

Food Packaging



What They Do

Food Packers, pack or package by hand a wide variety of products and materials, including things like meat, fish, vegetables, fruit, pre-cooked meats and drinks.

Job Duties

- Examine and inspect containers, materials, or products to ensure that product quality and packing specifications are met
- Measure, weigh, and count products and materials
- Record product, packaging, and order information on specified forms and records
- Seal containers or materials, using glues, fasteners, nails, and hand tools
- Assemble, line, and pad cartons, crates, and containers using hand tools
- Move materials, equipment, or supplies
- Load materials into equipment for processing
- Mark materials or objects for identification

Job Earnings

***U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(2019 Median Annual Salary)*

\$26,020 per year average salary
\$12.51 per hour

Education/Training

Food packaging positions typically require a high school diploma or a General Education Development (GED) certificate.

Job Outlook

While food packaging careers nation wide are projected to decline by 4% from 2018 - 2028, in New York State food packaging careers are projected to grow 6% from 2016-2026. The projected job openings in food packaging in NYS are 4,510 annually.

Food Packaging - Career Pathway

Ways to Start Preparing for Your Future Career TODAY!

1 Middle/High School Classes to Take:

- Agricultural Classes
- Family & Consumer Science
- Manufacturing Process

2 Clubs/Extracurricular Activities:

- Future Farmers of America (FFA) Club (www.FFA.org)
- 4-H (www.4-H.org)
- Culinary Camp for Students in Grades 6-9 (www.BEAGenesee.com)

3 Local BOCES/Career & Technical Education Programs:

- Genesee Valley BOCES (www.GVBOCES.org)
 - Culinary Arts (Batavia & Mt. Morris Campuses)
 - Graphic Design (Batavia Campus Only)
- Monroe2-Orleans BOCES (www.Monroe2BOCES.org)
 - Culinary Arts
- Orleans-Niagara BOCES (www.ONBOCES.org)
 - Culinary Arts
 - Graphic Communications

4 Volunteer Opportunities:

- FeedMore WNY (www.FeedMoreWNY.org)
- Foodlink (www.FoodlinkNY.org)
- Meals on Wheels (www.MealsonWheelsAmerica.org)
- GLOW Region Food Pantries & Distribution Centers (check local listings)

5 Local Colleges/Training:

- Colleges:
 - Rochester Institute of Technology (www.RIT.edu)