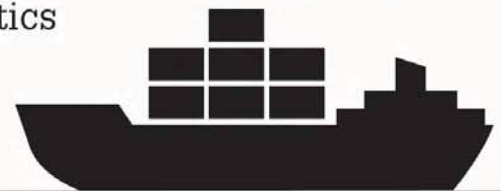




LOGISTICS MANAGER

JOB DESCRIPTION

Logistics managers coordinate the transportation and storage of products and raw materials, liaising with suppliers, manufacturers, and retailers to ensure customers receive the goods they order. The rise of e-commerce—the sale of goods via electronic systems, such as the Internet—has increased demand for stock control and delivery services, making logistics managers crucial to today's economy.



SALARY

Logistics manager ★★★★★

Senior logistics manager ★★★★★

INDUSTRY PROFILE

Increasing demand for logistics managers due to rapid expansion of the sector • Advances in computerized stock ordering and management have revolutionized the field of logistics

CAREER PATHS

Careers in logistics have been transformed by new technologies, such as online ordering and real-time tracking of goods. Entry-level roles may involve managing distribution, warehousing, Information Technology (IT) systems, or individual contracts with customers. These lead to senior positions in management and in planning distribution networks.

APPRENTICE You can gain work experience by participating in internships or apprenticeships, which are offered by many employers. You can supplement this with a combination of college-level courses and private study.



GRADUATE You can apply for entry-level positions with a degree in any discipline. However, subjects such as logistics, business, transportation, or geography can boost your chances of landing a job.



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

MANAGER Works on the commercial development of a logistics company, negotiating new contracts, seeking new business opportunities, and increasing orders from existing customers.



LOGISTICS MANAGER To ensure your company's business is run efficiently, you must use IT systems to monitor stock levels, fuel costs, and estimated supply times continually. With experience, you can work in a range of industries, such as mining and oil.

SKILLS GUIDE



Excellent communication skills to keep suppliers and customers fully informed.



Effective team-working for coordinating the work of every member of the supply chain.



Strong leadership abilities to motivate a range of people—from truck drivers to managers.



Sharp analytical skills and a logical approach for effective scheduling and stock control.



The ability to use computerized systems efficiently for tracking goods, supply levels, and costs.



LOGISTICS CONSULTANT Provides specialized services, often on a freelance basis, helping firms to plan and set up supply chains and advises on global transportation networks.



QUALITY MANAGER Focuses on minimizing shipment errors, delays, and goods damaged in transit. Quality managers also review the supply chain to identify areas that can be improved.



Government and the military rely on logistics managers for moving personnel and supplies.

RELATED CAREERS

- ▶ **TRANSPORTATION PLANNER** *see pp. 218–219*
- ▶ **CRANE OPERATOR** Uses a crane to load containers and items of cargo on and off ships, trucks, and trains, to be transported locally or around the globe.
- ▶ **HUMANITARIAN AID WORKER** Manages the collection, transportation, and delivery of food, clothing, medicines, and other vital supplies to people following natural disasters or during conflicts.
- ▶ **PURCHASING MANAGER** Buys in any product or service required for a business to help it to carry out its core activities.

AT A GLANCE



YOUR INTERESTS Mathematics • IT • Planning • Business studies and efficiency • Management • Geography • Languages



ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS Most logistics manager positions require a degree, but it is possible to start as an assistant and work your way up.



LIFESTYLE Large logistics firms operate around the clock, so logistics managers may be required to work full-time hours in shifts.



LOCATION Mostly office-based, but logistics managers may also need to visit warehouses and suppliers during the working week.



THE REALITIES Travel, sometimes to international destinations, is common. Long hours are often required, but the rewards can be generous.