Web Developer and Digital Interface Designer

About

Web developers create and maintain websites. They are also responsible for the site's technical aspects, such as its performance and capacity, which are measures of a website's speed and how much traffic the site can handle. In addition, web developers may create content for the site. Digital designers develop, create, and test website or interface layout, functions, and navigation for usability. They are responsible for the look and functionality of the website or interface.

Job Outlook and Salary

- Projected regional employment in 2024 is **21,131**
- The statewide projected average annual growth rate over the next five years is **3.71%** ⬆
- The average annual wage is **$140,871** (Seattle MSA)
- Hourly wages range from **$46.94/HR** (25th percentile) to **$88.43/HR** (75th percentile)

Job Tasks

- Meet with clients or management to discuss the needs, design, and functionality of a website or interface
- Create and test applications, interfaces, and navigation menus for a website
- Write code for the website, using programming languages such as HTML or XML
- Work with other team members to determine what information the site will contain
- Work with graphics and other designers to determine the website's layout
- Integrate graphics, audio, and video into the website
- Monitor website traffic
- Create prototypes and mockups of websites or applications
- Design and develop graphics

Education and Training

- Requirements for web developers and digital designers range from a high school diploma to a Bachelor's degree.
- Some employers prefer to hire web developer candidates who have a Bachelor's degree in a specific field, such as computer science or programming.
- Web developers need to have a thorough understanding of HTML programming. Many employers also want developers to understand other programming languages, such as JavaScript or SQL, and have knowledge of multimedia publishing tools, such as Flash. Throughout their career, web developers must keep up to date on new tools and computer languages.

- Employers of digital designers may prefer to hire candidates who have a Bachelor's degree in a field such as web design, digital design, or graphic arts.
- Web developers and digital designers may not need specific education credentials if they can demonstrate their abilities through prior work experience or projects.

Work Schedule

- Most web developers and digital designers work full time.

Skills

- *Communication skills.* Web developers and digital designers need to communicate effectively with coworkers to coordinate work on projects.
- *Creativity.* Web developers and digital designers often are involved in creating the appearance of a website and must make sure that it is appealing as well as functional.
- *Customer-service skills.* Webmasters have to respond politely to user questions and requests.
- *Detail oriented.* Web developers and digital designers must focus for long periods and write code precisely, because a minor error could cause an entire webpage to stop working.
- *Problem-solving skills.* Web developers and digital designers must check for coding errors and fix any that they find.

Technology

- **Database user interface and query software:** Airtable; Blackboard software; Oracle JDBC; Transact-SQL
- **Development environment software:** Apache Ant; Apache Subversion SVN; Common business oriented language COBOL; Go
- **Object or component oriented development software:** Advanced business application programming ABAP; Apache Spark; Objective C; Scala
- **Operating system software:** Microsoft Windows Server; Oracle Solaris; Red Hat Enterprise Linux; UNIX Shell
- **Web platform development software:** Backbone.js; Microsoft ASP.NET Core MVC; React; Spring Framework

Opportunities for Advancement

- Web developers and digital designers who have a Bachelor's degree may advance to become project managers and computer and information systems managers.

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 Web Developer and Digital Interface Designer. Some programs may require additional preparation and completion of prerequisites

County	Programs
King County	- Apprenti (https://apprenticareers.org/locations/washington/) - Bellevue College (https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/) - Cascadia College (https://www.cascadia.edu/) - City University of Seattle (https://www.cityu.edu/) - Code Fellows (https://www.codefellows.org/) - Coding Dojo (https://www.codingdojo.com/campus/washington-coding-bootcamp) - Computing for All (https://www.computingforall.org/) - DigiPen Institute of Technology (https://www.digipen.edu/) - Epicodus, Inc (https://www.epicodus.com/) - Flatiron School (https://flatironschool.com/) - Galvanize, Inc.(https://www.galvanize.com/) - General Assembly (https://generalassemb.ly/browse) - Green River College (https://www.greenriver.edu/) - Highline College (https://highline.edu) - Lake Washington Institute of Technology (https://www.lwtech.edu/) - North Seattle College (https://northseattle.edu/) - Renton Technical College (https://https://www.rtc.edu/) - Seattle Central College (https://seattlecentral.edu/) - Seattle Pacific University (https://spu.edu/) - Seattle University (https://www.seattleu.edu/) - Shoreline Community College (https://shoreline.edu) - South Seattle College (https://southseattle.edu/) - STEP Computer Academy (https://itstep.us/) - University of Washington/Bothell (https://www.uwb.edu/) - University of Washington Professional And Continuing Education (https://www.pce.uw.edu/) - Western Governors University Seattle (https://www.wgu.edu/washington.html)
Kitsap County	Olympic College (https://www.olympic.edu/)
Pierce County	- Bates College (https://www.batestech.edu/) - Clover Park Technical College (https://www.cptc.edu/) - Pierce College (https://www.pierce.ctc.edu/)
Snohomish County	Edmonds College (https://www.edmonds.edu/)

- Everett Community College (https://www.everettcc.edu/)

Resources to Scholarships and Assistance Programs
- **Washington State Opportunity Scholarship:** https://www.waopportunityscholarship.org/about/
- **Washington College Grant**: https://wsac.wa.gov/wcg

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