

CULINARY INDUSTRY MEDIAN SALARIES - 2002

Antonia Allegra, CCP, compiled the following list, which was first presented during the IACP Minneapolis conference, 2001. This is updated 2002 material.

- The sources of this research are the U.S. Government, Am. Chef Federation, C-Cap, Barbara Sims-Bell's book "Career Opportunities in the Food and Beverage Industry," and phone interviews with professionals in the field.
- All numbers on this list represent a median national range, from average low to average high, occasionally showing broad range.
- On the whole, salaries are higher in large urban areas and on east and west coasts.
- Some quotes are per year, some per hour, some per event.
- Benefits and commissions and other perks are not taken into consideration here.
- We may know individuals who are making amounts much higher than quoted salaries, but they are exceptions nationwide.
- This list represents only some roles in the culinary industry.
- The list is arranged alphabetically.

Bread baker, staff	\$22,000-\$37,000/year
Bread/pastry baker	\$6.00-\$10.00/hour
Bread/pastry baker, staff	\$18,000-\$45,000/year
Candy buyer, dept. store chain	\$42,000-\$75,000/year
Caterer, corporate	\$21,000-\$42,000/year
Caterer, independent Contractor	\$24,000-\$72,000/year
Caterer, part time	\$17.00-\$25.00/hour
Caterer, party planner	\$25.00-\$225.00/hour
Caterer, party planner independent	\$70,000-\$200,000/year
Catering cook	\$10.00-\$21.00/hour
Cheese maker	\$20,000-\$45,000/year
Chef, executive	\$38,000-\$450,000/year
Chef, hotel executive	\$40,000-\$90,000/year
Chef, restaurant sous-chef	\$18,000-\$65,000/year
Consumer Service Director (train + supervise staff to interact with customers)	\$25,000-\$75,000/year
Consultant to corporation	\$75,000-\$250,000/year
Cook, assistant, beginning level	\$5.50-\$6.50/hour
Cook, restaurant, beginning level	\$6.00-\$8.00/hour
Cookbook author	\$5,000-\$10,000/1st book –

(3,000-5,000 copies printed)	
Cookbook editor	\$27,000-\$85,000/year
Cooking school director	\$18,000-\$45,000/year
Cooking teacher (local)	\$150.00-\$750.00/demo class
Cooking teacher (traveling) (class + travel + meal + lodging)	\$300.00-\$1,800.00/class
Cooking teacher's assistant	\$6.00-\$10.00/hour
Cookware store buyer	\$30,000-\$80,000/year
Culinary Academy instructor	\$35,000-\$50,000/year
Deli cook/manager	\$16,000-\$35,000/year
Farmers Mkt. Director	\$18,000-\$80,000/year
Food editor – newspaper	\$39,000-\$61,000 dep./circulation)/yr
Food editor – magazine	\$41,000-\$80,000 dep./circulation)/yr
Food stylist	\$28,000-\$80,000/year
Foodservice corporation dietician	\$50,000-\$80,000/year
Foodwriter, staff	\$19,000-\$40,000/year
Foodwriter, trade publication	\$100.00-\$500.00/1000 wds no recipes
Freelance foodwriter	\$100 story-\$1.00 wd/1000 wds+ 3 rec.
Freelance recipe developer	\$35.00-175.00 per recipe
Gourmet/ethnic food specialist	\$22,000-60,000/year
Home Economics teacher	\$25,000-47,000/year
Hotel catering manager	\$25,000-61,000/year
Internet food editor, writer	\$23,000-57,000/year
Internet freelance writer	\$100.00-\$400.00/1000 wds+3 recipes
Kitchen designer	\$35,000-130,000/year
Lecturer, conference/keynote	\$500.00-3,000 per hour
Lecturer, local clubs	\$100.00-\$300.00/1 hour
Literary agent	15% each book, life/book
Prison chef (+other institutions)	\$20,000-45,000/year
Radio food host	\$15,000-67,000/year
Recipe developer, staff	\$25,000-63,000
Restaurant supply salesperson	\$30,000-350,000
Restaurant supply buyer	\$30,000-80,000/year
Retirement residence dietician	\$35,000-55,000/year
Salad prep worker	\$5.50-\$6.50/hr
Savory/sweet condiment maker	\$18,000-\$40,000/year
Sommelier, staff	\$25,000-\$65,000/year
Sports nutritionist	\$38,000-\$45,000/year
Supermarket manager	\$55,000-\$135,000/year
Trade magazine freelance writer	\$100.00-\$500.00/1000 wds no recipes
Trade magazine writer, staff	\$18,000-\$40,000/year
TV food host	\$17,000-\$85,000/year
Univ. food historian	\$30,000-\$61,000/year
Waitperson	\$8.00-\$10.00/hr + tips
Winemaker	\$35,000-\$68,000/year