Best Undergraduate College Degrees by Salary

Launched in 2002 and headquartered in Seattle, PayScale owns the largest database of online employee salary data in the world. Analysts there have tracked starting salaries for recent graduates and likely salary trajectory for people later in their careers, according to the degrees they hold. Data reported on its website show that seven of the top ten best paying jobs are in engineering. Alas, teaching and the arts are last on the list.

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	STARTING MEDIAN SALARY	MID-CAREER MEDIAN SALARY
Aerospace Engineering	\$59,600	\$109,000
Chemical Engineering	\$65,700	\$107,000
Computer Engineering	\$61,700	\$105,000
Electrical Engineering	\$60,200	\$102,000
Economics	\$50,200	\$101,000
Physics	\$51,100	\$98,800
Mechanical Engineering	\$58,900	\$98,300
Computer Science	\$56,400	\$97,400
Industrial Engineering	\$57,100	\$95,000
Environmental Engineering	\$53,400	\$94,500
Statistics	\$48,600	\$94,500
Biochemistry	\$41,700	\$94,200
Mathematics	\$47,000	\$93,600
Civil Engineering	\$55,100	\$93,000
Construction Management	\$53,400	\$89,600
Finance	\$48,500	\$89,400
Management Information Systems	\$51,900	\$87,200
Computing and Information Systems	\$50,900	\$86,700
Geology	\$45,100	\$84,200
Chemistry	\$42,900	\$82,300
Marketing	\$41,500	\$81,500
International Relations	\$41,400	\$80,500
Industrial Technology	\$49,500	\$79,600
Environmental Science	\$43,300	\$78,700
Architecture	\$42,900	\$78,300
International Business	\$41,900	\$77,800
Accounting	\$46,500	\$77,600
Political Science	\$41,300	\$77,300
Urban Planning	\$43,300	\$77,000
Philosophy	\$40,000	\$76,700
Information Technology	\$49,400	\$75,200
Zoology	\$37,000	\$74,400
Occupational Therapy	\$61,300	\$73,400
Microbiology	\$39,800	\$73,200
Business Administration	\$42,900	\$73,000
Business Management	\$43,300	\$72,100
Advertising	\$36,900	\$71,800
Biology	\$39,500	\$71,800
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