

ST. LOUIS REGION'S AVIATION CAREERS ROADMAP

New Career Seeker

Already in the workforce but interested in exploring the aviation industry without going back to school for a four-year degree, these are the programs and initiatives to focus on to secure one of the high-paying jobs below » Apprenticeship Program with employer/educational facility — Trade School/Community College — Direct Placement

Air Traffic Controllers

STL Median: \$121,000

Coordinate the movement of aircraft to maintain safe distances between them. Sample positions:

- Tower Controllers
- Approach & Departure Controllers
- En Route Controllers

Requires: Associate or bachelor's degree through FAA-approved Air Traffic Collegiate Training Initiative program. Must be a U.S. citizen and pass medical evaluation, background check, and FAA pre-employment tests. Complete on-the-job training for first 12 months.

Outlook: 3% job growth expected in U.S., about 2,200 openings annually.

Aircraft | Avionics Equipment Mechanics | Technicians

STL Median: \$82,300

Install, test, adjust, and repair equipment and systems in aircraft. Sample positions:

- Airframe & Powerplant (A&P) mechanics
- Avionics Technicians
- Designated Airworthiness Representatives (DARs)
- Inspection Authorized (IA) Mechanics & Repairmen

Requires: Certificate from an FAA-approved program. Some enter with an associate's degree; others have a high school diploma and train on the job or in the military. Typically certified by the FAA.

Outlook: 5% job growth expected in the U.S., about 13,400 openings annually. STL MSA had 60% more jobs than similarly sized markets.

Flight | Cabin Attendants

STL Median: \$74,600

Provide routine services and respond to emergencies to ensure safety and comfort of passengers.

Requires: High school diploma/GED plus work experience in customer service. On-the-job training and FAA certification required.

Outlook: 10% job growth expected in the U.S., about 19,500 openings annually.

Transportation Security Officers

STL Median: \$51,600

Screen people and property and control entry and exit points in airports. Look for security threats and enforce travel regulations. Sample positions:

- Transportation Security Officer
- Security Support Assistants
- Law Enforcement
- Mission Support

Requires: High school diploma/GED plus on-the-job training. Must be a U.S. citizen.

Outlook: 1% job growth expected in the U.S., 4,500 openings annually.

Cargo | Freight Agents

STL Median: \$51,500

Expedite and route movement of incoming and outgoing cargo and freight shipments in airline, train, and trucking terminals and shipping docks. Sample positions:

- Air Export Specialists
- Air Export Agents
- Air Export Coordinators
- Export Coordinators
- Import Agents

Requires: High school diploma/GED plus on-the-job training.

Outlook: 10% job growth expected in the U.S., about 11,100 openings annually.

Airfield Operations Specialists

STL Median: \$48,300

Inspect and maintain airfield to ensure the safe takeoff and landing of aircraft. Respond to incidents as needed. Sample positions:

- Airfield/Airport Operations Specialists
- Airport Operations Agents/Coordinators
- Airport Operations Officers

Requires: Training in vocational schools plus related on-the-job experience, or an associate's degree.

Outlook: 5% job growth expected in the U.S., about 1,800 openings annually.

Reservation | Transportation Ticket Agents | Travel Clerks

STL Median: \$40,400

Make and confirm reservations for transportation or lodging or sell transportation tickets. May check baggage, trace lost, delayed, or misdirected baggage; direct passengers to designated concourse; examine passenger documentation to determine destinations and to assign boarding passes. Sample positions:

- Airline Ticket Agents
- Airport Sales Agents
- Customer Service Agents
- Reservation Agents
- Ticket Agents
- Tour Sales Representatives

Requires: High school diploma/GED

Outlook: 3-5% job growth expected in the U.S., 13,600 openings annually.

Aircraft Service Attendants

STL Median: \$37,700

Service aircraft with fuel. May de-ice aircraft, refill water and cooling agents, empty sewage tanks, service air and oxygen systems, or clean and polish exterior.

Requires: High school diploma/GED plus on-the-job training.

Outlook: 6% job growth expected in the U.S., about 4,100 openings annually.

