




Logistician

About

Logisticians analyze and coordinate an organization's supply chain—the system that moves a product from supplier to consumer. They manage the entire life cycle of a product, which includes how a product is acquired, allocated, and delivered.

Job Outlook and Salary



- Projected regional employment in 2024 is **6,248**
- The statewide projected average annual growth rate over the next five years is **1.66%** 
- The average annual wage is **\$92,962** (Seattle MSA)
- Hourly wages range from **\$34.76/HR** (25th percentile) to **\$52.36/HR** (75th percentile)

Job Tasks



- Manage a product's life cycle from design to disposal
- Direct the allocation of materials, supplies, and products
- Develop business relationships with suppliers and clients
- Understand clients' needs and how to meet them
- Review logistical functions and identify areas for improvement
- Propose strategies to minimize the cost or time required to transport goods

Education and Training



- **Logisticians may qualify for some positions with an Associate's degree.** However, due to complex logistics and supply chains, companies prefer to hire workers who have at least a Bachelor's degree. Logisticians typically have a Bachelor's degree in logistics and supply chain management, business, or a related field.
- **Bachelor's degree programs often include coursework in operations and database management, and system dynamics.** In addition, most programs offer courses that train students on software and technologies commonly used by logisticians, such as radio-frequency identification (RFID).

Licensures



- **Although not required, certification can demonstrate professional competence and a broad knowledge of logistics.** Logisticians can obtain certification through the Association for Supply Chain Management or the International Society of Logistics (SOLE). To become certified, a logistician typically needs to meet education and work experience requirements and pass an exam.

Work Schedule



- The majority of logisticians work full time and they sometimes work overtime to ensure that operations stay on schedule.

Skills



- **Communication skills.** Logisticians need strong communication skills to collaborate with colleagues and do business with suppliers and customers.
- **Critical-thinking skills.** Logisticians must develop, adjust, and carry out logistical plans. They often must find ways to reduce costs and improve efficiency.
- **Customer service skills.** Logisticians must know the needs of their customers in order to coordinate the movement of materials between suppliers and customers. They gain this knowledge through listening to the customer and applying their knowledge of the products and systems to provide what is required.
- **Organizational skills.** Logisticians must be able to keep detailed records and simultaneously manage several projects in a fast-paced environment.
- **Problem-solving skills.** Logisticians must handle unforeseen issues, such as delivery problems, and adjust plans as needed to resolve the issues.

Technology



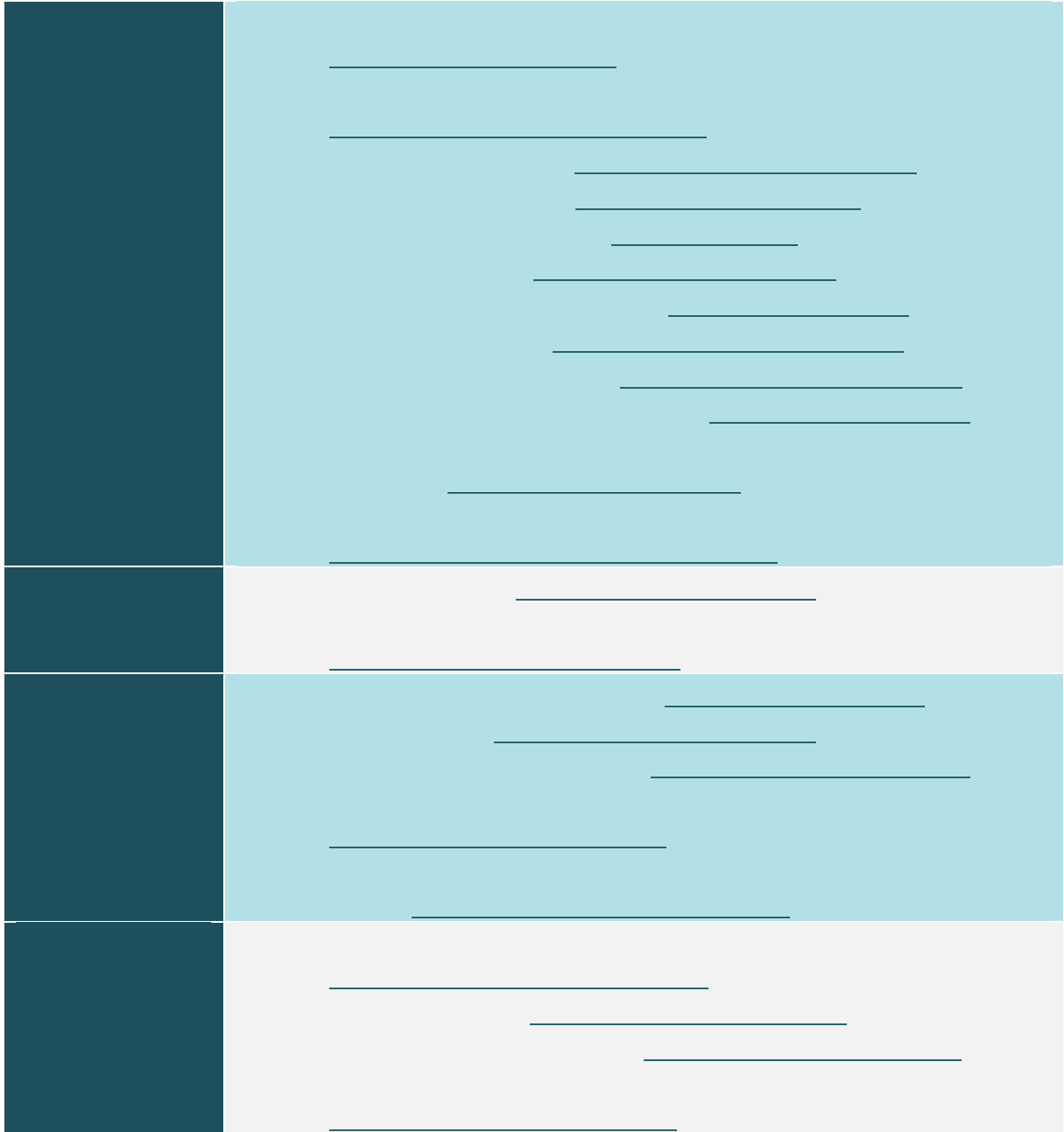
- **Enterprise resource planning ERP software:** Microsoft Dynamics; Oracle JD Edwards EnterpriseOne
- **Materials requirements planning logistics and supply chain software:** RedPrairie E2e; Warehouse management system WMS
- **Project management software:** Microsoft Project; Oracle Primavera Enterprise Project Portfolio Management

Education and Training Resources

The following regional education and training programs are examples of programs in the region that can help you obtain education and credentials to become a Logistician. Some programs may require additional preparation and completion of prerequisites.



County	Programs
King County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apprenti (https://apprenticareers.org/locations/washington/) • Bellevue College (https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/) • Central Washington University, Des Moines (https://www.cwu.edu/des-moines/) • City University of Seattle (https://www.cityu.edu/) • Green River College (https://www.greenriver.edu/) • Highline College (https://highline.edu)



Resources to Scholarships and Assistance Programs

- Washington State Opportunity Scholarship: <https://www.waopportunityscholarship.org/about/>
- Washington College Grant: <https://wsac.wa.gov/wcg>

References

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- Logisticians at My Next Move. (n.d.). Retrieved August 18, 2021, from <https://www.mynextmove.org/profile/summary/13-1081.00>
- Logisticians: Occupational Outlook Handbook: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (n.d.). Retrieved December 6, 2021, from <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/business-and-financial/logisticians.htm#tab-1>
- Occupational Employment Projections, Washington State Employment Security Department, 2021.
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- Washington Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board. Retrieved January 25, 2022. *Washington Career Bridge*.
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