Occupations Most in Demand in the Agriculture and Food Industry

Using the expanded Agriculture and Food industry as a base and looking ten years into the future, the PA Department of Agriculture believes that the occupations below will be the most in demand. Ag and Food shares many of the production jobs in Food Manufacturing with many other manufacturing industries. Some specialized career pathways, particularly in the Forestry, Lumber, and Wood Products industry, have relatively low number in total but the number of new and replacement jobs is a high percentage of the total jobs.

Where there is a link, the reader can click to view a short video of a person in the occupation at work.

o Farming and Agricultural Operations
  ▪ Farm Manager
  ▪ Dairy Herdsman
  ▪ Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians
  ▪ Farmworkers-Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals
  ▪ Farmworkers and Laborers-Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse

o Landscaping
  ▪ Landscaping and Groundskeeping Worker

• Food Manufacturing
  ▪ Food Batchmakers
  ▪ Packaging Machine Operators
  ▪ Bakers
  ▪ Butchers
  ▪ Slaughters and Meat Packers
  ▪ Meat Trimmers
  ▪ Inspectors, Testers, Samplers, and Weighers
  ▪ Industrial Machinery Mechanics
  ▪ General Maintenance and Repair Workers
  ▪ Heavy and Tractor Trailer Truck Driver
  ▪ Forklift Driver

• Forestry, Lumber, and Wood Products
  ▪ Fallers
  ▪ Logging Equipment Operator
  ▪ Sawing Machine Operator
  ▪ Team Assemblers
  ▪ Paper Goods Machine Operators
  ▪ Sales Representatives, not medical or scientific products

• Conservation and Natural Resources
  ▪ Soil and Water Conservationists
  ▪ Agriculture Technician
Animal Health and Veterinary Services
  - Veterinarians
  - Veterinary Technologists and Technicians
  - Veterinary Assistants
  - Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technician