



Explore a Career as a **COMPUTER NETWORK ARCHITECT**

What do Computer Network Architects do?

Computer network architects design and build data communication networks, including local area networks (LANs), wide area networks (WANs), and intranets. These networks range from small connections between two offices to next-generation networking capabilities, such as a cloud infrastructure that serves multiple customers. Network architects must have extensive knowledge of an organization's business plan to design a network that can help the organization achieve its goals. They work with their organization's chief technology officer (CTO) to predict where the organization will most need new networks. They spend most of their time planning these new networks. Computer network architects also create models to predict future network needs by analyzing current data traffic and estimating how growth will affect the network.

Training & Educational Opportunities

You will have plenty of employment opportunities as a computer network architect, but first you will need to earn a degree. Through hands-on laboratory work in classes such as network security or database design, you will be prepared as a network architect to work with the wide array of technologies used in networks.

As a Computer Network Architect you will:

- Consider information security when designing networks
- Create plans and layouts for data communication networks
- Present plans to management and explain why they are in the organization's best interest
- Research new networking technologies
- Upgrade hardware, such as routers or adaptors, and software, such as network drivers

Computer Network Architects are in demand in Kankakee County!

Kankakee County employment of computer network architects is expected to grow through 2020. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of computer network architects is projected to grow faster than the average for all occupations.

Computer Network Architect

Training Provider

The following certified training provider offers degree programs to train for a career as a computer network architect:

- Governors State University

Career scholarships may be available if you qualify.



Types of Employers

There are many different types of companies that employ computer network architects in Kankakee County, including:

- Consulting companies
- Software companies
- Technology companies
- Universities

Wages & Openings

Computer Network Architect Employment Data for Kankakee County

Average Starting Hourly Wage	\$17.11
Average Hourly Wage With Experience	\$49.28
Average Annual Job Openings Kankakee County	~10
Average Annual Job Openings Chicago Metro	82

Opportunities

After you receive your degree as a computer network architect, you will have many opportunities for advancement. Some opportunities include:

- Computer and Information Systems Manager
- Computer Hardware Engineer
- Computer Systems Analyst
- Information Security Analyst



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