

Architecture Careers — Comparable Evidence



NAME _____

DATE _____

PERIOD _____

Read the Labels

All pay figures below are **May 2024 U.S. median annual wages from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics**. Median is not starting pay, DFW pay, or a guarantee.

CAREER	WORK PRODUCT	COMMON PREPARATION	MAY 2024 U.S. MEDIAN
Architect	Plans and designs structures; coordinates project requirements	Bachelor's degree is the BLS typical entry education. Registration requirements vary; common Texas structure includes approved education, documented AXP experience, and ARE.	\$96,690
Drafter	Converts designs into technical drawings with CAD software	Associate's degree is the BLS typical entry education; certificate or diploma routes also exist.	\$65,380
Interior Designer	Plans functional, safe, and attractive interior spaces and documents selections/layouts	Bachelor's degree is the BLS typical entry education; registration rules vary by work and jurisdiction.	\$63,490

Sources accessed August 2026: BLS Occupational Outlook Handbook profiles for Architects, Drafters, and Interior Designers; NCARB/Texas sources for architecture registration structure.

Compare the Work and Preparation

For each career, record one work product, the common preparation, and one boundary. Use short phrases, but keep the meaning accurate.

Architect

Work product: Preparation: Boundary:

Why the boundary matters:

Drafter

Work product: Preparation: Boundary:

Why the boundary matters:

Interior Designer

Work product: Preparation: Boundary:

Why the boundary matters:

One preparation difference that matters to me:

Compare the Salaries

Keep the label with every figure.

RANK	CAREER	MAY 2024 U.S. MEDIAN	DIFFERENCE FROM THE NEXT CAREER
1			
2			
3			—

What can this evidence support?

What can it **not** support about DFW, starting pay, or a guarantee?

Optional Xello local cross-check: occupation _____ geography _____ measure _____ date/year
_____ value _____

Evidence-Based Recommendation

Fictional Jordan values design and wants to compare the amount/type of preparation before choosing a career to investigate further.

Frame: I recommend [career]. Salary evidence: [figure and full label]. Preparation evidence: [fact]. This matters because [reason]. One limitation is [question].

My recommendation: _____

Salary evidence with complete label:

Preparation evidence:

Why these two pieces of evidence support the recommendation:

One limitation or question Jordan should investigate next: