CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS MAJORS

SUMMARY
Information Systems is the study of computer principles and techniques and their application to a wide variety of organizational and managerial needs. Information systems (IS) professionals understand how computerized business methods, procedures and techniques can enable organizations to streamline operations and compete more successfully in the marketplace.

SKILLS & ABILITIES OF THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS MAJOR

- **Mathematics**— Using mathematics to solve problems
- **Attention to Detail**— Accomplishing tasks by considering all areas involved, no matter how small; showing concern for all aspects of the job; accurately checking processes and tasks; being watchful over a period of time
- **Teamwork**— Actively participating as a member of a team to move the team toward the completion of goals
- **Organizational**— Establishing courses of action for self and others to ensure efficiency
- **Oral and Written Communication**— Clearly conveying information and ideas through a variety of media to individuals or groups in a manner that engages the audience and helps them understand and retain the message
- **Reading Comprehension**— Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work documents
- **Critical Thinking**— Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems

POTENTIAL CAREERS

- Application Developer
- Computer Services Director
- Data Processing Manager
- Database Administrator/Specialist
- Information Systems Manager or Director
- IT Specialist/Manager/Director
- Network Administrator
- Network Data and Voice Engineer
- Security Analyst
- Software Tester
- Supply Chain Systems Analyst
- Systems Administrator
- Technical Services Manager or Director
- Technological Support
- Telecommunications Specialist
- Web Developer

TYPES OF EMPLOYERS

- Computer (Design) Company
- Corporations (Management)
- Insurance Carriers
- Colleges and Universities
- Software Publishers
- Computer System Designers
- Data Processing and Host Companies
- Financial Investment Firms
- Security & Commodities Exchanges & Contracts
- Petroleum Manufacturing
EARNINGS

The median annual wage of 2015 Xavier MIS Graduates 0-6 months post-graduation was $51,666. For those having an average of 5 years of experience in this field, 2015 labor reports indicate a medium wage of $127, 640, increasing steadily year over year. Median annual wages in the industries employing the largest numbers of information system specialist in 2015 were:

- Computer System Analyst- $85,800
- Computer Network Architect- $100,240
- Computer System Engineer/Architect- $85,240
- Technical Directors/Managers-$68,440
- Software Developer-$98,260

ACTIVITIES ON THE JOB

- Manage information technology projects and coordinate activities
- Implement enterprise-wide solutions to information problems
- Develop computer information resources, providing for data security and control, strategic computing, and disaster recovery
- Technical training
- Manage backup, security and user help systems
- Design and administer databases and data warehouses
- Develop and interpret organizational goals, policies, and procedures
- Consult with users, management, vendors, and technicians to assess computing needs and system requirements
- Technical writing
- Manage telecommunications efforts

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Association of Information Technology Professional: www.aitp.org
- Association for Information Systems (AIS): www.aisnet.org
- International Association for Computer Information Systems (IACIS): www.iacis.org
- Information Systems Security Association (ISSA): www.issa.org
- National Telecommunications & Information Administration www.ntia.doc.gov
- Computers & Communications Industry Association http://www.cccanet.org/
- Xavier University Information Systems Student Club