
Kansas City, MO
(816) 942-8400
www.avila.edu

Columbia College
Columbia, MO
(573) 875-8700
www.ccis.edu

Crowder College
Neosho, MO
(417) 451-3223
www.crowder.edu

Culver-Stockton College
Canton, MO
(573) 288-6000
www.culver.edu

Evangel University
Springfield, MO
(417) 865-2811
www.evangel.edu

Fontbonne University
Saint Louis, MO
(314) 862-3456
www.fontbonne.edu

Hannibal-Lagrange College
Hannibal, MO
(573) 221-3675
www.hlg.edu

Kansas City Art Institute
Kansas City, MO
(816) 472-4852
www.kcai.edu

(more-over)

Lindenwood University

Saint Charles, MO
(636) 949-2000
www.lindenwood.edu

Missouri Southern State University

Joplin, MO
(417) 625-9300
www.mssu.edu

Missouri State University

Springfield, MO
(417) 836-5000
www.missouristate.edu

Missouri Valley College

Marshall, MO
(660) 831-4000
www.moval.edu

Missouri Western State University

Saint Joseph, MO
(816) 271-4200
www.missouriwestern.edu

Northwest Missouri State University

Maryville, MO
(660) 562-1212
www.nwmissouri.edu

Park University

Parkville, MO
(816) 741-2000
www.park.edu

Saint Louis Community College - Florissant Valley

Saint Louis, MO
(314) 513-4200
www.stlcc.edu

Saint Louis Community College - Forest Park

Saint Louis, MO
(314) 644-9100
www.stlcc.edu

Saint Louis Community College - Meramec

Kirkwood, MO
(314) 984-7500
www.stlcc.edu

Southeast Missouri State University

Cape Girardeau, MO
(573) 651-2000
www.semo.edu

Southwest Baptist University

Bolivar, MO
(800) 526-5859
www.sbuniv.edu

Truman State University

Kirksville, MO
(660) 785-4000
www.truman.edu

University of Central Missouri

Warrensburg, MO
(660) 543-4111
www.ucmo.edu

University of Missouri-Columbia

Columbia, MO
(573) 882-2121
www.missouri.edu

University of Missouri-Kansas City

Kansas City, MO
(816) 235-1000
www.umkc.edu

University of Missouri-St Louis

Saint Louis, MO
(314) 516-5000
www.umsl.edu

Washington University in St Louis

Saint Louis, MO
(314) 935-5000
www.wustl.edu

Webster University

Saint Louis, MO
(314) 961-2660
www.webster.edu

William Jewell College

Liberty, MO
(816) 781-7700
www.jewell.edu

William Woods University

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



www.missouriconnections.org

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