

QUALITY JOBS

WHAT DOES A QUALITY PROFESSIONAL DO?

We've defined the top quality jobs and listed the average salary as identified through the *Quality Progress Salary Survey*.

BEGINNER



\$49,694

INSPECTOR

Inspects, audits, and reports on materials, processes, and products using variable or attribute measuring instruments and techniques to ensure conformance with an organization's quality standards.



\$48,693

TECHNICIAN

Follows basic quality techniques, possibly including calibration, to track, analyze, and report on materials, processes, and products to ensure they meet the organization's quality standards.



\$54,543

CALIBRATION TECHNICIAN

Tests, calibrates, maintains, and repairs electrical, mechanical, electromechanical, analytical and electronic measuring, recording and indicating instruments, and equipment for conformance to established standards.



\$59,826

COORDINATOR

Collects, organizes, monitors, and distributes information related to quality and process improvement functions, possibly including but not limited to compliance to and documentation of quality management standards, such as ISO 9001. Typically generates reports using computer skills and distributes those reports to various users in the organization or among customers and suppliers.



\$60,298

ASSOCIATE

Involved in quality improvement projects but not necessarily full time. Does not necessarily have primary responsibility for traditional quality management, assurance, or control activities.

MID-CAREER



\$73,294

SUPERVISOR

Administers the organization's quality improvement efforts within a defined department. Has direct reports that implement some aspect of the policies and procedures of the quality functions.



\$72,345

GREEN BELT

Operates in support of or under the supervision of a Six Sigma Black Belt, analyzes quality problems and is involved in quality improvement projects. Has at least three years of work experience.



\$79,986

AUDITOR

Performs and reports on internal or external quality system audits.



\$75,583

SPECIALIST

As the primary assignment, performs a specific quality-related function within the organization's quality program. Examples include management representative and testing expert. Has received direct training or has been performing the activity for a number of years.



\$74,852

ANALYST

Initiates and coordinates quality-related data from production, service, or process improvement activities and reports these data using statistical techniques.



\$85,974

QUALITY ENGINEER

Designs, installs, and evaluates quality assurance process sampling systems, procedures, and statistical techniques. Designs or specifies inspection and testing mechanisms and equipment. Analyzes production and service limitations and standards. Recommends revision of specifications. Formulates or helps formulate quality assurance policies and procedures. May conduct training on quality assurance concepts and tools. Interfaces with all other engineering functions within an organization and with customers and suppliers on quality-related issues.



\$89,015

PROCESS/MANUFACTURING/ PROJECT ENGINEER

Performs engineering work to evaluate manufacturing processes or performance improvement projects for optimization. Duties also may include the development of processes to ensure quality, cost, and efficiency requirements are met.

ADVANCED



\$98,723

MANAGER

Ensures the administration of an organization's quality, process, or business improvement efforts within a defined segment of the organization. Might be responsible for dealing with customers and suppliers on quality or performance issues. Typically has direct reports.



\$100,642

CHAMPION

Business leader or senior manager who ensures resources are available for quality training and projects and is involved in project tollgate reviews. Often an executive who supports and addresses Six Sigma organizational issues.



\$102,851

EDUCATOR/INSTRUCTOR

Instructs or trains others on quality-related topics, tools, and techniques. This person may be an employee of an organization or teach in a university or college setting.



\$101,785

BLACK BELT

Six Sigma or quality expert. Often a full-time team leader responsible for implementing process improvement projects in the organization to increase customer satisfaction levels and productivity.



\$114,088

SOFTWARE QUALITY ENGINEER

Applies quality principles to the development and use of software and software-based systems. Designs and implements software development and maintenance processes. Designs or specifies test methods for software inspection, verification, and validation.



\$92,670

SUPPLIER QUALITY ENGINEER/PROFESSIONAL

Responsible for all quality improvement issues related to vendors and suppliers of materials, products, or services used in development or manufacture. Assesses potential new suppliers. Works with suppliers to develop and improve an entire supply chain. May be involved in purchasing.



\$121,297

CONSULTANT

Provides advice, facilitation, and training on the development, administration, and technical aspects of an organization's quality improvement efforts at any or all levels. Has expertise in some or all aspects of the quality field. This person can be from outside the organization or can be an employee of the organization.



\$116,327

RELIABILITY/SAFETY ENGINEER

Uses principles of performance evaluation and prediction to improve the safety, reliability, and maintainability of products and systems. Plans reliability tests and conducts analyses of field failures. Develops and administers reliability information systems for failure analysis and performance improvement.



\$130,597

STATISTICIAN

Specializes in the use of statistical techniques for process control and other quality-related methods. May design research and testing methods. Reports and interprets statistical data to management.



\$148,198

MASTER BLACK BELT

Six Sigma or quality expert responsible for strategic implementations within an organization. Qualified to teach other Six Sigma facilitators the methods, tools, and applications in all functions and levels of an organization. Is a resource for using statistical methods to improve processes.



\$132,780

DIRECTOR

Oversees all aspects of an organization's quality or business improvement efforts, such as developing and administering the program, training and coaching employees, and facilitating change throughout the organization. Responsible for establishing strategic plans, policies, and procedures at all levels so quality improvement efforts will meet or exceed internal and external customers' needs and expectations.



\$170,131

VICE PRESIDENT/EXECUTIVE

Establishes the direction for the development and administration of the organization's quality improvement efforts. Consults with other executives on the attitudes and practices of quality throughout an organization to develop an environment of continual improvement in every aspect of the organization's products and services. Acts as a champion for quality.



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