



CAREER PROFILE

IT Senior Director

EDUCATION/ TRAINING

- Bachelor's degree in information or computer science or a related field.
- Master's degree in information technology or a related field preferred.
- MBA (master of business administration degree) a plus.
- Internships, entry-level IT experience, and IT management experience.

SALARY RANGE⁵

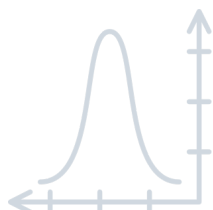
\$90,000 – \$208,000

WHO ARE THEY? 1,2,3

The senior director of IT is a professional who oversees the information technology department of an organization. As the leader of this department, the IT senior director is responsible for the management, strategy, and execution of the department's work. IT senior directors have a strong understanding of computer systems, security, network administration, data storage systems, and telecommunications systems. They are excellent project managers, have strong leadership skills, and are able to communicate with teams across an organization. They also have a thorough understanding of the particular sector their company operates in. IT senior directors tackle real-world technology challenges, evaluate new technologies, and apply business strategies to technology challenges. If you thrive on having a lot of responsibility, have an interest in staying on top of new technology, and enjoy leadership and communication, you might find success as an IT senior director!

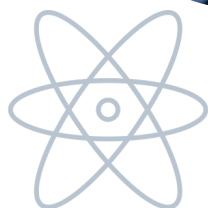
WHAT DO THEY DO? 1,2,3

Generally speaking, an organization's IT department has three focuses: 1) governance (including rules and parameters) of the company's technology systems; 2) management of all of an IT system's physical components to make sure they meet the needs of the organization; and 3) functionality and maintenance of the overall systems. While the IT senior director's specific role varies depending on the organization, he or she may be responsible for tasks including designing, implementing, and overseeing the organization's infrastructure; determining the requirements and security for IT systems; and/or leading, managing, and developing the IT staff. He or she may also serve as the liaison between the department and other areas, such as sales, operations, or customer service, of the organization. No matter what, IT senior directors will be relied on to think strategically, critically, and creatively as they support and further their organization's mission through the company's technology systems.



IT Senior Director

CAREER PROFILE (CONTINUED)



JOB OUTLOOK ^{3,4}

As in other tech fields, the job outlook for careers in IT is favorable—and working your way up the career ladder to a senior IT director is an exciting, challenging, and profitable goal. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that computer and information systems managers can expect a growth of 11% between 2018 and 2028 (which is faster than the average growth for all occupations during this time period), and demand for IT directors will continue to increase as new technology and business needs arise. Today, senior directors of IT can be found in organizations across technology and non-technology sectors as almost every organization relies on technology in some shape or form. Now more than ever, some organizations are finding that they have an increasing need for IT professionals. Retail organizations, for instance, are finding a greater need as they seek to keep their customers' financial information safe, and the healthcare industry's need for IT professionals is growing as organizations in this industry seek to improve their data management systems and overall patient care. Nearly every company around the world relies on some form of technology, and this need continues to grow.

HOW DO I BECOME ONE? ³

Senior IT directors tend to have extensive experience in both leadership and information technology, as well as a minimum of a bachelor's degree in a related area such as information technology, technology management, or business management. They typically begin their careers as lower-level IT employees and work their way up to management positions, progressing to higher-level management over the years. Those aspiring to the field should build skills in mathematics and computer science beginning in high school. Students can develop these skills by taking classes like calculus and statistics, as well as any available technology courses, such as computer applications, computer programming, computer science, or network technology. Career shadowing, internships, and other work-based learning experiences can also help students begin to connect their classroom learning and interests to real-life work!

¹ "IT Director Career and Salary Profile." Florida Tech. floridatechonline.com/blog/information-technology/it-director-career-and-salary-profile.

² "IT Director Job Description." Glassdoor. [glassdoor.com/Job-Descriptions/IT-Director.htm](https://www.glassdoor.com/Job-Descriptions/IT-Director.htm).

³ "What's it like being an IT Director?" CareerBuilder. [careerbuilder.com/advice/whats-it-like-being-an-it-director](https://www.careerbuilder.com/advice/whats-it-like-being-an-it-director).

⁴ "Information Technology Director Overview." Zippia. [zippia.com/management-information-system-manager-jobs](https://www.zippia.com/management-information-system-manager-jobs).

⁵ "Computer and Information Systems Managers." U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. [bls.gov/ooh/management/computer-and-information-systems-managers.htm#tab-5](https://www.bls.gov/ooh/management/computer-and-information-systems-managers.htm#tab-5).