



SPECIAL  
FEATURE

# Career prospects as a manager

‘Managers’ are the second largest occupation by employment, comprising about 18% (more than 300,000 jobs) of the labour market. There are managers in all industries and fields. There can be several levels of managers in an organisation, depending on its size. Not surprisingly, the range of managers’ roles is huge.

Nevertheless, in general, the demand for managers is expected to grow moderately well, and the chances of getting a job are good for those who already have management experience. Promotion within a business is the most likely path to management. So, crucially, management is not a career people generally enter directly after completing studies, but one they enter after gaining some experience in other roles. That experience can also come from different fields and industries, which means experienced managers can readily move from one organisation to another.

## What a manager does

Managers plan and organise the operations of private and public sector organisations. They are often responsible for staff, managing the performance review process, and setting tasks. They may also be responsible, however, for particular projects or products with few or no directly reporting staff.

Managers usually have budget approval responsibilities and lead meetings with their own staff or project teams. Managers are also called on to provide day-to-day leadership and decision-making, as well as have a vision for where their area should be heading.

Managers are often involved in recruiting staff and in representing their organisation at external meetings and other events.

## A huge range of roles

Managers operate at all levels, from, say, managing a local takeaway through to being chief executive of a multinational company. There are managers in all industries and fields, and there can be several levels of more senior and less senior managers, depending on the size of the organisation. There is a huge range of different management roles. That is why you will find many of the occupations covered in this guide will have a comment along the lines of how success and experience in a job can lead to management. Here is a sample of managers’ roles that are available:

- › Chief Executives, General Managers and Legislators
- › Farmers and Farm Managers
- › Advertising, Public Relations and Sales Managers
- › Business Administration Managers
- › Construction, Distribution and Production Managers
- › Education, Health and Welfare Services Managers
- › ICT Managers
- › Miscellaneous Specialist Managers
- › Accommodation and Hospitality Managers
- › Retail Managers
- › Miscellaneous Hospitality, Retail and Service Managers.

## Talent plus experience...

Most managers enter management by being really good in their non-management field. For instance, a policy analyst

