TECHNOLOGY Careers in information technology

Train locally to become developer, programmer, software engineer

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If you're interested in design, graphics, math, engineering, software applications, computers or networks, you might have a bright career ahead of you in the information technology (IT) sector. Computer system analysts, database administrators, software developers and other professionals can earn salaries from $45,000 to $100,00 or more, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"We have many job orders for developers, programmers and software engineers," said Michael Corbit, director, talent acquisition unit, Workforce Solutions in Port St. Lucie. "In general, applicants need college degrees and some type of certification."

In general, IT jobs fall into several different categories. First are the originators – the designers, developers and programmers who create websites, desktop and mobile applications. Then come the administrators who manage databases and computer networks, helping to keep the business up and running, and the analysts who search for business intelligence in the organization's databases and networks. Finally, there are the educators – the technical writers, trainers, and help desk staffers who guide the users of IT tools.

Many types of IT classes and training are available from Treasure Coast high schools, vocational programs, colleges and universities.

Training opportunities

For example, Indian River State College (IRSC) offers associate degree, bachelor degree and certification programs that include:

--Information technology management/cyber security

--Computer Information Technology

--Computer Programming Specialist Certificate

--Computer Sciences

--Cisco Certified Network Associate Certificate

--Information Technology Support Specialist Certificate

--Web Production Certificate

Keiser University's Port St. Lucie campus offers degrees in:

--Computer Programming

--Information Security

--Information Technology Leadership

--Information Technology Management

--Management Information Systems

--Network Systems and Data Communications

--Software Engineering

Nearby, Florida Atlantic University's College of Engineering and Computer Science also offers a full range of IT degree programs.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a growing demand for these types of IT positions in the coming decade.