



# Photographers



## WHAT THEY DO

Photographers subjects or events using a variety of cameras that can accept lenses for close-up, medium-range, or distance photography. Often uses computers to scan a picture to digital form and to manipulate it to create a desired effect. May then store the images on a compact disk (CD). Belongs to the Arts, Audio-Video Technology, and Communications cluster and Visual Arts pathway.

## IS THIS FOR YOU?

**Work Interests** are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model) by people who tend to succeed in this career:

- **Artistic**– You are an "creator". You enjoy things like art, music, and books, and express your feelings easily. You don't like rigid rules and structure.
- **Realistic** — You are a "doer". You like physical activities and projects. You like to find the answers to problems by doing hands-on work instead of talking about solutions.

**Work Values** are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career.

- **Relationships** – It's very important to you that you have friendly co-workers. You would like to be of service to others without compromising your sense of right and wrong.
- **Independence** – It's very important to you that your work allows you to make decisions on your own. You want to try out your own ideas and work with little supervision.

**Aptitudes** reflect a person's ability to acquire skills and knowledge. The following aptitudes are important for success in the career:

- **General Learning Ability**
- **Spatial Aptitude**
- **Form Perception**

## SKILLS YOU NEED

### Basic Skills:

- Reading Comprehension
- Active Listening
- Speaking
- Critical Thinking
- Active Learning
- Learning Strategies
- Monitoring

### Transferable Skills (applicable in other careers): High level

- Creating photographic and motion picture images
- Developing and printing film
- Operating audio-visual equipment

### Workplace Skills:

#### Medium level

- Instructing
- Judgment and Decision Making
- Operations Analysis
- Social Perceptiveness

Additional skills for this occupation may be found at <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/career-exploration-resources>

## ESTIMATED & PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT

Occupational Title	2012 Estimated Employment	2022 Projected Employment	2012-22 Employment Change	Annual Growth Rate (%)	Total Annual Openings
Total, All Occupations	1,758,205	1,955,480	197,275	1.1	61,665
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media Occupations	26,560	29,770	3,210	1.2	970
Photographers	2,105	2,395	290	1.4	50

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

## 2015 WAGE & SALARY (\$)

Occupational Title	Average Wage	Average Salary	Entry Wage	Entry Salary	Experienced Wage	Experienced Salary
Total, All Occupations	19.77	41,122	9.55	19,858	24.88	51,755
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media Occupations	18.07	37,591	8.90	18,507	22.66	47,133
Photographers	13.44	27,952	8.18	17,022	16.07	33,416

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education	Work Experience	Job Training
High School Diploma	None	Long-Term On-The-Job

Entry-level positions in photojournalism or in industrial or scientific photography generally require a college degree in photography or in a field related to the industry in which the photographer seeks employment. Freelance and portrait photographers need technical proficiency, gained through either a degree program, vocational training or extensive photography experience. Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0> and <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

## NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC)

Skill	Median Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	4
Locating Information	4
Reading for Information	4

This ACT-developed credential demonstrates achievement and a certain level of workplace employability skills. The greater the score, the greater the skill level (Bronze = 3, Silver = 4, Gold = 5, Platinum = 6).

Source: <http://www.act.org/workkeys/analysis/occup.html>

## PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTORS

### (Where are Photographers Employed?)

Self Employed  
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services  
Broadcasting  
Publishing  
Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, & Related

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

## ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

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