



Photo of servers in the Enterprise Data Operations Center

consumer electronics, such as cell phones, and into other products that are now computerized, such as appliances. An increase in software offered over the Internet should lower costs and allow more customization for businesses, also increasing demand for software developers.



OPEN FOR BUSINESS

"I encourage all students to consider a career in IT. This rewarding field offers many options and almost guarantees a well-paying job after graduation that will help Maine's economy grow."

For More Information on
OIT Tech Night: e-mail
TechNight.OIT@maine.gov

OIT Tech Night

WWW.MAINE.GOV/OIT/TECHNIGHT
MARCH 14, 2013

INFORMATION FOR
EDUCATORS



Office Of Information Technolog



WE DO IT

JOB OUTLOOK

(Excerpt from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13 Edition)

Employment of software developers is projected to grow 30 percent from 2010 to 2020, much faster than the average for all occupations. Employment of applications developers is projected to grow 28 percent, and employment of systems developers is projected to grow 32 percent.

The main reason for the rapid growth is a large increase in the demand for computer software. Mobile technology requires new applications. Also, the healthcare industry is greatly increasing its use of computer systems and applications. Finally, concerns over cybersecurity should result in more investment in security software to protect computer networks and electronic infrastructure.

Systems developers should see new opportunities because of an increase in the number of products that use software. For example, computer systems are built into

WHO ARE WE?

The Office of Information Technology (OIT) is responsible for the delivery of safe, secure, and high-performing networks and systems to State Agencies for daily performance of their missions for the citizens of Maine. Jim Smith, CIO

OIT supports several different types of technology from GIS mapping, mobile devices for the game wardens, snowplow technology and toughbooks for the State Police cars.

WHY TECH NIGHT?

We recognize that high school and college students often do not know much about Information Technology careers or they may have a very narrow view. As a result of the challenging economy, many schools have had to reduce their technology focused courses.

OIT's goal is to educate students to the possibilities of Information Technology as an exciting and very viable career path. In addition to talking about the technology aspects, we also stress the importance of teamwork, collaboration, creative problem solving and endless learning opportunities.

This event is fun and interactive. We keep the group fairly small (30-40 students) and involve them in activities that allow them to meet members of our agency, learn about some of the technology that the different agencies use throughout the State and give them a chance to experience some of those technologies directly through hands-on activities.

WHAT CAN MY STUDENTS AND I EXPECT?

The event begins at 3:30 with a welcome note from Jim Smith, CIO followed by a Technology Fair that displays a variety of technologies that the State utilizes. The Tech Fair is staffed by OIT employees who will demonstrate technology and talk with students about IT careers as they browse the exhibits. We have a display of vintage equipment, multiple demos as well as other items planned.

4:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Students participate in a variety of activities including:

- A pizza dinner – the students have a chance to mingle and talk to each other as well as OIT volunteers.
- Analytical Exercise – students will work in a team to analyze a problem and come up with a solution.
- Student Challenge – students continue to work in teams and are given a set of materials and a deadline for building the best tower they can.
- Forensics Exercise – students will work in a small teams to learn about computer safety; just because you deleted it, doesn't mean it's gone!



WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT BEFORE THE EVENT?

Your OIT contact person will be available to you for any questions you have.

Once we have the participating student names and email addresses, we will send each of them a welcome email that will include specifics for the event plus a link to our Tech Night website (www.maine.gov/oit/technight). This site will provide additional information about the OIT volunteers.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

If you would like your students to take part in Tech Night, we will hold spots for them. We expect a wide variety of students to participate, from those who are already interested in technology, math and science to those who may not yet be aware of IT as a career. Please use the criteria below when considering students to select:

- Inquisitive – not afraid to ask questions
- Creative/innovative
- Learner – likes to jump into new things
- Natural problem solver
- Technical aptitude or interest

PLEASE JOIN US!

We anticipate that student attendance will be significantly better when they are accompanied by a teacher or another adult. Please arrange for your students to have an adult chaperone.