5 Fastest-Growing Remote Jobs You May Want to Apply for Today

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INTRO

Welcome to another episode of *The Workforce Link Podcast, where we're offering forward thinking conversations for the workforce, linking employers and job seekers to a brighter tomorrow.* I'm your host Sundi Jo Graham with the Central Workforce Development Region and I'm glad to be back with you for another episode of *The Workforce Link Podcast.*

Today we're closing up Season Two of the podcast and I'm so thrilled you've spent the last two seasons with me. If you're new to the podcast, there's a lot to catch up on.

We've covered everything you can imagine this season, from learning how to overcome defeat when you didn't get the job, how to handle workplace disagreements, how to leave your job well, resume mistakes, how to write an amazing cover letter, and more. You can find all the episodes wherever you listen to podcasts or at theworkforcelink.com.

Perhaps one of the benefits of the last crazy two years living in a pandemic, is the opportunity for more remote jobs.

What's interesting is that before the pandemic, there were many employees who wanted to work remotely, but a lot of employers weren't on board. I think part of that is that they couldn't see the benefits because it was new territory.

Prior to the pandemic, only <u>6% of employees</u> were 100% remote. Crazy to think about that now, isn't it? Boy how things can change when that change is forced, huh? And we have learned that not all change is bad. Both employers and employees have gotten on board to realize that remote work is actually beneficial and productive.

As of today, according to a <u>report from *Businesswire*</u>, the anticipated growth rate of full-time, remote work over the next five years has doubled from 30% to 65%. So, with that, I'll say, employers, if you're not on board with this concept yet, now is probably the time. I understand not every job can be remote, but as we've learned, many can.

In today's episode, we're going to talk about the top 5 fastest-growing remote jobs that you may want to apply for in 2022.

But before we do that, I'd love to ask you a favor. I'd love for you to share this podcast with others. Do you know someone who needs some helping finding that dream remote job and could benefit from this episode? Let them know about this podcast. We want to help as many people as possible win in the workforce, and word of mouth is the best way to make that happen.

You and your friends can listen to *The Workforce Link Podcast* on pretty much any platform: Apple, Spotify, or right on our website at theworkforcelink.com. We're everywhere so it's easy for you to spread the word. And thanks so much for being willing to tell others about it.

So, now that we've taken care of that, let's dive into today's episode on the 5 fastest-growing remote jobs you may want to apply for today.

DISCUSSION

Before we dive into the specific jobs, I want to talk for a minute about the positive impacts of working remotely.

"The option to work from home when needed, or to try a different lifestyle without having to change jobs, is a win for everyone," says Scott Berkun, former remote team leader at WordPress.

"Successfully working from home is a skill, just like programming, designing or writing. It takes time and commitment to develop that skill, and the traditional office culture doesn't give us any reason to do that," siad Alex Turnbull, Founder and CEO of Groove.

"In the right roles and with the right people, flex does offer tremendous productivity improvement. It gives people time to process properly, and it gets them out of the office in terms of being bogged down in day-to-day admin. So there is more thought leadership that comes to the table, and that's where your creativity and innovation comes in," says Osman Khan, Co-founder and CEO of Paddle8.

My personal and professional opinion on these quotes is a resounding yes, because I've been working remotely off and on for a long time. If you're a Country Music fan, you know

that song, "I Was Country When Country Wasn't Cool" by Barbara Mandrell? Well.. I was working from home when working from home wasn't cool.

When I moved back to my hometown in 2015 to pursue ministry full-time, I was still working as the Communications Director for a non-profit. My boss Cindy, who I did an episode with last season on leadership lessons, one of my favorites, by the way, knew I had the capability to still do the job, and knew that moving back to my hometown was the right thing, so we found a way to make it work.

Then I went back into being on location full-time eventually. Before the pandemic hit, I was mostly traveling to various prisons in central Missouri teaching personal and professional development, which by the way, was one of the most life-changing opportunities I've ever been a part of. But guess what? All of a sudden, there was no more going back into the prisons.

So, for a while all of our staff were working from home. Then we started slowly integrating back into the Job Centers, but not me. I stayed at home and turned my upstairs into an office. Turns out my Communications Director skills came in handy. Because I could no longer do re-entry at the capacity I once did, my amazing boss saw a void that needed to be filled and I got a promotion. It was a win-win for everyone.

And here I am today.. Still working from home and loving it. As a matter of fact, I was looking out the window right now at snow on the ground and a hot cup of tea by my side as I was writing the notes for this episode. But it does take skill. It does take being intentional. And I believe it also produces more productive results at the end of the day. Not to mention the money I save on gas today, which would cost me a kidney if I had to drive back and forth to work everyday.

Now.. I do have to be very intentional about making sure I'm around people or else I'd go crazy. I'm a people-person. Maybe we should do an episode on how to keep your mental health in check working remotely. Like why it's important for you to get dressed everyday. Why it's important to be around people, etc. We might do that.

So, if you're looking for a remote job this year, there may be some specific categories you want to pay attention to.

According to an <u>article from Flexjobs</u>, these are the five fastest-growing remote jobs you may want to apply for today.

1) HR & RECRUITING

Do you enjoy matching others up with their dream job? This might be the opportunity for you. Not only that, but helping current team members continue in training to make the company more productive is often something this position is involved in.

Some common job titles for this position include personnel manager, recruiter, staffing consultant, and talent acquisition specialist.

2) OPERATIONS

This type of opportunity usually involves overseeing goods and services, company production, labor, and other business practices.

One of your main focuses will be to maximize the company's profits. You'll need to know the business and financial world for a position like this.

Some common job titles for this position include business operations manager, operations officer, and inventory specialist.

PROMO - CAREER CLUB

Speaking of working remotely, are you looking for career training without even having to leave the house? Good news for you, my friend. We've recently launched *The Career Club*, a virtual work experience for job seekers ages 14-24.

Here's how it works:

We assist you with job seeking skills, personal management skills, how to meet employer expectations, money management principles, good work habits, and more.

After training is complete, you'll receive job placement, allowing you to implement your newly developed skills.

And here's the cool part... You get paid while you learn. That's right. You'll receive \$13/hr while participating in the virtual training, with possible transition to a higher wage upon job placement.

This is an exciting opportunity to earn while you learn. To sign up or learn more, visit cwdregion.com/careerclub.

3) INTERNET & E-COMMERCE

A career in this field involves "working with information technology, web development, and design and social networking tools."

If you have computer skills and technical knowledge, this might be the job for you, especially if you enjoy solving problems for people.

Common job titles for this position include IT or technical support, social media specialist, SEO manager, or software engineer.

PROMO - COMPTIA

Speaking of IT, did you know that technology occupations in Missouri are projected to grow by nearly 20% from 2016-2026?

According to the CyberstatesTM 2020 report, the U.S. technology industry has added an estimated 1.9 million new jobs over the past decade. The tech sector accounts for approximately 10 percent of the total U.S. economy, making it one of the largest industries.

If you're interested in starting or growing a career in IT, you should check out the <u>Return Strong Missouri COMPTIA IT Certification training program.</u> I'm going to share the link in the show notes, because it's rather long.

4) INSURANCE

This career field is for those who love to analyze, research, and investigate things. You'll be working with illnesses, injuries, natural disasters, and more. You'll learn how to maximize safety for the company and the client. And some insurance careers involve sales.

Common job titles for this position include insurance agent and claims representative.

5) GRAPHIC DESIGN

This career field is for all of my creative friends. You get to design solutions and use your creative skills to help your company increase their bottom line visually.

If you can take your ideas and turn them into images, this might be the career for you.

Common job titles for this position include graphic designer, illustrator, and creative director.

RECAP

Well.. there ya have it. When I was a career manager, I used to ask my clients all the time, whether they were 15 or 35, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" It always made them laugh. So, I'll ask you that. What do you want to be when you grow up? Do any of these remote job opportunities fit you?

The article from FlexJobs I referred to in today's episode actually features 10 positions, but these were the top 5. They also talk about communications, social media, virtual administration, and more. I'll share the link for the full article.

The way we worked prior to the pandemic is no longer the norm. Working from home is becoming the new normal for many industries, and it's proven to offer many benefits to both the employer and the employee. Good luck in your job search.

CLOSING

I hope this episode was helpful for you today, and if so, please share with others, oh.. And if you haven't already, don't forget to go leave us a review... preferably 5-star.

If you're interested in learning what you want to be when you grow up, contact your local job center today to do a career assessment. Maybe one of these remote jobs is your next career pathway. You can find your closest Job Center at cwdregion.com/jobcenters.

Have a great week and we'll meet again in the next episode. Actually, we'll see you in season 3. Until then.. Remember this... There's always a brighter tomorrow if you're willing to find it.

Links in Today's Episode:

Remote Work Before, During, and After the Pandemic

<u>Upwork's Fourth Annual Future Workforce Report Reveals Accelerated Adoption of</u>

Independent and Remote Work Amid COVID-19

<u>Life Lessons with Cindy Shorey</u>

10 Growing Career Fields with Fully Remote Jobs

Return Strong Missouri COMPTIA IT Certification training program.

Career Club

Central Region Job Centers