Web developer

Job description

Web developers design, test and maintain the websites and web-related database systems of the company they are employed in, or the client they are working for, using an integration of skills from different backgrounds: IT, creative design and business. They are responsible for creating the look and feel of a client's or employer's website.

Web developers are familiar with programming languages such as HTML, ASP, Javascript, C++, SQL and Visual Basic. Work can vary greatly: developers working for large organisations may be involved in a single aspect, for example programming for Javascript or testing and maintenance. There are considerable opportunities for career development; as web developers gain experience they may become involved in client consultancy and project management. The ever changing IT industry demands flexibility and the ability to master new technologies.

Web developers can work in any number of arenas, including software companies, technical/e-commerce/web consultancies, retail businesses companies, and government/state organisations. For instance, some graduates might find themselves working with large software companies, designing and developing web applications; some might work for web-design companies; and others might work at consultancy level, integrating web functions as part of an overall IT package for an organisation's needs.

Work activities

- Using programming languages to develop websites and create applications.
- Generating and applying design ideas for images/graphics that meet client specifications.
- Liaising with clients.
- Ensuring the client's requirements are met.
- Working alone or as part of a team.
- Providing maintenance services for websites.
- Designing and running tests.

Work conditions

Travel: developers working for multinational companies may be required to make national or international trips.

Working hours: usually standard 9 to 5 with some extra hours around deadlines.

Location: throughout the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Multinational companies can offer overseas positions.

Entry requirements and training

Employers look for graduates of subjects such as computing/IT or web development. Numerous colleges and institutions offer postgraduate conversion courses in IT for graduates of other disciplines. Relevant experience is particularly important alongside technical skills and knowledge to secure a position.