

# Coaches and Scouts

SOC: 27-2022 • Career Profile Report

## ■ Key Facts

**\$45,920**

Median Salary

**306,500**

Employment

**+6.0%**

Growth Rate

## ■ Requirements & Salary Range

**Education:** Bachelor's degree

## ■ Automation Risk Assessment

**Low Risk** - 15.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job is relatively safe from automation due to its creative, social, or complex problem-solving requirements.

## ■■ Work-Life Balance

**7.6/10** - Good work-life balance

## ■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	5.0/10	Investigative	5.6/10
Artistic	9.6/10	Social	7.4/10
Enterprising	6.2/10	Conventional	4.4/10

## ■ Top Skills Required

Communication skills, Decision-making skills, Dedication, Interpersonal skills, Leadership skills, Resourcefulness

### ✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

### ■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

## ■ What They Do

Coaches and Scouts are sports professionals who develop **athletic talent, strategy, and performance** at amateur, collegiate, and professional levels. Coaches train athletes and teams to improve skills, conditioning, and tactics, while scouts evaluate players' abilities and potential for recruitment or advancement. Together, they shape competitive success by blending instruction, analysis, and mentorship.

This career is well suited for individuals who are passionate about sports, enjoy teaching and evaluation, and thrive in competitive, performance-driven environments.

## What Do Coaches and Scouts Do?

Coaches and scouts focus on performance improvement and talent identification.

Common responsibilities include:

- Planning and leading practices, drills, and training sessions
- Teaching sport-specific techniques and strategies
- Evaluating athlete performance during practices and competitions
- Analyzing opponents and game footage
- Developing training plans for skill, strength, and conditioning
- Scouting athletes at games, tournaments, or showcases
- Communicating feedback to athletes, parents, or management

## Types of Coaches and Scouts

Roles vary by sport, level, and specialization:

- Head Coaches: Lead teams, set strategy, and manage staff.
- Assistant Coaches: Support training, tactics, and player development.
- Position or Skills Coaches: Focus on specific roles or techniques.
- Youth and Amateur Coaches: Emphasize fundamentals and development.
- Professional or Collegiate Scouts: Evaluate talent for recruitment or drafting.
- Advance or Video Scouts: Analyze film and performance data.

## Skills and Abilities Needed

Coaches and scouts combine sport knowledge with leadership and evaluation skills.

### ***Core Professional Skills***

### ***Personal Qualities That Matter***

## Education and Career Pathway

Paths into coaching and scouting vary widely by sport and level:

- Playing Experience: Often valuable for credibility and insight
- Bachelor's Degree (common): In sports science, physical education, kinesiology, or related fields
- Coaching Certifications: Sport- or league-specific credentials
- Assistant or Entry-Level Roles: Building experience and networks
- Advanced Roles: Progression to head coach, director, or senior scout

## Where Do Coaches and Scouts Work?

These professionals work across organized sports settings:

- Youth and Community Sports Organizations
- High Schools and Colleges

- Professional Sports Teams and Leagues
- Training Academies and Performance Centers
- National Governing Bodies and Clubs

Work often includes evenings, weekends, travel, and seasonal schedules.

## How Much Do Coaches and Scouts Earn?

Earnings vary widely by level, sport, and employer:

- Youth and Amateur Coaches: Often earn modest or part-time income
- High School and Collegiate Coaches: Earn salaries that vary by institution and role
- Professional Coaches and Scouts: May earn substantial compensation at higher levels

Income can be performance- and contract-dependent.

## Is This Career Difficult?

Coaching and scouting are demanding, competitive careers. Professionals face performance pressure, long hours, and job uncertainty tied to results. The challenge lies in developing talent consistently, making fair evaluations, and adapting strategies under scrutiny.

## Who Should Consider Becoming a Coach or Scout?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Are passionate about sports and competition
- Enjoy teaching, mentoring, and evaluating talent
- Can lead, motivate, and communicate effectively
- Are comfortable with irregular schedules and travel
- Thrive in results-driven environments

## How to Prepare Early

- Participate in sports as an athlete or volunteer coach
- Study sport rules, tactics, and performance principles
- Gain experience assisting teams or scouting events
- Earn relevant coaching certifications
- Build communication, leadership, and analysis skills

**Coaches and scouts shape athletic success by developing skills, identifying potential, and guiding competitors toward peak performance—turning preparation, insight, and leadership into winning outcomes on and off the field.**