

Management Consultant

Companies hire you to study a problem they cannot fix themselves, then tell them what to do about it. Long hours, fast learning, good pay.

TYPICAL PAY

\$101,860

a year, full time

PAY RANGE

\$61k to \$172k

starting to experienced

TIME TO QUALIFY

4 to 6 years

after high school

DEMAND

Very high

job outlook

LICENCE NEEDED

No

anyone can do it

WHERE YOU WORK

**Consulting firms, client offices,
government agencies, working for...**

How you get there

- 1 High school** Grades 11 and 12
Math and statistics, economics if offered, and anything that makes you argue a point out loud. Debate and student government both count.
- 2 Bachelor's degree** 4 years
Business, economics, engineering, math, psychology or even history. Firms hire the thinking, not the subject. Keep your grades high because they screen on them.
- 3 Summer internship** 10 weeks
The single most important step. Most firms fill entry level jobs from their own summer interns, recruited in the junior year.
- 4 Analyst or associate** 2 to 3 years
Two to three years of research, interviews, spreadsheets and slides under senior people who mark up everything you write.
- 5 Promote, or leave and come back** Year 3 onward
Move up to consultant and manager, or leave for an industry job or an MBA (Master of Business Administration) and return higher.

Pros and cons

- + You learn more in two years than most jobs teach in five
- + Good pay from the first year, with a bonus
- + Opens doors into almost any industry afterwards
- Long weeks, and the deadline always wins
- Heavy travel, which wears on friendships and relationships
- You recommend changes and then leave before you see them work

Optional boosts

Pulling your own data. Financial modeling. An industry specialty. A project management credential.

Where these numbers come from

My Next Move: Management Analysts
Institute of Management Consultants USA: Certified Management Consultant
McCombs School of Business, University of Texas at Austin
Federal Student Aid

Numbers checked September 2026. Pay figures are typical full-time annual amounts in United States dollars, based on Bureau of Labor Statistics wage data and published pay scales. They vary by state, employer and experience. Tuition is for in-state students at public schools unless the card says otherwise. Sources, links and the click-through version: <https://career.help/us/careers/management-consultant>

Good to know

The government does not call it consulting

In federal wage data the job title is management analyst. If you search for consultant salaries you will find marketing noise. If you search for management analysts you will find the actual survey figures.

Most consultants work project to project

The federal occupation profile notes that most management analysts work on contract for a company for one particular project, write a proposal to win it, then move on to a new client when it is done. Stea...



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