IT/Technology

Overview

IT and technology have become an indispensable part of modern living; from smart phones to personal computers, all the way up to ads on LED screens and social media, it can be found in practically every corner of our lives. Opportunities exist across a wide variety of sectors at every level. Regardless of what area you work in, the industry offers everyday challenges, variety of work and often a good work/life balance. Most roles are performed during normal working hours with little work to take home, however, the cyclical nature of the industry often requires longer hours when project deadline day approaches. Information technology jobs are notorious for offering great financial packages; this is down to the continuing growth in the industry and the demand for suitably qualified and experienced personnel. Even entry level positions tend to offer better than average salaries, so there's no need to worry if you've yet to develop your skillset.

What's the job market like?

Scotland has around 11,200 digital technology companies engaged in a variety of activities from software development to telecommunications. There are currently around 73,000 people employed within IT and tech in Scotland with the industry forecast to grow by 38% by 2024. Along with its highly talented workforce and international reputation for excellence, it's no wonder that Scotland is quickly becoming the top choice for large multinationals. Poised as the data capital of Europe, Edinburgh is already the UK's top city for startups, while Glasgow is one of the UK's biggest tech investment hubs. Global names such as Amazon, Microsoft, IBM, Capgemini, Atos and more have all been attracted to Scotland thanks to our advanced, reliable digital infrastructure and low software development costs.

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Types of I.T/Tech

IT Support

This line of work is as much about understanding how information systems are used as applying technical knowledge related to computer hardware or software. Roles and responsibilities include installing and configuring computer systems, diagnosing hardware and software faults and solving application problems. Support technicians can cover one or more areas of expertise, depending on the size of the organisation.

AI

In general terms, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a machine's ability to perform the cognitive functions we would usually associate with human minds. From space exploration to melanoma detection, AI has opened up possibilities for the future and is making waves across industries. As a result, there has also been a steady growth in AI careers; hiring has increased by 32% in the last 2 years. Opportunities in AI are diverse from machine and software engineers, to data and research scientists, earning from £50,000-£100,000.

Digital Marketing and E-Commerce

The number of roles in digital marketing and e-commerce continue to grow as businesses move more of their operations and sales online. Digital marketers help companies reach and engage with customers, build awareness, drive sales, and foster brand loyalty, while E-commerce specialists help design, create, and manage online stores.

Data Specialist

Nearly every company has the ability to collect information, and the amount of data that can be gathered is increasing. This has led to a higher demand for employees who can organise and analyse data to unearth insights to inform business decision making. Data specialists are subject matter experts in a specific industry, meaning the daily roles and responsibilities will revolve around analysing, problem solving and presenting within a certain field.

Cybersecurity

Cyber security is the application of technologies, processes and controls to protect systems, networks, programs, devices and data from cyber attacks. Roles within this sector can range from engineers, analysts and project managers working within a Security Operations Centre (SOC) to consulting and advisory positions supporting various clients. Cyber security is a fast-growing field and the skills required for it are in demand, especially within large organisations and financial services institutions. Salaries vary depending on your skills, experience and employer but can range from £35,000-£70,000.

Coding / Programming

Programming is the process of planning, designing, testing and deploying a product, whereas coding is the translation of human language into machine commands. Roles within this field include data administrator, web developer and software engineer. With companies increased digital presence and the need for innovate software solutions, there is a huge demand for coding and programming roles.

Scottish Military Employers

accenture   amazon   aspen   CYACOMB   IBM   DXC TECHNOLOGY   FUJITSU   Microsoft

Military Transferable Skills and Attributes

A degree in a computer based field is beneficial, however the experience gained from working within a technical, analytical or engineering based role within the military is also valuable. Furthermore, the soft skills developed within the military such as problem solving, communication and attention to detail, align with the attributes required within the tech and IT industry.

If you're looking to access free training and gain further qualifications within the sector, TechVets acts as a bridge for veterans, service leavers, reservists and their families into information technology careers. Combining military and life experience with newly gained digital skills, TechVets aims to support their clients with sustainable careers in information technology.

Many IT courses offered by CTP are contract funded, offering excellent value for money. The full list of courses along with descriptions and course dates can be found here.

Transferable military skills include:

- Problem Solving
- Determination
- Analytical Abilities

- Attention to Detail
- Communication
- Organisation

- Teamwork
- Creativity
- Project Management

- Teamwork

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