**CHEF APPRENTICE**

Overall employment of chefs, cooks, and food preparation workers is expected to increase about as fast as the average through 2021. At higher end restaurants, the fast pace, long hours, and high energy levels required to succeed may cause some top chefs and cooks to leave for other jobs, creating job openings. Those seeking the highest paying positions will have keen competition. Employment growth will be spurred by increases in population, household income, and leisure time that will allow people to more often dine out and take vacations. Projected employment growth, however, varies by specialty. The number of higher-skilled chefs and cooks working in full-service restaurants is expected to increase more slowly than average to about as fast as average. Much of the increase in this segment, due to fast paced life styles, will come from job growth in more casual dining, rather than up-scale full-service restaurants. Certification provides valuable formal recognition of the skills of a chef or cook. The chef apprenticeship program at JCCC is sponsored by the American Culinary Federation Educational Institute and the U.S. Department of Labor. Students must successfully complete all entry-level requirements as prescribed by the Apprenticeship Committee of the American Culinary Federation Education Institute.

**Employment Information**

**Greater Kansas City Area:** In 2016, those employed in the Chef Apprentice field held an estimated 22,670 jobs in the fifteen counties that make up the Kansas City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) with 23,948 jobs projected by 2021 (+5.6%). Of those positions in 2016, 1,100 were chefs and head cooks, 7,490 were first-line supervisors of food preparation and serving workers, 8,470 were restaurant cooks, and 5,610 were food preparation workers.

**State:** In Kansas, those employed in the Chef Apprentice field held an estimated 34,334 jobs in 2016, with 35,997 jobs projected by 2021 (+4.8%). Of those, 1,622 were chefs and head cooks (1,747 projected, +8%), 10,573 were first-line supervisors of food preparation and serving workers (11,023 projected, +6%), 10,547 were restaurant cooks (11,225 projected, +6%), and 11,591 were food preparation workers.

**National:** About 3,378,417 jobs were held by those employed in the Chef Apprentice field in 2016, with 3,646,076 jobs projected by 2021 (+7.9%). Of those, 182,789 were chefs and head cooks (200,472 projected, +7%), 983,534 were first-line supervisors of food preparation and serving workers (1,051,539 projected, +7%), 1,281,774 were restaurant cooks (1,407,896 projected, +10%), and 930,319 were food preparation workers (986,169 projected, +6%).

September 2017
Salary Information

**Greater Kansas City Area:** Chefs and head cooks employed in the Greater Kansas City area earned an average hourly wage of $13.35 in 2016. Additionally, first-line supervisors of food preparation earned $13.25, restaurant cooks earned $10.64, and food preparation workers earned $9.84 per hour.

**State:** Chefs and head cooks in Kansas earned an average hourly wage of $15.11 in 2016. Additionally, first-line supervisors of food preparation earned $12.56, restaurant cooks earned $10.14, and food preparation workers earned $9.55 per hour.

**National:** Chefs and head cooks working full-time earned an average hourly wage of $17.64 in 2016. Additionally, first-line supervisors of food preparation earned $14.63, restaurant cooks earned $11.40, and food preparation workers earned $10.21 per hour.

**JCCC Placement and Salary Information**

The JCCC Office of Institutional Research conducts a follow-up study of program completers one year after completion. One-hundred percent of the graduates who responded to the follow-up study conducted during 2015-16, and were employed, were employed in a related field and reported earning an average hourly wage of $18.66.

**Note:** Salary Information for Greater Kansas City, State, and National is based on EMSI 2016 third quarter data. JCCC information for career program completers is based on data supplied by respondents to follow-up studies and is not necessarily representative of all career program completers. Other sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics