Commercial Pilot License


Description and Labor Market Information
A commercial pilot licence permits the holder to act as a pilot of an aircraft and be paid for his/her work, such as cargo pilots, tour pilots, or backcountry pilots. This does not qualify someone to fly commercial transport flights for major airlines. For that certification, please see Airline Transport Pilot License.

This credential was associated with 9 occupations that were identified as well-paying and in demand. Overall, those occupations represent 10,364 positions with 1,163 annual openings within the state and median hourly earnings of $40.50.

Sample Occupations

Commercial Pilots
- Median Hourly Earnings: $41.39
- Typical Entry Level Education Requirement: High school diploma or equivalent
- Total Positions: 381
- Annual Job Openings: 45

Airline Pilots, Copilots, and Flight Engineers
- Median Hourly Earnings: $82.62
- Typical Entry Level Education Requirement: Bachelor's degree
- Total Positions: 1,169
- Annual Job Openings: 132

Transportation Inspectors
- Median Hourly Earnings: $36.10
- Typical Entry Level Education Requirement: High school diploma or equivalent
- Total Positions: 179
- Annual Job Openings: 19

Certifying Entity Information
Federal Aviation Administration
Website: www.faa.gov
Phone: (866) 835-5322

Local Availability:
There are multiple local flight schools offering flight certification programs in Hawai'i. Please see: https://www.gaHawai'i.com/flight-schools-aviation-training/.

Exam Details
- Age Requirement: N/A
- Coursework/Hours to Complete: 250 hours of flight time which can be obtained in 6 to 24 months
- Length of Certification Validity: N/A
- Exam Cost: $150
- Exam Time: N/A
- Number of Questions: 100
- Pass Rate: N/A
This project has been a joint effort between Kamehameha Schools, the Chamber of Commerce Hawai‘i, University of Hawai‘i P-20, and the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation.

Students in Hawai‘i can earn hundreds of industry-recognized credentials right now. Thousands of students are investing time and resources to achieve these credentials with the hope they will lead to a career that enables them to live and thrive in Hawai‘i. But how effective are these programs at preparing Hawai‘i students for future careers and long-term success?

Promising Credentials in Hawai‘i, a first-of-its-kind analysis for our state, looks at whether the credentials students can earn actually matter in the real world to local employers.

Through intensive labor market analysis and outreach to local Hawai‘i businesses, this project has identified 137 Promising Credentials that are associated with in-demand, living wage occupations throughout the state. The process began with identifying 274 Promising Occupations that met wage and demand thresholds. A list of corresponding credentials for the 274 occupations was then compiled using job postings data. Finally, Hawai‘i employers from across the state completed surveys and participated in focus groups to narrow the list of nearly 2,000 credentials down to the 137 credentials they say matter most when making hiring and promotion decisions.

The resulting Promising Credentials were identified as relevant in hiring and promotional decisions for multiple in demand and well-paying occupations within the state. A detailed one-page summary of each of these Promising Credentials has been organized for student, school, and community use.

The comprehensive report and associated data can be found at www.HawaiiCareerPathways.org.