

THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
***CAREER
 CENTER***

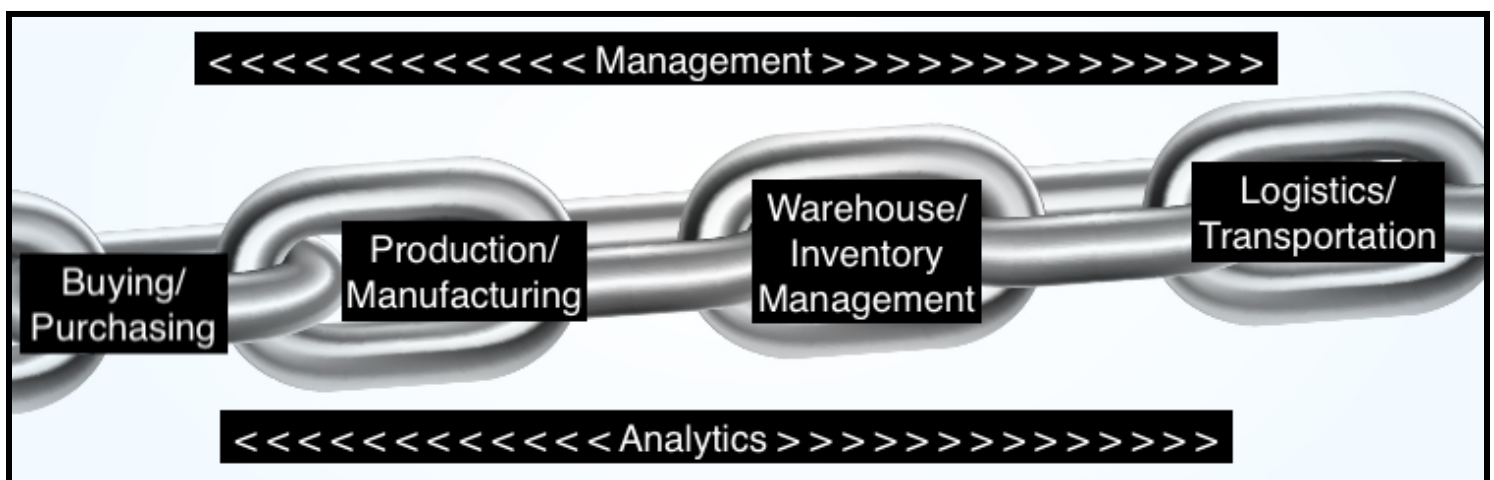
Careers Paths in Supply Chain & Logistics

Supply Chain Management involves overseeing the entire flow of goods and services—from procurement and production to distribution and delivery to the end customer. Careers in this field leverage technology and strategic thinking to optimize efficiency and effectiveness across various functions.

There are two important elements to consider as you consider a career in Supply Chain Management: **Industry & Function**. Supply chain roles exist in countless different **industries**, for example:

- Aerospace
- Apparel
- Automotive
- Consumer & Packaged Goods
- Construction
- Energy
- Medical
- Government
- Retail & E-commerce
- Food & Beverage
- Pharmaceuticals
- Technology & Electronics

Within any of the above industries, various **functional roles** exist, ranging from purchasing materials/ingredients for the product, to delivering it to the end customer. The major functional categories are represented below, with management and analytics existing throughout the supply chain:



The following list of **examples of job titles** represents a wide variety of roles within functional areas that may exist within any given industry, though **exact titles and roles may vary** between industries and employers:

Buying and Purchasing Roles:

- Buyers or Planner
- Contract Administrator
- Contract Specialist
- Purchasing Agents or Manager
- Procurement Specialist
- Contracts Manager
- Purchasing Coordinator
- Sourcing Specialist
- Procurement Manager
- Materials or Sourcing Manager
- Commodity or Vendor Manager
- Director of Procurement
- Procurement Category Manager

Production and Inventory Management:

- Production Planners
- Master Schedulers
- Production Control Managers
- Inventory Coordinators
- Supply Chain Specialists
- Demand Planners
- Supply Chain Planners
- Materials Planners

Logistics and Distribution Management Roles:

- Logistics Specialist
- Warehouse Supervisor
- Warehouse Manager
- Supply Chain Manager
- Logistics Manager
- Transportation Manager
- Transportation Specialist
- Warehouse Shift Supervisor
- Distribution Manager

General and Operations Management Roles:

- Operations Manager
- General Manager
- Product Owner
- Directors of Operations
- District Managers
- Assistant General Managers
- Area Manager

Analytics:

- Supply Chain Analysts
- Procurement Analysts
- Logistics/Transportation Analysts
- Inventory Analysts
- Operations Analysts
- Cost Analysts (Supply Chain)
- Risk Analysts (Supply Chain)

Primary Supply Chain Skills

- **Demand Forecasting:** Predict future customer demand by analyzing historical sales data, market trends, and economic indicators.
- **Inventory Management:** Monitoring and controlling inventory levels to ensure products are available to meet customer demand without excess surplus.
- **MS Excel:** Intermediate to advanced proficiency including the following functions: absolute reference, insert formula in cell, Vlookup, pivot table
- **Supplier Relationship Management:** Establishing and nurturing strong relationships with suppliers to secure a reliable and cost-effective supply of materials.
- **Logistics Coordination:** Planning and managing the transportation, warehousing, and distribution of goods to ensure timely, efficient, and cost-effective delivery.
- **Procurement:** Identifying, evaluating, and acquiring goods and services from external sources.
- **Data Analysis:** Analyze complex data sets to uncover patterns, inefficiencies, and opportunities for improvement.
- **Project Management:** Planning, executing, and closing supply chain projects within set timelines and budgets.
- **Lean Manufacturing:** Knowledge of lean principles and techniques to eliminate waste and enhance value in production processes.
- **Risk Management:** Identify, assess, and mitigate risks within the supply chain.
- **Compliance and Regulatory Knowledge:** Understanding of local and international laws, regulations, and standards that impact the supply chain, including trade regulations, safety standards, and environmental policies.
- **Customer Service Orientation:** Meet and exceed customer expectations through efficient supply chain practices.
- **Technological Proficiency:** Familiarity with supply chain management software and tools, such as ERP systems, Warehouse Management Systems (WMS), and Transportation Management Systems (TMS).
- **Negotiation Skills:** Abilities to secure favorable terms and conditions with suppliers and other stakeholders.
- **Strategic Planning:** Develop and implement long-term strategies for supply chain optimization.
- **Communication Skills:** Clear and concise verbal and written communication skills to effectively interact with internal teams, suppliers, customers, and other stakeholders.
- **Problem-Solving:** Ability to quickly address and resolve supply chain issues.
- **Sustainability Practices:** Implementing sustainable practices within the supply chain to reduce environmental impact and promote social responsibility.

Exploration and Networking Resources

- **Supply & Logistics Management Association (SLMA):** School of Business club supporting students studying supply chain management and logistics
pdx.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/supply-and-logistics-management-association
- **What Can I do With a Degree in Supply Chain Management:** University Career Center Tool
<https://www.pdx.edu/careers/what-can-i-do-degree-supply-logistics-management>
- **CONNECT with your School of Business Career Coach:** <https://bit.ly/3STZFi4>
- **PSU School of Business Supply Chain Management Career Outcomes:** Employment data from recent graduates: www.pdx.edu/business/undergraduate-career-outcomes#supply-chain
- **NIGP: The Institute for Public Procurement:** <https://www.nigp.org/>
NIGP has been developing, supporting, and promoting the public procurement profession through premier educational and research programs, professional support, technical services, and advocacy initiatives.
- **The Association for Supply Chain Management (ASCM):** <https://www.ascm.org/>
ASCM provides professional development opportunities for supply chain professionals. In addition to the national organization, there is a Portland chapter: <https://oregon.ascm.org/>
- **Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals (CSCMP):** www.cscmp.org
The Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals has information about supply chain careers on its website. Student membership (\$25 per year) will give you access to information about jobs with CSCMP member firms, scholarship information, access to a database of summer internship opportunities, and online access to a broad array of industry publications.

Technical Skills & Where to Acquire Them

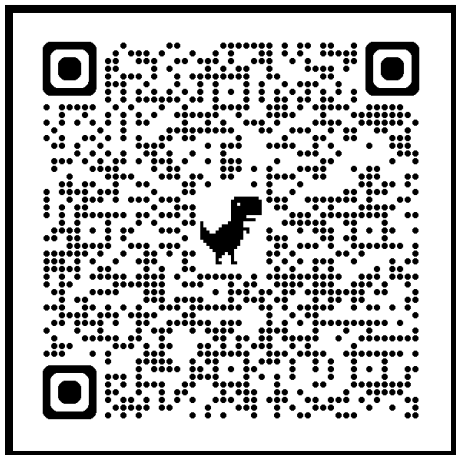
Key Software / Technologies:

▪ MS Excel ▪ Python ▪ Tableau ▪ R Studio ▪ SQL ▪ Power BI ▪ ERP ▪ TMS ▪ WMS

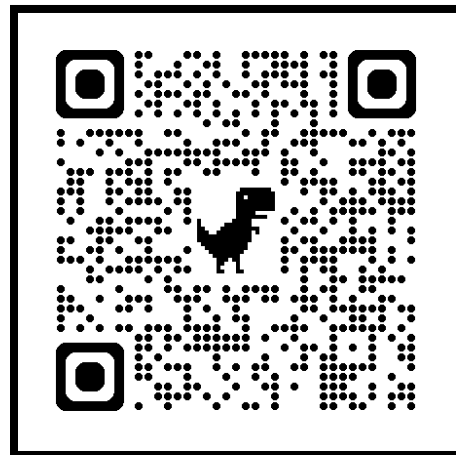
Learning Resources:

▪ [LinkedIn Learning](#) (Free w/ MCL) ▪ [Coursera](#) ▪ [Udemy](#) ▪ [edX](#) (free) ▪ [Forage](#) (free)

Link to Careers in Supply Chain Slides:



Link to Careers in Supply Chain Video:



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