Memphis-Shelby County Schools



Fashion Design

Arts, Audio/Visual Technology, & Communications

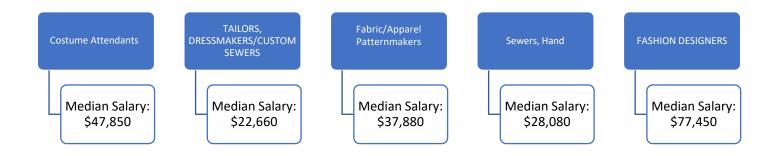
JOB OUTLOOK

Employment of fashion designers is projected to grow 3 percent from 2021 to 2031, slower than the average for all occupations. Despite limited employment growth, about 2,300 openings for fashion designers are projected each year, on average, over the decade. Most of those openings are expected to result from the need to replace workers who transfer to different occupations or exit the labor force, such as to retire.



OCCUPATION PROFILE

Fashion designers create original clothing, accessories, and footwear. They sketch designs, select fabrics and patterns, and give instructions on how to make the products they design. Larger apparel companies typically employ a team of designers headed by a creative director. Some fashion designers specialize in clothing, footwear, or accessory design; others create designs in all three fashion categories. For some fashion designers, the first step in creating a new design is researching current fashion and making predictions about future trends, such as by reading reports published by fashion industry trade groups. Other fashion designers create collections using a variety of inspirations, including art media, their surroundings, or cultures they have experienced and places they have visited.



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ROAD MAP TO SUCCESS

PROGRAM OF STUDY PROFILE

The Fashion Design program of study prepares students for further education and careers in the fashion industry. In addition to learning skills and knowledge related to the elements and principles of design, apparel manufacture and merchandising, basic marketing and product promotion, trend forecasting, and presentation, students complete a capstone project during which they design an original fashion line and create artifacts to include in a professional portfolio. Upon completion of this program of study, students will be prepared for postsecondary study and careers in fashion design and fashion merchandising. Students may gain job experience while still in high school through work-based learning.



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