



## **Networking Occupational Outlook**

With the rapid growth in the technology and telecommunications industry, the demand for skilled professionals who can maintain information systems and develop effective and efficient procedures is growing rapidly. Careers in network management involve troubleshooting network issues, working with internet protocol technologies, analysing security measures, implementing new technologies, and modifying the end user experience for increased efficiency. Planning, controlling, and executing projects successfully is a skill that requires in-depth training and study in the field. Implementing security measures and configuring networks for optimisation are additional areas that a network management engineer may choose to specialise in.

### **What is Network Administration?**

Network administration is the set of procedures and processes used to maintain and coordinate computer and telecommunication networks. A network management engineer may be involved with a variety of tasks that help to configure, maintain and optimise the standard processes of each network. They are also involved with monitoring resources and ensuring that each area is running efficiently and effectively. Network administrators and computer systems coordinators are involved with both small- and large-scale projects involving:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local Area Network (LAN) support and maintenance</li><li>• Wide-Area Network (WAN) administration</li><li>• Network segments</li><li>• Internet maintenance</li><li>• Intranet system support and management</li><li>• Network security</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Designing and implementing a secure network</li><li>• Supporting desktops and servers</li><li>• Managing a range of databases</li><li>• Helping with web development</li><li>• Working with different operating systems and platforms</li><li>• Being proficient with Windows and Linux operating systems</li></ul>
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### **Career opportunities**

Studying network administration allow candidates to learn the basic function of networks and communications, giving them essential skills to plan, coordinate, and execute various security measures and procedures. Network courses also make use of the principles of LAN/WAN, routers, and other information technologies to build and maintain networks. Network administration specialists can work in a variety of attractive positions and may also choose to specialise in their field. Common specialisations include network operating systems such as UNIX and Windows.

Becoming a Network Engineer is only one option after completing the course. Other career opportunities in the field include:

- Networking Specialist
- Network Supervisor
- Network Technician
- Network Systems and Security Administrator
- Networking Support Specialist

- Network Administrator
- Network Systems Analyst

### **Earning potential and employment prospects**

Network training and administration courses allow candidates to use their skills and knowledge in a variety of businesses and industries. With the rise in technology and demands of both startups and corporate businesses, job opportunities for network engineers, or network security holding professionals are on the rise. Positions such as systems administrators, database analysts, Cisco networking administrators and computer technicians are growing faster than average with the increasingly data-driven economy, and computer networking training provides the foundation for many rewarding career paths.

The average annual earnings of computer support specialists are £24,403, while the earnings of network and computer systems administrators are £30,190. Salaries range depending on experience, skill level, and specialisation, and are becoming increasingly competitive across all industries with the increased demand for experts in the field.