



# Photographers



## OVERVIEW

Photograph people, landscapes, merchandise, or other subjects, using digital or film cameras and equipment. May develop negatives or use computer software to produce finished images and prints. Includes scientific photographers, aerial photographers, and photojournalists. Belongs to the Arts, Audio-Video Technology, and Communications cluster and Visual Arts pathway.

## SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE NEEDED

### Basic Skills:

- Service Orientation
- Active Listening
- Speaking
- Active Learning
- Social Perceptiveness

### Technology Skills:

- Accounting Software
- Data Base Use Interface and Query Software
- Graphics or Photo Imaging Software
- Video Creation and Editing Software
- Web Page Creation and Editing Software

### Knowledge:

- Customer and Personal Service
- Sales and Marketing
- Computers and Electronics
- Fine Arts
- English Language

## DOES THIS DESCRIBE YOU?

**Work Interests** involve descriptive categories (compatible with Holland's Model) attributed to success in this career:

- **Artistic**—Involves working with forms, designs, and patterns requiring self-expression without clear set of rules.
- **Realistic**—Involves work activities that include practical, hands-on problems and solutions; often dealing with plants, animals, and real-world materials like wood, tools, and machinery.

**Work Styles** depict worker characteristics conducive for this career:

- **Attention to Detail**
- **Dependability**
- **Cooperation**
- **Adaptability/Flexibility**
- **Self Control**

**Work Values** are associated with aspects of work that provide satisfaction in this career:

- **Relationships**—Provide service to others in noncompetitive environment.
- **Achievement**—Sense of accomplishment; results oriented.
- **Independence**—Autonomy; working on your own.

**Aptitudes** reflect an ability to acquire skills and knowledge for success in this career:

- **Oral Comprehension**
- **Oral Expression**
- **Originality**
- **Visualization**
- **Far Vision**

## ESTIMATED & PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT

Occupational Title	2014 Estimated Employment	2024 Projected Employment	2014-24 Employment Change	Annual Growth Rate (%)	Total Annual Openings
Total, All Occupations	1,795,100	1,949,240	154,140	0.9	58,145
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media Occupations	26,770	28,250	1,475	0.6	855
Photographers	2,020	2,080	60	0.3	55

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

## 2017 WAGE & SALARY (\$)

Occupational Title	Mean Wage	Mean Salary	Entry Wage	Entry Salary	Exp Wage	Exp Salary
Total All Occupations	20.93	43,539	10.09	20,991	26.35	54,813
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media Occupations	18.63	38,758	9.31	19,370	23.29	48,452
Photographers	13.38	27,835	8.82	18,356	15.66	32,575

Source: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-employment-and-wages>

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

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

Sufficient postsecondary training is required for most photographer positions with some industrial or scientific based employers preferring a bachelor's degree. Sources: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections> and [https://www.bls.gov/emp/ep\\_education\\_training\\_system.htm](https://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_education_training_system.htm)

## NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC)

Skill	Median Skill Level	Minimum Skill Level	Maximum Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	3	3	4
Locating Information	4	3	5
Reading for Information	4	3	4
Applied Technology	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Business Writing	2	2	3
Workplace Observation	3	2	4
Listening for Understanding	3	2	3

An ACT assessment-based credential issued in determining essential work skills needed for employment success across industries and occupations. The greater the score, the greater the skill level (Bronze = 3, Silver = 4, Gold = 5, Platinum = 6 & higher). Source: <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/workkeys-for-employers/assessments.html>

## PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTORS

### (Where are Photographers Employed?)

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

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

## ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

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