

# Food Preparation and Service Occupations

## Little or No Preparation Needed

No previous work-related skill, knowledge, or experience is needed for these occupations. These occupations may require a high school diploma or GED certificate. Some may require a formal training course to obtain a license. Employees in these occupations need anywhere from a few days to a few months of training. These occupations involve following instructions and helping others.

### Buspersons (35-9011)

Dining Room and Cafeteria Attendants and Bartender Helpers facilitate food service. Clean tables, carry dirty dishes, replace soiled table linens; set tables; replenish supply of clean linens, silverware, glassware, and dishes; supply service bar with food, and serve water, butter, and coffee to patrons.

Alaska Average Monthly Wage: \$1,655  
National Average Monthly Wage: \$1,511  
2006 Employment: 688  
Employment growth is strong with very high employment opportunities projected through 2016.

### Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers (35-3021)

Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food perform duties which combine both food preparation and food service.

Alaska Average Monthly Wage: \$1,643  
National Average Monthly Wage: \$1,449  
2006 Employment: 4,611  
Employment growth is strong with very high employment opportunities projected through 2016.

### Cooks, Fast Food (35-2011)

Cooks, Fast Food prepare and cook food in a fast food restaurant with a limited menu. Duties of the cooks are limited to preparation of a few basic items and normally involve operating large-volume single-purpose cooking equipment.

Alaska Average Monthly Wage: \$1,617  
National Average Monthly Wage: \$1,468  
2006 Employment: 362  
Employment growth is moderate with high employment opportunities projected through 2016.

### Cooks, Short-Order (35-2015)

Cooks, Short Order prepare and cook to order a variety of foods that require only a short preparation time. May take orders from customers and serve patrons at counters or tables.

Alaska Average Monthly Wage: \$2,002  
National Average Monthly Wage: \$1,687  
2006 Employment: 314  
Employment growth is low with moderate employment opportunities projected through 2016.

### Counter Attendants (35-3022)

Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession, and Coffee Shop serve food to diners at counter or from a steam table.

Alaska Average Monthly Wage: \$1,695  
National Average Monthly Wage: \$1,543  
2006 Employment: 1,255  
Employment growth is strong with very high employment opportunities projected through 2016.

### Food Preparation Workers (35-2021)

Food Preparation Workers perform a variety of food preparation duties other than cooking, such as preparing cold foods and shellfish, slicing meat, and brewing coffee or tea.

Alaska Average Monthly Wage: \$2,213  
National Average Monthly Wage: \$1,654  
2006 Employment: 2,309  
Employment growth is robust with very high employment opportunities projected through 2016.

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#### Food Servers, Nonrestaurant (35-3041)

Nonrestaurant Food Servers serve food to patrons outside of a restaurant environment, such as in hotels, hospital rooms, or cars.

Alaska Average Monthly Wage: \$2,863  
National Average Monthly Wage: \$1,766  
2006 Employment: 428  
Employment growth is moderate with high employment opportunities projected through 2016.

#### Kitchen Helpers (35-9021)

Dishwashers clean dishes, kitchen, food preparation equipment, or utensils.

Alaska Average Monthly Wage: \$1,595  
National Average Monthly Wage: \$1,480  
2006 Employment: 1,340  
Employment growth is moderate with very high employment opportunities projected through 2016.

#### Restaurant Hosts (35-9031)

Hosts and Hostesses, Restaurant, Lounge, and Coffee Shop welcome patrons, seat them at tables or in lounge, and help ensure quality of facilities and service.

Alaska Average Monthly Wage: Data Not Available  
National Average Monthly Wage: \$1,548  
2006 Employment: 702  
Employment growth is strong with very high employment opportunities projected through 2016.

#### Waiters and Waitresses (35-3031)

Waiters and Waitresses take orders and serve food and beverages to patrons at tables in dining establishment.

Alaska Average Monthly Wage: \$1,714  
National Average Monthly Wage: \$1,631  
2006 Employment: 4,271  
Employment growth is strong with very high employment opportunities projected through 2016.

### Some Preparation Needed

Some previous work-related skill, knowledge, or experience may be helpful in these occupations, but usually is not needed. These occupations usually require a high school diploma and may require some vocational training or job-related course work. In some cases, an associate's or bachelor's degree could be needed. Employees in these occupations need anywhere from a few months to one year of working with experienced employees. These occupations often involve using your knowledge and skills to help others.

#### Bartenders (35-3011)

Bartenders mix and serve drinks to patrons, directly or through waitstaff.

Alaska Average Monthly Wage: \$2,033  
National Average Monthly Wage: \$1,706  
2006 Employment: 1,812  
Employment growth is strong with very high employment opportunities projected through 2016.

*State Occupational Licensing may be required for this occupation. Information on occupational licensing can be found at the following web site:*

<http://labor.alaska.gov/research/dlo/dlo.htm>

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#### Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria (35-2012)

Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria prepare and cook large quantities of food for institutions, such as schools, hospitals, or cafeterias.

Alaska Average Monthly Wage: \$2,966  
National Average Monthly Wage: \$1,940  
2006 Employment: 941  
Employment growth is moderate with very high employment opportunities projected through 2016.

#### Cooks, Restaurant (35-2014)

Cooks, Restaurant prepare, season, and cook soups, meats, vegetables, desserts, or other foodstuffs in restaurants. May order supplies, keep records and accounts, price items on menu, or plan menu.

Alaska Average Monthly Wage: \$2,177  
National Average Monthly Wage: \$1,896  
2006 Employment: 2,205  
Employment growth is strong with very high employment opportunities projected through 2016.

#### Food Service Worker Supervisors (35-1012)

First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Food Preparation and Serving Workers supervise workers engaged in preparing and serving food.

Alaska Average Monthly Wage: \$3,144  
National Average Monthly Wage: \$2,567  
2006 Employment: 574  
Employment growth is moderate with moderate employment opportunities projected through 2016.

### Considerable Preparation Needed

A minimum of two to four years of work-related skill, knowledge, or experience is needed for these occupations. Most of these occupations require a four - year bachelor's degree, but some do not. Employees in these occupations usually need several years of work-related experience, on-the-job training, and/or vocational training. Many of these occupations involve coordinating, supervising, managing, or training others.

#### Cooks, Chefs and Head Cooks (35-1011)

Chefs and Head Cooks direct the preparation, seasoning, and cooking of salads, soups, fish, meats, vegetables, desserts, or other foods. May plan and price menu items, order supplies, and keep records and accounts. May participate in cooking.

Alaska Average Monthly Wage: \$3,749  
National Average Monthly Wage: \$3,534  
2006 Employment: 400  
Employment growth is moderate with moderate employment opportunities projected through 2016.