

The best job



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So, you are looking for a job. Not any job, but the best one. Are your expectations for your next job too high or just about right?

It is normal to expect a few things from a future job. Some of these things are location, working schedule, salary and so on, but you have to go with the market. You have to make a good evaluation of what you are worth on the market: for example, a specialized computer scientist does not have the same value as a cashier. It is not uncommon to overestimate or underestimate your value and not apply for a given job. If this is the case, it can take a lot longer to find a job.

How do you find out what your value is? Well, there are many ways to find out. First, you can make a brief internet research and check the statistics related to professions, locations, and age. Second, you can compare different job offers to get an idea of how much you could earn based on your education and experience. Then, you can talk to employers on different occasions, such as at job fairs or information meetings, and find out more about the working conditions specific to your profession.

The Institut de la statistique du Québec compiles data on wage earnings in Quebec. Here are a few recent results that give you a general idea about what your value is. This is the hourly salary depending on the level of studies.

- \$13.62 per hour for an employee not having a high school diploma
- \$16.09 per hour for an employee who has a high school diploma
- \$17.57 per hour for an employee who has post-secondary education
- \$25.60 per hour for an employee who completed an university degree

Here are the salaries according to age groups:

- \$10.85 for the 15-24 years old, all education levels
- \$19.24 for the 25-44 years old, all education levels
- The 15-24 age group works an average of 27.8 hours per week, whereas the 25-44 group works an average of 37.1 hours per week.

Finally, we can say that education and professional experience have a lot to say. You have to demonstrate your capabilities, and this can be done by accepting a job that is not as well paid, a work environment that is somewhat far from your home or with less interesting working hours and few social benefits for the first couple of years. These sacrifices will be worth it in the long run.

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