

Supply Chain Analyst

Work out how a product gets from a factory to a shelf on time and for less money, then prove it with numbers.

TYPICAL PAY

\$82,320

a year, full time

PAY RANGE

\$51k to \$133k

starting to experienced

TIME TO QUALIFY

2 to 4 years

after high school

DEMAND

Very high

job outlook

LICENCE NEEDED

No

anyone can do it

WHERE YOU WORK

**Manufacturers, retailers,
warehouses, consulting firms, fed...**

How you get there

- 1 High school** Grades 11 and 12
 Math, statistics if offered, and any computer class. Learn spreadsheets properly, because that is the daily tool.
- 2 Bachelor's degree** 4 years
 Supply chain management, logistics, business, industrial engineering or economics. Coursework covers accounting, economics and procurement.
- 3 Internship or warehouse job** Summers
 Time spent in an actual distribution center is worth more than any elective. It teaches you why the plan on your screen does not survive a Monday.
- 4 First analyst role** 2 to 3 years
 Demand planning, inventory analysis, transportation analysis or procurement support. You learn the company's systems here.
- 5 Certification and specialization** Ongoing
 Add an industry credential and choose a lane: planning, sourcing, transportation or network design.

Pros and cons

- + Federal projections put growth at about 18 percent to 2035, much faster than average
- + Every industry needs this, so you are not tied to one sector
- + Clear path from a two year degree up into management
- You get blamed for problems caused by weather, ports and suppliers
- Busy seasons and crises mean evenings and weekends
- A lot of the day is chasing people, not analysing

Optional boosts

The SCPro (Supply Chain Professional) certification. SQL (the language used to pull data out of databases). Enterprise planning systems. Lean and Six Sigma training.

Where these numbers come from

My Next Move: Logisticians
 Bureau of Labor Statistics: Logisticians
 Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals
 USAJOBS, the official federal hiring site

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/supply-chain-analyst>

Good to know

It is one of the fastest growing business jobs

Federal projections expect employment in this occupation to grow about 18 percent over the decade to 2035, much faster than the average for all occupations, with around 26,600 openings a year.

The military invented most of this

The word logistics comes from military supply, and the federal government still employs roughly 14 percent of everyone in the occupation. Moving an army is the original supply chain problem.



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