

Web Developer

Build the websites and web apps people use every day. Cheapest way into tech, and the most crowded.

TYPICAL PAY

\$80,000

a year, full time

PAY RANGE

\$45k to \$119k

starting to experienced

TIME TO QUALIFY

1 to 4 years

after high school

DEMAND

Limited

job outlook

LICENCE NEEDED

No

anyone can do it

WHERE YOU WORK

Agencies, in-house teams, startups, remote, freelance

How you get there

- 1 High school** Grades 11 and 12
 Take computer science if your school offers it, and every math you can. Build a site for a club, a band or a family business.
- 2 Pick a route** 0 to 4 years
 A 2 to 3 year college diploma (Algonquin, Seneca, BCIT (British Columbia Institute of Technology), SAIT (Southern Alberta Institute of Technology)), a 4-year computer science degree, a bootcamp, or self-study. All four lead to jobs. The degree opens the most doors later.
- 3 Learn the core stack** Ongoing
 HTML, CSS, JavaScript, then a framework like React and a back-end like Node or Python. Git and the command line are not optional.
- 4 Portfolio and co-op** During training
 Three to five real projects online, with the code public on GitHub. Co-op terms at Algonquin pay about \$7,000 to \$10,000 a term.
- 5 First job** Weeks to months
 Junior roles are competitive. Apply widely, including agencies and non-tech companies that need a website person.

Pros and cons

- + Cheapest and fastest way into a tech salary
- + Remote work is normal
- + You can see and share what you built
- Junior jobs are crowded, and Job Bank rates Ontario, Quebec and Alberta prospects as very limited
- Website builders and AI tools are eating the simple end of the work
- Frameworks change every few years, so you never stop learning

Optional boosts

Full-stack skills. Cloud basics. Accessibility. Performance and security.

Good to know

About 28,700 web developers work in Canada

That is Job Bank's count, and only about 11% of them are over 50. It is one of the youngest occupations in the country, and demand and supply are expected to stay roughly balanced through 2033.

The web was built on free tools

Nearly everything a web developer uses is free and open source: browsers, editors, frameworks, servers. That is why a teenager with a laptop can learn the same tools the biggest companies use.

Where these numbers come from

Job Bank: Web developer, wages (updated Nov 2025)

Job Bank: Web developer, job outlook

Algonquin College: Computer Programmer diploma

BCIT: Computer Systems Technology diploma

Numbers checked September 2026. Pay figures are typical full-time annual amounts in Canadian dollars, based on Government of Canada Job Bank wage data and published salary grids. They vary by province, employer and experience. Tuition is for domestic students. Sources, links and the click-through version: <https://career.help/ca/careers/web-developer>



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