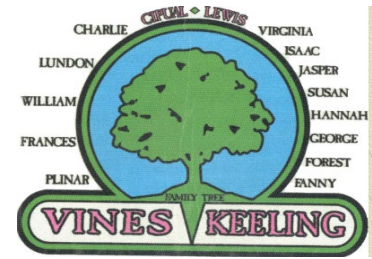


ApprenticeshipUSA Chat Sheet



March 2024

Monthly Newsletter for H.S. Students – Information Technology

What is the Information Technology (IT) Industry?

The Information Technology Industry is the backbone of the technological world. It encompasses everything related to computers, software networks and data. Think of it as the brain and nervous system of modern society! The Information Technology Industry includes the following business sections:

- a) Computer Manufacturing;
- b) Computer chip manufacturing;
- c) Software Development (Coding);
- d) Massive Data Centers (Data Farms);
- e) Data Networks; and
- f) Desktop Support.

Why is Information Technology Important?

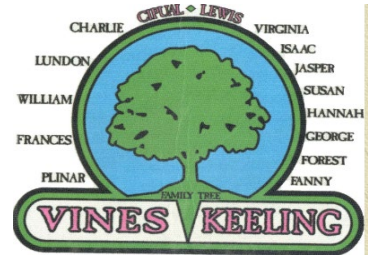
Imagine a world without Smartphones, social media, or online learning (like this newsletter!). The IT industry makes all these things possible. It keeps businesses running smoothly, allows us to connect globally, and fuels innovation across almost every field.

What are the Benefits of a Career in Information Technology (IT)?

The Information Technology field offers a variety of rewarding career paths, and the job outlook for many of these positions is positive in the coming 24 months. The Information Technology Industry is constantly growing, ensuring job stability and high demand for skilled professionals. This is a sample of occupations with good future job prospects and average starting pay in parenthesis (....):

- 1) Help Desk Technician - (Good - \$41,250/year) w/HS Diploma;
- 2) Customer Rep (IT focus) (Good - \$36,500/year) w/HS Diploma;
- 3) Data Entry Clerk (Steady - \$32,500/year) w/HS Diploma;
- 4) Field Service Technician - (Good - \$44,000/year) w/HS Diploma;
- 5) IT Support Specialist – Jr Level (Fair - \$38,500/year) w/HS Diploma.

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How to Prepare for a Career in Information Technology (IT)?

If you are interested in a career in Information Technology, there are a few different ways you can get started. One option is to excel in Core Information Technology courses (Science/Math/Computer Science & Programming) in high school or community college. Also, hone your written and verbal skills. Volunteer and/or Intern in Information Technology settings.

Another approach is an Apprenticeship. Go to the **ApprenticeshipUSA** link for more information[click the blue] ([Homepage | Apprenticeship.gov](https://www.apprenticeship.gov)). There, you will find Apprenticeship Programs and on-the-job training opportunities which can take 1 to 2 years of hands-on and classroom training with pay. Let me know if you have questions.

For local in-person support you can use your area **American Job Center (AJC)** [click the blue] ([American Job Center Finder | CareerOneStop](https://www.americanjobcenter.gov)). Simply enter your Zip code to find your nearest AJC.

Conclusion

The Information Technology Industry is positioned to expand and offer exciting careers for motivated individuals. Remember, the journey to becoming an Information Technology professional begins now, so start actively preparing and exploring your options.

Additional Tips for High School Students

- Take advantage of career counseling services at your high school. Your high school counselors can help you to learn more about different career options, including Information Technology careers.