

Future Farming



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Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



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Change it

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Health and safety adviser
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Future jobs

Agroecologist
Aquaponic farmer
Autonomous vehicles engineer
Carbon capture technician
Urban farmer

Information is correct at time of production. Sources are acknowledged in the presentation slides and trainers' notes 2018.

Grow it



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Nutritionist, Animal nutritionist



Job description

Provide advice and information on animal nutrition by designing and assessing dietary needs. They aim to increase the understanding of how what an animal eats can affect its health and wellbeing. Producing information sheets for different feeds so others can learn about ingredients, chemicals and benefits of certain feed types. Some animal nutritionists decide to specialise in one type of animal.



Qualifications

A range of science-related degrees are relevant including:

- Agricultural
- Food and sports sciences
- Biomedical science
- Health sciences and physiology
- It may also be necessary to specialise in nutrition after university



Skills

- Good communication
- Numeracy and IT skills
- Ability to analyse data and write reports
- Understanding the scientific basis of nutrition
- Ability to form strong relationships with customers and clients



Salary

Starting salary between £18,000 to £22,000. People who have an MA (masters) typically earn £23,000 - £32,000. Experienced nutritionists may earn between £35,00 and £50,000 per year.



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Agronomist



Job description

Giving farmers advice on crop protection, nutrition and business for a range of different crops from pre-planting through to harvest. This includes cereals, potatoes, sugar beet, oilseed rape, beans, peas, mustard and flowers. This is always changing depending on what the farmer needs, the weather, time of the growing season and new scientific developments.



Qualifications

A degree in agriculture or another relevant subject is usually required e.g.

- Agricultural engineering
- Animal or biological science
- Crop and plant science
- Environmental science
- Soil science



Skills

- Good communication
- Marketing
- Negotiation and advisory skills
- Technical and analytical skills
- A full driving licence
- Ability to work on your own initiative and as part of a team



Salary

Starting salaries for consultants and advisors range from £20,000 to £27,000.



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Stock buyer



Job description

Your day-to-day tasks will vary depending on the type of stock you are purchasing and the time of year but may include:

- Purchasing quality livestock / poultry / grain etc at the best possible price
- Attending trade events and markets
- Negotiating prices, orders and delivery
- Organising logistics for livestock haulage
- Tracking sales figures, market trends, managing stock and keeping to budgets



Qualifications

A degree or college qualification in agriculture, retail or business. Some companies offer training schemes or apprenticeships.

- Environmental science
- Soil science



Skills

- Excellent numeracy skills
- IT and analytical skills
- Negotiation skills
- Work to strict deadlines
- Decision-making



Salary

Starting salary between £18,000 to £25,000. In some areas buyers may receive commission.



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Farm worker



Job description

Your day-to-day tasks will vary depending on the type of farm and the time of year but may include:

- Working with animals (transporting, milking, feeding, mucking out and caring for sick/newborn livestock)
- Ploughing fields, cultivating, spreading fertiliser, crop spraying and harvesting
- Operating farm machinery
- Maintaining and cleaning farm buildings and machinery
- Trimming hedges, digging and maintaining ditches and erecting and mending fences



Qualifications

Experience or knowledge of farm work/an agricultural qualification would be an advantage. To work on a dairy farm you will need training or experience in handling a herd or operating milking machinery or you could complete an apprenticeship and learn on the job. You may also require additional training to drive certain machinery.



Skills

- Flexible approach to work
- Willingness to be outside in all weather
- Full driving licence
- A commitment to animal welfare
- Ability to work on your own initiative as well as part of a team



Salary

Starting salary is approximately £13,000. A more experienced worker may earn between £14,000 and £25,000 with potential to specialise or progress to farm manager. (Many farm workers are given free or low rent accommodation on the farm or a lodging allowance and overtime may also be available during busy periods/unsociable hours.)



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Shift it



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Logistics manager



Job description

Logistics managers organise the storage and distribution of goods and livestock; making sure the right product is delivered to the right place on time and at the right price. Understanding the whole supply chain is important so that you can organise and work with suppliers, manufacturers, retailers and customers.



Qualifications

Logistics jobs are open to all, but a degree/foundation degree in business, economics, geography, management, science or transport would be an advantage. Qualifications in logistics and transport are also provided by The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT).



Skills

- Good time management
- Problem solving
- Decision-making
- Communication skills



Salary

Starting salary between £15,000 to £19,000. With increased responsibility and management duties this would increase to £25,000 to £35,000. Senior management salaries range from £45,000 to £60,000.



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Feed merchant



Job description

Feed merchants sell feed to dealers, farmers and production facilities. In some cases they produce their own feeds for sale too. Identifying new clients, marketing products and educating buyers are key to increasing sales and profits. A good understanding of your products including ingredients and nutritional value is very important.



Qualifications

A degree in marketing, communications, agriculture, animal science, animal nutrition or agribusiness would all be suitable. Sales or customer service experience would be an advantage.



Skills

- Written and verbal communication
- Confidence
- Problem solving
- Negotiation skills
- Be able to develop strong relationship with customers



Salary

Starting salaries between £18,000 to £25,000. In some areas sellers may receive commission.



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Freight forwarder



Job description

A freight forwarder is an agent who acts on behalf of importers, exporters or other companies to organise the safe, efficient and cost-effective transportation of goods. You will use computer systems to arrange the best means of transport, considering the type of goods and the customers' delivery requirements. You'll use the services of shipping lines, airlines and road and rail freight operators. In some cases, the freight forwarding company itself provides the service. Companies vary in size and type, from a national and international basis to smaller, more specialised firms, which deal with particular types of goods or operate within particular geographical areas.



Qualifications

Not all employers require candidates to have a degree, with some preferring you to have practical experience in a related area. Obtaining a degree may enable you to enter at a higher level or join a graduate training scheme.

A degree/HND in accounting/finance, business/management business with languages, economics, geography, modern foreign languages, supply chain management or transport/distribution/logistics would be an advantage. A postgraduate qualification in subjects such as logistics and supply chain management can be useful for career progression, especially management positions



Salary

Starting salaries between £16,000 to £25,000. With experience this can progress to £28,000 to £30,000. At a middle management level, freight forwarders can earn £30,000 to £35,000, with this increasing to £35,000 to £45,000 at senior management level. Employers may also offer additional benefits such as a bonus scheme, company car and pension scheme.



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Livestock haulier



Job description

Livestock hauliers transport and deliver animals between suppliers and customers. You may drive commercial vehicles over 7.5 tonnes, including articulated lorries, transporters and trailers, carrying livestock all over the UK and in some cases overseas. You will help plan delivery times and routes, supervise the loading and unloading of livestock, follow traffic reports and complete delivery paperwork and driving logs. You will also have a responsibility for the health and wellbeing of the animals you are transporting.



Qualifications

Aged 18+ with a full car driving licence. Trainee positions with freight companies are available and you will have to complete HGV training to drive large vehicles and a Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC).



Skills

- Excellent driving skills
- Knowledge of road safety
- Be polite with customers
- Ability to work alone
- Be able to concentrate for long periods
- Knowledge of animal welfare and animal handling skills



Salary

Starting salary of between £18,500 to £22,000. Experienced drivers may earn £23,000 - £35,000 depending on destination and hours worked.



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Food scientist



Job description

As a food scientist, you'll provide accurate nutritional information for food labelling, investigate ways to keep food fresh, safe and attractive, find ways to save time and money in food-making, test the safety and quality of food. You will also be responsible for blending new ingredients to invent and modify recipes, conduct experiments and produce sample products and design production processes and machinery. You'll need to follow industry regulations.



Qualifications

A foundation degree, HND or degree in a subject such as food science, food studies or food technology. Employers may also accept other subjects like chemistry or nutrition. Another way in is to start out as a laboratory technician and study towards qualifications while you work.



Skills

- Analytical skills
- Ability to explain ideas to other scientists and production staff
- High standards of cleanliness and the ability to follow strict hygiene rules
- Knowledge of nutritional information
- Excellent attention to detail
- Awareness of the consumer market



Salary

Starting salary is between £20,000 to £25,000. With experience you this will increase to £25,000 to 30,000. Highly Experienced food scientists will earn in the region of £30,000 to £45,000.



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Mechanical engineer



Job description

Mechanical engineers provide solutions for development of products and processes ranging from small designs to extremely large vehicles or machinery. They work on all stages of the product, from research and development to design, manufacture, installation and selling. There are employment opportunities in a range of sectors including agriculture, automotive, biomedical, construction, manufacturing, power, railway and aerospace. You may also be involved in the management of people, projects and resources as well as developing new materials and technology.



Qualifications

A degree in a subject such as agricultural engineering, engineering science, manufacturing engineering, mechanical engineering or computer-aided engineering. To progress you may also want to complete a Masters degree. You can become a chartered engineer through the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. You can enter as a trainee with a HND or foundation degree and then

increase your skills, knowledge and qualifications to work up to the role of mechanical engineer. Learning a second language may be helpful for working with international clients.



Skills

- Excellent numeracy skills
- Analytical skills
- Creativity
- Ability to work with people from other disciplines



Salary

Starting salaries for mechanical engineers and for those on graduate training schemes are between £20,000 to £28,000. With experience this can increase to between £25,000 and £35,000 and salaries for lead engineers are around £35,000 to £50,000. As a chief engineer, salaries of £45,000 to £60,000+ can be achieved. Salaries vary between companies and some sectors attract higher salaries.



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Butcher



Job description

Butchers prepare and sell meat and poultry, and produce products such as artisan sausages, steaks, chops, roasts and other cuts of meat. You could work in a butcher's shop, or at a market or supermarket and your day-to-day tasks would include buying, ordering, storing and controlling stock; checking hygiene; receiving deliveries and checking their content; cutting, boning and trimming meat. You will also be responsible for moving meat stock to cold storage areas, creating product displays, serving customers and advising them on how to cook their meat.



Qualifications

You will usually start as a trainee or assistant butcher and learn on the job and apprenticeships are available. Knowledge of butchering and previous work in retail will help with securing a trainee job. Some employers will require a completed a food safety qualification.



Skills

- Good communication skills
- Practical skills to work with knives and machinery
- Knowledge of meat products
- Creativity to present and display meat



Salary

Starting salary is between £14,500 - £16,000 rising to £22,000 with experience. Highly experienced butchers may earn £30,000 per year.



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Cheese maker



Job description

Day-to-day tasks involve: ripening, piercing, waxing, salting and turning cheese, making butter, yogurt and ice cream and preparing cheese for markets. Stocktaking, cleaning, sterilising and washing up will also be carried out at every stage of each task undertaken. You will be expected to follow Health & Safety legislation, carry out temperature recording, coordinate milk bottling, pasteurising milk and processing for bottling, extracting and potting cream, attending farmers' markets and ensuring there are stringent quality control measures.

as the ability to lift at least 20kg repeatedly, bend, stretch and stand for extended periods of time. It is possible to start in the industry as an assistant cheese-maker and progress while training in the work place



Salary

As an assistant cheese-maker you can expect a salary of around £15,000 to £17,000. More experienced cheese makers will earn in the region of £10 - £13 per hour.



Qualifications

A degree is not an essential entry requirement however a qualification in a subject such as food technology or food science may be an advantage. You must have cheese-making experience and/or training as well



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Food process operative



Job description

Day-to-day tasks include controlling machinery that processes food, making sure there's a constant supply of ingredients, checking instruments like temperature gauges, reporting problems with equipment and keeping machines clean. It is also very important that you will work to high standards of hygiene as well as following Health and Safety guidelines.



Qualifications

Direct entry into the industry requires GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) in English and maths and experience of working on a production line would be an advantage. You could also start this career via an apprenticeship.



Skills

- Practical skills to operate machinery
- Attention to detail to spot problems
- Ability to work quickly and methodically



Salary

Entry salaries start in between £12,000 to £15,000 increasing to £13,000 to £16,000 with experience. Highly experienced food process operatives (with supervisor responsibilities) will earn in the region of £17,000 to £20,000. You may earn extra money for working overtime and/or night time hours.



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Chef



Job description

Chefs work in a variety of settings to prepare, cook and plate food. This could be in restaurants, pubs, hotels, cruise ships, the armed forces and in contract catering. Responsibilities and job titles can vary depending on the specific role, type of food and the place of work. There are many opportunities for dedicated, skilled chefs including:

- **Commis chef/apprentice/trainee chef** – the fundamentals of cooking, knife skills and how to handle ingredients. Working in different sections of the kitchen, food preparation, portion size and team work.
- **Chef de partie** – prep, cook and assemble dishes, assist in developing menus, delegate responsibilities to commis chefs and be in charge of a specific section of the kitchen such as sauces, fish or pastry.
- **Sous chef** – you will be the second in command in the kitchen and will oversee the day-to-day running of the kitchen, order food and undertake the kitchen inventory. You will be in charge of training, oversee hygiene and cleanliness, prepare and plate dishes and input into menu design.
- **Head chef** – you will be responsible for quality control and tasting the dishes; setting

the standard and presentation. You will be responsible for staff recruitment, inspiring your team and delegating tasks effectively. Liaising with suppliers, overseeing deliveries and designing menus will also be key responsibilities of the head chef.



Qualifications

There are many ways to become a chef including an HND/degree qualification in professional cookery or culinary arts, a graduate scheme or an apprenticeship; all of which will help you gain knowledge and essential skills. Many courses contain a placement which, through working in a professional kitchen, can give you valuable, practical industry experience. Some restaurants prefer to recruit professional cookery or culinary arts students because of their cooking techniques and food handling methods.



Salary

Starting salaries for commis chefs are between £12,000 and £16,000. More experienced chefs, such as sous chefs, earn between £20,000 and £30,000. Head chefs can expect higher salaries of £25,000 - £55,000+. Salaries differ significantly depending on where you work – both the setting (Michelin versus contract catering) and the region geographically.



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Breeding company – plant breeder/geneticist



Job description

You will work on improving the quality and performance of existing agricultural and horticultural crops and create new varieties of plants. Plant breeders aim to develop useful traits like disease resistance and drought tolerance as well as characteristics such as appearance. This is vital within agriculture as there are market and audit requirements as well as consumer demands to meet and to increase quality and yields in crops. You will also be responsible for cost predictions, plant research, trials, scientifically assess plant breeding, maintain records and work with farmers and agronomists.

biology, crop and plant science, genetics, molecular biology and horticulture. Entry with an HND is only possible for technical support roles in breeding programmes. It may be possible to work your way up from here to the role of plant breeder/geneticist, if further qualifications are gained.



Salary

Starting salaries are between £16,000 and £22,000 and with 3-5 years experience can reach £22,000 to £25,000. Typical salaries at senior level range between £27,000 and £40,000+. Pay is often performance related.



Qualifications

An honours degree is required for entry into plant breeding. Relevant subjects include agricultural and horticultural sciences and life and medical sciences such as agriculture,



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Food safety scientist/ technologist



Job description

You will be responsible for ensuring food products are produced safely, legally and are of the correct quality. You will be involved in developing the manufacturing process and recipes of food and drink products as well as using existing ingredients to invent new recipes and concepts. You may carry out experiments and produce sample products whilst keeping up to date with legislation. You will be checking and improving safety and quality control, researching the consumer market and latest technologies and developing profitable products. You will be developing repeat processes to ensure consistency and safety, liaising with official food inspection and hygiene agencies and developing solutions to production issues, while maintaining food safety.



Qualifications

A food-related degree in a subject such as food, nutrition and health, food safety and quality management or food science/technology. Other relevant science subjects such as nutrition or microbiology are

helpful. You can also gain access with a relevant HND and industry experience. You may be able to enter the industry as a food technician and progress after gaining further qualifications and experience.



Skills

- Analytical and methodical
- Ability to keep up with and understand changes in legislation
- Understanding of food and food production



Salary

Starting salaries for food technologists are in the region of £20,000 to £26,000 rising to £30,000 to £45,000 with experience. At a senior management level, you may earn up to £65,000; higher salaries usually bring increased managerial responsibility.



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Field trials officer



Job description

Field trials officers develop and manage research trials, monitoring the effects of experiments on plants or animals in the field or laboratory. You will work closely with scientists to match their requirements with the trial site or lab and play a key role in making large-scale, scientific research happen. The results gathered are used to inform development decisions in agriculture, as well as determine product safety and inform sales information. You may also provide analysis of your results in the form of a detailed report or presentation for clients. You will also be required to monitor field conditions, apply chemicals to trials, statistical planning, recording data, ensuring government legislation is followed and giving specialist advice and information to clients and colleagues.



Qualifications

A degree in a relevant subject including agriculture, biology/biological science, biotechnology, botany and plant science, crop

science, environmental science or horticulture. You will also be required to hold PA1 and PA2 (spraying) qualifications which show you are trained in the safe use of pesticides. You may be able to work your way up from technician level or from a field trials assistant role to more senior level.



Skills

- Numeracy and analytical skills
- Understanding of the scientific process
- Communication skills - both written and verbal, including presenting



Salary

Salaries start between £18,000 to £20,000, rising to around £28,000 with 2-3 years experience. When working at a more senior level, salaries could be up to £40,000.



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Trade it



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Land and property valuer and auctioneer



Job description

Valuers and auctioneers advise individuals and businesses that buy, sell and rent land, property, animals and other items. Day-to-day duties will include estimating the market value of land, buildings, commercial property, animals and items. The role also includes organising and marketing auction sales to attract potential bidders and managing the auction process. Carrying out business and insurance valuations, offering investment advice and keeping up-to-date with market trends are also important responsibilities.



Qualifications

You will usually need a degree or professional qualification approved by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) to become a land and property valuer. Relevant degrees include real estate management, building surveying,

property development and valuation. You could also do this through an employer's training scheme or if you have experience in a surveying technician role, you may be able to work your way up to a valuer or auctioneer role through further study.



Salary

Starting salaries are between £20,000 to £26,000 and with experience would increase to £27,000 to £35,000. Highly experienced surveyors (chartered land and property valuer) or lead auctioneers may earn £45,000+. If you work in a freelance capacity you will negotiate your own rates of pay.



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Grain trader



Job description

To trade grain from UK farmers to domestic and international users, making sure purchases are allocated to the correct buyer, in a timely and profitable way. You will, as part of a team, be overseeing farm grain pricing, managing purchases and matching purchases to end users. You will also analyse market fundamentals and trading strategies, predict trade risk and build relationships and trade with the main grain millers.



Qualifications

You will usually need a degree in a relevant subject such as, agriculture, economics or business as well as some knowledge or experience of the agricultural sector including grain, pulses and oilseeds. You may be able to enter into the industry as a junior grade trader or trainee trader and work your way up with on-the-job training.



Skills

- An understanding of contracts, market trading and basic economic principles
- People skills
- The ability to form and maintain relationships
- Team work



Salary

Starting salary is between £25,000 to £30,000 and with increased experience could rise to £80,000. You will also often receive performance related commission.



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Marketing executive



Job description

You will contribute to and develop marketing campaigns to promote a product, service or idea. It is a varied role that includes planning, advertising, public relations, event organisation, product development, distribution, sponsorship and research. Your role will vary depending on the size of the organisation and sector and whether the focus is on selling a product or service, or on raising awareness of an issue. Marketing executives may also be known as marketing officers or coordinators.



Qualifications

A career in marketing is open to all graduates, but a degree in advertising, business or management communications, IT or computer science, marketing or psychology may be useful. Employers also look for a combination of personal qualities and experience. An awareness of digital media techniques is also useful. If you don't have a degree, you can

enter the industry at marketing assistant level and build up your skills and experience. Marketing apprenticeships are available at intermediate and advanced level.



Skills

- Creativity
- Good communication
- Teamwork
- Organisational
- Project management



Salary

Marketing assistants start on salaries of between £18,000 to £22,000 progressing to £30,000 as a marketing executive. Senior marketing executives can earn between £30,000 and £45,000, with marketing managers earning up to £60,000. Marketing directors can earn from £60,000 to in excess of £100,000. Salaries depend on a range of factors including your location, the sector you work in as well as the area of marketing.



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Restaurant manager



Job description

You will be responsible for ensuring the restaurant operates efficiently and makes a profit while maintaining a good reputation. You will also be required to monitor business performance, quality standards and Health and Safety. Day-to-day duties will include marketing and promotions, planning and reporting, managing budgets, coordinating menus, recruiting, training, managing and motivating staff, shift schedules and meeting and greeting customers.



Qualifications

There is no single route into restaurant management. A degree is not essential. The sector is open to anyone with a combination of practical experience, strong interpersonal skills and an understanding of business. Although qualifications can help towards gaining a position, practical work experience in a customer service environment is often seen as more important. Joining a professional

body may provide useful training and networking opportunities as well as keeping up-to-date with industry developments.



Skills

- Customer service
- Leadership
- Verbal communication
- Numeracy
- Understanding of business



Salary

Fine dining salaries range from £22,000 to £40,000, while casual dining restaurant managers can expect to earn in the region of £20,000 to £30,000. Fast food restaurant managers typically earn between £18,000 and £30,000. Salary depends on the employer and the type of restaurant. Many restaurant managers also receive bonus payments if they reach the targets set by their head office.



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Trade it



Manage it



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Manage it



Vet



Job description

Your role as a veterinary surgeon will be to treat diseased or injured animals and safeguard the health and welfare of animals. You'll likely do this within a practice and you'll be responsible for the medical and surgical treatment of a range of animals, including domestic, zoo and farm animals. You'll use your practical skills and knowledge of animal physiology, nutrition and medicine to diagnose illnesses, prescribe medicines and perform surgery. You'll also manage anaesthesia during procedures and will work to prevent disease in animals and the spread of disease.



Qualifications

A degree in veterinary science or medicine and registration as a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) are required to practise as a vet. There are currently only eight institutions in the UK that offer this qualification. In general, biology at A-level is an essential requirement as well as one or two out of chemistry, physics and maths. Some universities will consider applicants who have relevant vocational qualifications, such as a BTEC Diploma in Animal

Science with distinction. All universities look for evidence that applicants have a passionate interest in veterinary science or medicine. Applicants must demonstrate this by gaining experience in a veterinary practice working with, and handling, domestic animals and livestock.



Skills

- Animal handling
- Practical skills and ability to perform intricate tasks
- Problem solving and analytical skills



Salary

As a newly-qualified vet, your average starting salary will be around £30,000. With further training and experience at a small animal practice you could earn £43,200, while in large animal practices this can rise to £44,184. Senior vets with over 20 years' experience can earn up to £72,360. Experienced vets employed in industry earn around £64,870. Salary levels can vary according to further training, specialisation, whether you're working as a practice partner and the size and location of the practice.



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Manage it



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HOPS recruiter

(Agricultural/horticultural jobs recruiter)



Job description

As a HOPS recruiter your day-to-day tasks will include answering enquiries from farmers looking for staff, creating job descriptions, advertising vacancies and head hunting / pre-screening candidates. You will be required to work with clients and build strong on-going relationships. Liaising with account managers of jobs' boards and recruitment platforms, such as, CV library/Indeed. Social media activities and management are also key duties of the role.

are GCSE or equivalent and a communication module / qualification may be an advantage. Rather than specific qualifications, employers typically value drive, experience, skills and abilities as well as the determination to succeed.



Salary

Starting at £18,000 depending on skill level and experience.



Qualifications

Recruitment consultant roles are generally open to graduates regardless of degree subject. Minimum entry requirements



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Accountant



Job description

As a chartered certified accountant, you'll undertake a variety of accountancy services and will be responsible for developing and maintaining financial and accounting systems, financial forecasting, auditing financial records and investigating financial anomalies. You will offer a variety of services to an internationally recognised standard, including advising on taxation, insolvency and corporate finance. You may also provide a management consultancy service. You can work within a range of sectors including public practice, financial services or the corporate sector. In many cases, your main aim will be to maximise profitability and efficiency or ensure value for money on behalf of your employer or client.



Qualifications

To become a chartered certified accountant you must have successfully completed the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) Qualification and become an ACCA member. The minimum requirement for entry onto the ACCA Qualification is three GCSEs and two A-levels in five separate subjects including English

and mathematics. You can also apply if you've got a degree or Masters in any subject. Some large employers offer graduate accountant trainee schemes where you'll be trained on the job and will study for the ACCA Qualification at the same time. Competition is strong for positions within large companies as well as for graduate schemes and industry jobs with good study packages.



Skills

- Numeracy and analytical skills
- Ability to keep up with and interpret changes in legislation
- Presentation skills
- Communication
- Understanding of business and economics



Salary

As a graduate, it's possible to start on a salary of around £25,000. Once qualified, your salary can range from £26,000 to £45,000 (senior accountant/accounts senior roles). Once you've built up significant experience, your salary can range from £40,000 to in excess of £100,000 (for roles at director level).



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Quality control manager



Job description

Quality managers aim to ensure that the product or service an organisation provides is fit for purpose, is consistent and meets both external and internal requirements. This includes legal compliance and customer expectations. As a quality manager you'll coordinate the activities required to meet these quality standards. Your role will include monitoring and advising on the performance of the quality management system, producing data and reporting on performance, measuring against set standards. You will advise on changes and how to implement them and provide training, tools and techniques to help others to achieve quality standards.



Qualifications

This area of work is open to all graduates but a degree in a relevant area, such as business management would be an advantage. Jobs in certain sectors may require industry-

specific qualifications such as agriculture, horticulture, engineering, manufacturing and applied science. Entry without a degree or HND is sometimes possible if you have substantial experience and training.



Salary

Starting salaries for quality managers are between £23,000 to £28,000. It is often expected that you will have prior experience of working in quality or the relevant industry and so some starting salaries may be higher. With experience, you could earn £28,000 to £50,000 depending on the level of the role and industry it is in. Some senior managers may achieve higher salaries than this.



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Human resources officer



Job description

As a human resources (HR) officer you will develop, advise on and implement policies relating to the effective use of staff in an organisation. Your aim is to ensure that the organisation that you work for employs the right balance of staff in terms of skill and experience, and that training and development opportunities are available to enhance performance and achieve business aims. HR officers are involved in a range of activities whatever the size or type of business. This usually includes conditions of employment, equality and diversity, negotiation with external work-related agencies, pay, performance reviews, recruitment and working practices.



Qualifications

This area of work is open to all graduates and those with an HND, however subjects such as business with languages, business or management, human resources management, psychology and social administration would be particularly relevant. There are various entry routes into HR but competition is generally fierce. Applying for a place on a HR graduate training scheme is one possibility. Starting

in an administrative role in an HR department provides useful experience and it is possible to be promoted into HR management. Although it is possible to enter HR work without being professionally qualified, for middle and higher management posts employers will prefer an accredited qualification from the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD).



Skills

- Good communication
- Discretion
- Project management



Salary

HR assistant starting salaries are around £19,000 a year. Partly qualified HR officers, or those working toward CIPD Level 5 or above, earn in the region of £22,000 to £25,000. Fully qualified HR officers with experience can expect to earn £25,000+. For senior posts, such as HR directors, typical salaries can range from around £75,000 to £100,000. Salaries within HR vary considerably between employers and are influenced by factors such as location, industry sector, level of responsibility, seniority and function.



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Graphic designer – packaging design



Job description

A graphic designer works on a variety of products and activities, such as websites, advertising, books, magazines, posters, computer games, product packaging, exhibitions and displays, corporate communications and corporate identity, i.e. giving organisations a visual brand. You'll work to a brief agreed with the client, creative director or account manager, and will develop appropriate creative ideas and concepts for the client's objectives. The work demands creative flair, up-to-date knowledge of industry software and a professional approach to time, costs and deadlines.



Qualifications

Relevant subjects for graphic design work include those that involve visual arts. In particular, a degree or HND in 3D design, communication design, film/television, fine art, graphic design, illustration, photography or visual art may be an advantage. Any design-based course will give you a good grounding and knowledge of design, art history and printing techniques. Some roles don't require a degree or HND, as job offers may be based on the standard of portfolio work.



Skills

- Creativity
- Attention to detail
- Ability to understand and interpret a brief



Salary

Starting salaries for junior graphic designers are in the region of £15,000 to £19,000. With experience, this can rise to £27,000. At a middle level, you can expect to earn £25,000 to £35,000. Salaries for senior graphic designers or creative leads range from £35,000 to £55,000. A creative director can make £60,000+ a year. Freelance designing can earn a salary of between £200 and £400 a day with experience. Salaries vary widely depending on the sector of employment, location and your experience and reputation. The best paid jobs are usually in London and other large cities.



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Agricultural inspector

e.g. Red Tractor/LEAF Marque



Job description

As an agricultural inspector you'll be helping to keep our food safe. You will be responsible for monitoring and evaluating agricultural standards and ensuring that farmers are fully compliant at all times. This could mean standards in health and safety, environmental legislation, animal welfare standards and farm assurance. Most likely you will be employed by one of a number of government related agencies such as the Health & Safety Executive, Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs or the Red Tractor Scheme. Independent schemes include LEAF Marque, Soil Association Organic standard or RSPCA Assured. Day-to-day you would be responsible for ensuring that work practices on farms meet specific defined criteria, checking crop management and production systems, ensuring environmental impacts are minimised, shelters and barns are the correct size and that veterinary records are accurate and up to date.



Qualifications

You will be expected to have at least 2 relevant A levels or equivalent as a minimum for the role of agricultural inspector alongside work experience in a similar role. You should consider completing relevant qualifications; there are short courses available through bodies such as NEBOSH (National Examination Board in Occupational Safety and Health), depending on what your target role is. You will receive on-the-job training, accompanying experienced colleagues; you will observe in the first instance and, in time, conduct your inspections under supervision.



Salary

Salaries starting between £23,000 to £27,000 per annum are realistic for a new agricultural inspector. With experience this could rise from £30,000. For a sought after specialist a salary of at least £50,000 per annum could be paid.



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Health and Safety adviser



Job description

Health and safety advisers use their knowledge and skills to promote a positive health and safety culture in the workplace; ensuring employers and workers comply with safety legislation and that policies and practices are adopted and adhered to. You will be responsible for carrying out risk assessments, consider risk reduction, hazard identification, carry out inspections, delivery training and ensure adequate records are kept.



Qualifications

Most health and safety qualifications are provided after university and aimed at people wanting to become health and safety professionals. Entry without a degree is possible if you have achieved short introductory qualifications and have experience. A background in construction, engineering, manufacturing or risk assessment may be useful.



Skills

- Ability to follow and understand changes in legislation
- Communication and inter-personal skills



Salary

Starting salaries are between £24,000 and £32,000. A senior health and safety adviser can earn approximately £40,000 to £55,000 increasing up to £80,000 for a highly experienced head of health and safety. This will vary significantly depending on the sector, size of the organisation and qualifications/experience. Salaries for those working abroad are often higher than salaries in the UK.



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Ethical auditor



Job description

As an ethical auditor you will ensure that an organisation's risk management, governance and control processes are operating effectively. You will consider things such as growth, environmental impact, treatment of employees and ethics.



Qualifications

A qualification in accountancy, economics, finance, IT or ethics may be beneficial and could increase potential for future promotion. It is also possible to enter the profession with work experience. There are also 2 apprenticeships available ranging from 18 - 42 months in length.



Skills

- An understanding of business
- Communication skills, including writing and listening
- Presentation skills
- Analytical skills



Salary

Auditors with one to three years' experience can earn in the region of £22,000 to £35,000. With further experience this could increase to £32,000 to £50,000. At director level salaries are in the region of £70,000.



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Carbon solution manager



Job description

As an energy manager, you'll plan, regulate and monitor the energy use in an organisation or facility. Your aim will be to improve efficiency by evaluating energy use and putting in place new policies and changes where needed. You'll coordinate all aspects of energy management, from reduction of carbon dioxide emissions, to waste management and sustainable development. This will be made possible by encouraging the use of renewable and sustainable energy resources within an organisation or community, developing solutions for carbon management and raising the profile of energy conservation.



Qualifications

You need to have a good understanding of electrical and mechanical systems as well as knowledge of the energy use of organisations. A degree is not essential but there are specialist subjects available that focus on energy and the environment, for example, energy engineering, sustainable energy and climate change. In addition, a qualification

in architecture, building and construction/surveying, business studies/administration engineering or environmental science and management would be an advantage. Entry to the industry is possible with a HND or foundation degree in a related subject such as building technology, business studies, engineering or environmental studies.



Salary

Starting salaries within energy management range from £22,000 to £33,000. This is dependent on the work sector and geographical area. With substantial experience, your salary will increase to around £30,000 to £45,000. Senior roles, with a significant level of responsibility and organisational management may earn more than £60,000. Some organisations, particularly those in the private sector, may offer additional benefits.



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Renewable energy engineer



Job description

As a renewable energy engineer, you'll be involved with the production of energy through natural resources, such as the extraction of oil and gas, as well as from renewable or sustainable sources of energy, including biofuels, hydro, wind and solar power. Your focus will be on finding efficient, clean and innovative ways to supply energy. You could work in a variety of roles, including designing and testing machinery, developing ways of improving existing processes, converting, transmitting and supplying useful energy to meet our needs for electricity. Researching and developing ways to generate new energy, reduce emissions from fossil fuels and minimise environmental damage are also important aspects of the role.



Qualifications

A degree in engineering or a scientific subject. Relevant subjects include earth sciences, electrical, mechanical or chemical engineering, environmental engineering, environmental science and management, mining or petroleum engineering, renewable

or sustainable energy. Renewable and sustainable energy solutions are increasing; this has led to a number of specialist qualifications becoming available that focus on energy and the environment, such as energy engineering, sustainable energy and climate science. A postgraduate qualification isn't essential but can be useful; courses are available in a variety of relevant subjects including renewable energy engineering, sustainable energy systems and energy futures.



Skills

- Numeracy and analytical skills
- Creativity
- Ability to understand complex systems



Salary

Starting salaries for energy engineers range from £20,000 to £30,000. With experience, you could earn a salary in the range of £35,000 to £60,000. Salaries can be even higher at the most senior levels within large companies. The salary you earn can vary depending on your location and the size and nature of your employer.



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Conservation officer



Job description

As a nature conservation officer you'll work to protect, manage and enhance the local environment. This can include grassland, woodland, forests, coastal areas, moorland, mountains and rivers. Depending on the region, you might also work in marine habitats. Part of the role is to encourage people to use the countryside and promote awareness of, and understanding about, the natural environment. You'll develop policy which may have local and national impact. Job titles within this sector are varied and include conservation assistants and technicians, project officers or biodiversity officers and sustainable development officers.



Qualifications

Entry with a relevant HND is possible with substantial experience, but this is a competitive area and graduates are usually preferred. Relevant degree subjects include environmental, life and urban and land studies. Particular subjects such as biology/bioscience, botany/plant science, earth science, ecology, geography, land/estate management, marine sciences/oceanography planning, surveying and sustainable development may be an advantage.

Some employers see a Masters as the minimum qualification required and entry may be difficult without one. Most advertised posts ask for experience; you have to demonstrate that you have become involved and shown commitment to conservation. Many people working in this sector started in voluntary work, building up contacts and experience.



Salary

Typical starting salaries generally range from £18,000 to £24,000. Salaries at senior level or with experience are generally between £20,000 and £30,000. Experienced managers may earn £30,000+. Salaries are generally higher in the private or consultancy sector. Consultancy work (freelance or self-employment) has increased in recent years as developers will often call in environmental experts to assist with their planning applications.



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Environmental education officer



Job description

Environmental education officers are involved in making people aware of environmental issues, food, farming, the countryside, promoting conservation and sustainability, and enhancing the public's enjoyment of the environment through teaching and interpreting the natural world. The range of activities you will carry out varies from job to job. Some officers work mainly within schools, giving talks and taking part in and developing projects. You can also deliver presentations or host groups at relevant sites, such as nature reserves. Others work with a range of age groups, for example leading guided nature walks for visitors or organising events and awareness campaigns. Training volunteers and community groups involved in environmental work such as conservation projects is also a component of the job.



Qualifications

A relevant degree in a biological or environmental science discipline is often required. In particular, degree subjects such as biology, botany or plant science, conservation biology, ecology, environmental management, forestry, geography or zoology may

increase your chances. Entry with a relevant HND or foundation degree, such as countryside management or one of the subjects above is possible with relevant work experience. A postgraduate qualification in education is desirable for many posts, but only essential for those that focus exclusively on schools.



Skills

- Communication and inter-personal skills
- Presentation skills



Salary

Starting salaries are between £15,000 and £19,000. Typical salaries with one to five years of experience are between £20,000 and £25,000. Salaries at senior level or with experience, (10 to 15 years), range from £22,000 to £30,000. For management positions in an organisation where you have responsibility for policy development or the management of a multidisciplinary team, salaries can reach up to £50,000. Starting salaries may be lower for posts that focus primarily on presenting rather than developing educational programmes and activities.



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Environmental consultant



Job description

An environmental consultant works with organisations on a range of environmental issues, offering expert advice and assessments to ensure that possible damaging effects are managed or eliminated. You may be responsible for ensuring that your client / employer comply with environmental regulations. You could work on commercial or government contracts, addressing a variety of environmental issues, such as air, land and water contamination, environmental impact assessment and flood risk, waste management and recycling, renewable energy opportunities and environmental management systems. Most environmental consultants are employed by consultancy firms; hired by the public sector and commercial organisations.

sciences, engineering, environmental and earth sciences, social, economic or business studies and urban and land studies. Degree subjects such as chemistry, ecology or wildlife management, engineering geology, environmental engineering, environmental management, geography, geology, geophysics or hydrogeology may increase your chances of employment in this sector.



Salary

Graduate starting salaries typically range from £22,000 to £24,500 depending on the particular specialist area. Locality is also a key factor and there can be wide variations depending on where the job is. Salaries for consultant grade positions, with two to five years of experience, range from £22,000 to £33,000. Salaries for senior consultants, with five to ten years experience, range from £33,000 to £44,000. For those at principal consultant grade, with ten or more years experience, salaries are in the region of £38,500 to £60,000.



Qualifications

A good honours degree is the minimum entry qualification. A work-based placement through an employer will build the best contacts and experience. Entry is unlikely with an HND only. Relevant degree subjects include agricultural and horticultural sciences, biological sciences, chemical and physical



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Future jobs



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Agroecologist



Job description

As an agroecologist, you'll help restore ecological balance while feeding and fueling the planet. Agroecologists work with farmers to design and manage agricultural ecosystems whose parts (plants, water, nutrients and insects) work together to create an effective and sustainable means of producing food and environmentally-friendly biofuel crops.



Qualifications

At A-Level subjects such as biology, chemistry and physics are suggested as a career path. You will need an undergraduate degree in agroecology, where you'll learn how plants, soil, insects, animals, nutrients, water and weather interact with one another to create the living systems in which crop-based foods are grown.



Skills

- People management
- Organisation
- Good communication
- Analytics and IT skills



Salary

Starting salary could be in the region of £19,000 to £22,000 increasing up to salaries of £45,000 with experience.



Future jobs



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Aquaponic fish farmer



Job description

Aquaponic fish farmers are a new generation of farmer. New production methods, such as, aquaponics addresses the issue of depleting wild stock. Aquaponics combines fish farming with urban farming (or gardening), where plants grow over water to cover its surface and fish live below. This system is small-scale and needs fewer resources and space than traditional fish farming.



Qualifications

At A-Level subjects such as biology and chemistry are suggested as a career path. Being able to care for animals and plants will be extremely important to this role and horticultural/gardening experience will also be helpful.



Skills

- Physical fitness
- IT skills
- Knowledge of fish and plant production
- Technical skills
- Knowledge of cultivating plants in water
- Ability to promote new methods of farming



Salary

Starting salary could be in the region of £13,000 to £16,000. With experience this could increase to £18,000 to £35,000.



Future jobs



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Autonomous vehicles engineer



Job description

These specialised engineers develop and deliver the systems which make up an autonomous vehicle and allow it to function. An autonomous vehicle is one that can guide itself without human direction. With recent technological advancements, this has become a reality and may pave the way for future systems where computers take over the art of driving. These vehicles are also known as a driverless cars, robot cars and self-driving cars.



Qualifications

At A-Level subjects such as Biology, Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics are suggested as a career path.



Skills

- Technical ability
- Problem solving
- Organisation
- Attention to detail
- Ability to understand technical plans



Salary

Starting salary could be in the region of £20,000 to £26,000. With experience this could increase to £30,000 to £45,000.



Future jobs



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Carbon capture technician



Job description

Excess greenhouse gases in the atmosphere have been the main cause of global climate change. While many industries and communities have reduced their carbon emissions, capturing the emissions that we've already made will become a lucrative new industry. You will use machines to capture greenhouse gases and store them in underground tanks to slow the effects of climate change. The ability to design, build, and maintain these carbon capture systems will be needed. Carbon capture technicians play a very important role in keeping the atmosphere safe for humans, animals and plants.



Qualifications

At A-Level subjects such as computer science, maths, physics and chemistry are suggested as a career path. A background in engineering and experience in the mining or

oil and gas industries will be very helpful for this role. The technical aspects of building and maintaining carbon capture systems will also draw HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) trades people to this field.



Skills

- People management
- Organisation
- Numeracy
- Good communication
- Analytics and IT skills



Salary

Starting salary could be in the region of £24,000 to £26,000. With experience this could increase to £25,000 to £80,000.



Future jobs



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Urban farmer (including underground growing)



Job description

Urban greenhouse farms are farming projects in high-rise buildings called vertical farms. Urban greenhouse farmers will be very aware of the environmental impact of farming, and will try to reduce their energy use as much as possible. As vertical farms are located in cities, they will become important players in feeding local communities. An urban farmer will need to juggle the needs of different crops being grown in a dense space. Technical aspects of this profession include knowledge of solar power and lighting design, and watering systems.



Qualifications

A-Level subjects such as biology, geography and chemistry are suggested as a career path. This is a great profession for people with a love for working with their hands and cultivating living things. Backgrounds in botany, horticulture, traditional agriculture and engineering will ensure that crops grow well together.



Skills

- People management
- Business management
- Leadership
- Financial planning
- Knowledge of soil fertility and crop rotation



Salary

Starting salary could be in the region of £20,000 to £22,000. With experience this could increase to £23,000 to £50,000.

