



MASTER'S DEGREE SALARY REPORT 2026

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report analyzes median salaries, bachelor's-to-master's salary premiums, and 10-year employment growth projections across 20 major graduate degree fields. The findings reveal that the highest-paying fields are not always the fields where a master's degree creates the greatest financial value.

OMC RESEARCH KEY FINDINGS

+39.3%	\$249,000+	4 Fields
Largest salary premium	Lifetime earnings advantage	\$85K+ salary & 25%+ growth
Education Leadership	20-year career advantage	Data Science, Cybersecurity, Healthcare Admin, PA Studies

OMC SALARY VALUE SCORE — TOP FIELDS

Field	Score
Nurse Practitioner / MSN	A+
Healthcare Administration	A+
Data Science / Analytics	A+
Cybersecurity	A
Computer Science / IT	A
Physician Assistant Studies	A
Business (MBA)	B+
Engineering	B+
Public Health	B+
Accounting	B

SALARY SNAPSHOT — TOP 5 FIELDS

Field	Median Salary
Nurse Anesthesia (CRNA)	\$203,090
Computer Science / IT	\$109,020
Engineering	\$101,340
Finance / Financial Eng.	\$98,590
Data Science / Analytics	\$96,710

LARGEST SALARY PREMIUMS

Field	Premium
Education Leadership	+39.3%
Social Work (MSW)	+37.3%
Healthcare Administration	+34.9%
Psychology (Clinical)	+33.4%
Public Health (MPH)	+27.8%

Overall Master's Degree Premium vs Bachelor's: ~18% (\$12,480/year)

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OnlineMastersColleges.com helps students evaluate, compare, and choose graduate education options through rankings, university profiles,

subject hubs, market reports, ROI studies, salary reports, and decision-support resources.

Read the full report: <https://www.onlinemasterscolleges.com/masters-degree-salary-report/>

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