

# Arts & Communications



## PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE

Compete in athletic events.

### 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 professional athlete 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
Athletes and sports competitors	13.7%	26.4%	59.9%
Entertainers & Performers, Sports & Related Workers	21.5%	28.8%	49.6%
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](http://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	—	—	—
	Yearly	\$21,800	\$40,500	\$93,700
Missouri	Hourly	—	—	—
	Yearly	\$27,900	\$73,400	\$166,400+

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

### National and State Employment Trends

Professional Athlete	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings*
	2006	2016		
United States	17,500	20,900	+ 19 %	790
Missouri	590	600	N/A	20

\*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](http://www.dhe.mo.gov)

#### College of the Ozarks

Point Lookout, MO  
(417) 334-6411  
[www.cofo.edu](http://www.cofo.edu)

#### Drury University

Springfield, MO  
(417) 873-7879  
[www.drury.edu](http://www.drury.edu)

#### Missouri Western State University

Saint Joseph, MO  
(816) 271-4200  
[www.missouriwestern.edu](http://www.missouriwestern.edu)

#### Southeast Missouri State University

Cape Girardeau, MO  
(573) 651-2000  
[www.semo.edu](http://www.semo.edu)

#### Southwest Baptist University

Bolivar, MO  
(800) 526-5859  
[www.sbuniv.edu](http://www.sbuniv.edu)

#### Truman State University

Kirkville, MO  
(660) 785-4000  
[www.truman.edu](http://www.truman.edu)



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