

CAREER QUICK FACTS: HUMAN RESOURCES



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA
Career Center

Human Resources professionals work within organizations, businesses, non-profits, government agencies, etc. to manage and support an organization's workforce. They recruit, screen, and interview applicants; handle hiring and onboarding; manage employee relations, compensation and benefits; coordinate training and development; and often serve as a bridge between employees and management. Their work helps ensure that the organization attracts, retains, and supports talented workers, maintains a healthy workplace environment, and complies with labor laws and policies.

Important Skills/Knowledge:

- Recruitment and interviewing skills
- Knowledge of compensation & benefits administration, labor laws, employment policies, organizational structure
- Resolving conflicts, facilitating onboarding and orientation/Intervention planning and implementation
- Record-keeping, coordinating HR processes, managing paperwork
- Training & development / employee relations / performance management skills

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

How do I work in Human Resources?

Most HR specialists start with a bachelor's degree in human resources, business, management, psychology, or a related field. Some may further specialize with HR-focused training, certifications (professional HR certificates), or master's degrees (especially for leadership/managerial HR roles), depending on employer expectations. HR often values strong interpersonal, organizational, and communication skills even at entry level.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Career Outlook*

Projected Job Growth 2024-2034: 6%

- Average job growth for all occupations is 3%

Median Annual Salary: \$72,910

- Median salaries represent the exact middle point of salaries for this career (half are higher, half are lower).
- This data applies specifically to the field of human resources.
- Related fields such as training managers or customer service specialists where many human resource specialists find work may have different median salaries.

*Job Outcome Data (<https://www.bls.gov>)

Possible Job Titles

- HR Specialist
- Recruiter/Talent Acquisition Specialist
- Employee Relations Specialist
- Compensation & Benefits Coordinator
- HR Coordinator
- Organizational Development Specialist
- HR Consultant



The following minors and undergraduate certificates may be helpful in pursuit of this career field.

Minors to Consider

Personal Health and Wellbeing – General Business – Law, Jurisprudence, and the State

Certificates to Consider

Nonprofit Management and Leadership – Entrepreneurship – Legal Studies – Personal and Organizational Leadership

Courses to Consider

*PSYC 4230 Psychology of the Workplace
PSYC 4210 Psychological Testing
PSYC 4250 Psychology of Prejudice
MGMT and MNML Courses*

Want to talk to a HR Specialist? Check out the UGA Mentor Program!

