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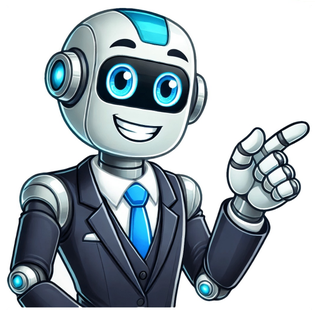

Nov 17 / Alen Faye Crisostomo, BS, RPm Choosing a career isnt just about earning a paychecks about finding fulfillment, purpose, and opportunities for growth. For those considering becoming a Registered Behavior Technician (RBT), the question often arises: Is it worth it? The answer lies in understanding the unique rewards and challenges of this role. Lets dive into why many find this career worthwhile and the factors you should weigh before making a decision. As of Nov 7, 2024, the average hourly pay for a RBT in the United States is $27.24 an hour. According to ZipRecruiter (2024), hourly wages as high as $43.27 and as low as $13.94, the majority of RBT wages currently range between $20.43 (25th percentile) to $33.41 (75th percentile) across the United States. The average pay range for a RBT varies greatly (by as much as 12), which suggests there may be many opportunities for advancement and increases based on skill level, location and years of experience. Good news? Your salary potential is also tied to your skills, location, and employer type, but here are some general trends:Starting Salary: Entry-level RBTs in the U.S. typically start at around $20 per hour, which can amount to about to $41,600 annually for full-time positions.Experienced RBTs: With a few years of experience, RBTs can see hourly wages increase to about an average of $25 per hour, especially if they work in areas with high demand or in school systems, hospitals, or private clinics. This could translate to annual salaries closer to around $52,000.Opportunities for Growth: While the RBT credential itself has a salary cap, advancing in the field to positions like Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) or obtaining other certifications can lead to higher pay. BCBAs, for example, can earn significantly more, often starting at $80,000 to $100,000+ per year.Bonuses and Overtime: Some employers offer bonuses, incentives, or overtime pay, especially for RBTs working with high-need clients or in understaffed areas, which can increase annual earnings.Work Settings: The setting also matters. RBTs in schools, private practices, or hospitals might have better benefits and pay compared to those in home health care or independent contractors. This is one of the most commonly asked questions because starting a new career path is not easy. However, we are here to help you understand why becoming an RBT is worth it!Becoming an RBT can be a rewarding career, especially for those passionate about helping others and making a positive impact, particularly in the lives of children and individuals with developmental disabilities. Here are some key factors to consider when deciding if its worth it:Job Security: There is a severe shortage of BACB certified RBTs, and so many employment options. The field is in demand due to the increasing need for autism and behavioral support services. Job stability and opportunities may be strong, especially in schools, clinics, and mental health settings.Job Satisfaction and Purpose: As an RBT, you have the chance to work directly with clients, often children, helping them develop essential skills and manage behaviors. This direct, hands-on work can be deeply fulfilling, especially if you enjoy making a difference in peoples lives.Pathway into the Field of Behavior Analysis: The RBT certification can be a good entry-level step into the broader field of behavior analysis. Its a good option if youre considering advancing your career in this area, such as becoming a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) in the future.Time and Cost for Certification:RBT certification is relatively quick and affordable to obtain compared to other certifications or degrees. Becoming an RBT requires 40-hours of training, a Competency Assessment (with a BCBA supervisor), and the RBT Certification Exam.Work-Life Balance and Flexibility:Many RBT positions offer flexibility, such as part-time work or the ability to work in various settings (schools, client homes, or clinics). However, some positions may require a lot of energy and patience, as the work can be challenging. Guaranteed Security using one of the most advanced encrypted systems on the market. The information in this page is being processed and encrypted securely using industry-leading encryption and fraud prevention tools. Skip to main content Reddit and its partners use cookies and similar technologies to provide you with a better experience. By accepting all cookies, you agree to our use of cookies to deliver and maintain our services and site, improve the quality of Reddit, personalize Reddit content and advertising, and measure the effectiveness of advertising. By rejecting non-essential cookies, Reddit may still use certain cookies to ensure the proper functionality of our platform. For more information, please see our Cookie Notice and our Privacy Policy. Nov 17 / Alen Faye Crisostomo, BS, RPm Choosing a career isnt just about earning a paychecks about finding fulfillment, purpose, and opportunities for growth. For those considering becoming a Registered Behavior Technician (RBT), the question often arises: Is it worth it? The answer lies in understanding the unique rewards and challenges of this role. 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According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the average RBT salary in the United States is around $39,610 annually and $19.05 hourly. However, in some states, the Registered Behavior Technicians earn $54,222 annually.Are you looking for a state-wise breakdown in the United States? Read this guide for state-by-state RBT salary analysis and find the highest-paying states.RBT Salary in the USA: State-wise BreakdownSr. No.StateAverage Salary (Annual)Hourly Rate1Hawaii$54,222$26.072Montana$48,478$23.313Connecticut$45,739$21.994California$45,691$21.975Massachusetts$44,348$21.326Maryland$42,515$20.447New York$42,320$20.358Washington$42,307$20.349North Dakota$42,073$20.2310New Jersey$42,006$20.2011Vermont$41,975$20.1812West Virginia$41,284$19.8513Oregon$41,135$19.7714Illinois$40,998$19.7115District of Columbia$40,866$19.6516Rhode Island$40,474$19.4617Maine$40,338$19.3918Pennsylvania$39,421$18.9520New Hampshire$39,093$18.7921Iowa$38,966$18.7322Mississippi$38,237$18.3823Nebraska$37,824$18.1824Minnesota$37,682$18.1025Delaware$36,311$17.4628Pennsylvania$36,241$17.4229Florida$36,020$17.3230Arizona$35,949$17.2831Kansas$35,752$17.1926Alaska$35,720$17.1727Nevada$34,723$16.6932Wisconsin$35,427$17.0335Texas$35,348$16.9936South Carolina$35,326$16.9837Indiana$34,902$16.7838Georgia$34,718$16.6939Ohio$34,699$16.6840South Dakota$34,530$16.6041New Mexico$34,378$16.5342Kansas$33,115$15.9243Kentucky$32,764$15.7544Nevada$32,670$15.7145Tennessee$32,320$15.5446Utah$31,055$14.9347Arkansas$30,812$14.8148Missouri$30,643$14.7349Oklahoma$30,051$14.4550Louisiana$29,478$14.1751Idaho$25,291$12.16Top 10 Highest Paying Cities for RBTsOur state-by-state breakdown reveals that RBT salaries vary significantly across the United States, and Hawaii tops the chart with the highest average salary.Additionally, we have provided data on the highest-paying cities in the USA for RBTs. Lets explore the ten cities in the USA with the highest pay for registered behavior technicians.RankCityAverage SalaryHourly Rate1Honolulu, HI$54,234$26.072Campbell, CA$46,546$22.383Worcester, MA$44,464$21.384Baltimore, MD$42,536$20.455New York, NY$42,350$20.366Lakewood, WA$42,347$20.367Lakewood, NJ$42,115$20.258Chicago, IL$41,072$19.759Saint Paul, MN$37,623$18.0910Lakewood, CO$36,340$17.47Average RBT Salary By YearOur above insights reveal that Urban Honolulu had the highest salary for RBTs. Now, lets explore how RBT salaries have grown year by year, highlighting key trends and growth rates.YearAvg. SalaryGrowth Rate2022$38,0003.60%2021$36,7002.70%2020$35,7003.70%2019$34,4002.20%2018$33,600-0.50%2017$33,8000.00%2016$33,8004.00%2015$32,400-0.60%2014$32,6005.50%2013$30,900Several factors like experience, skills, certifications, locations, demands, and additional education influence the salary of Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs). The entry-level salary for an RBT starts from an average of $16.21/hour and goes above $19/hour. Hawaii pays RBTs the most, with an average of $54,222 annually. Urban Honolulu, HI, has ranked as the highest-paying city for registered behavior technicians in the United States.The average salary of RBTs in the United States is $39,610 annually and $19.05 hourly. Mental Health Nurses lead in earnings, with a median salary of $106,812 annually. The top 10% earn $141,000, while the lowest 10% make $80,000 per year.The demand and salary for behavior technicians have increased in the past few years. If youre considering a career in advanced behavior analysis (ABA), you must be certified by BACB. Our free study guides and practice exams have helped many people score high in the RBT exam. Start your preparation today!References: The average Registered Behavior Technician (RBT) salary in the United States is around $54,000 per year. Entry-level salaries begin at around $47,000 per year.However, more experienced RBTs can earn over $66,000 per year. RBTs job growth rate over the next 10 years is 12% to 22%, which is much higher than the average job growth rate of 5%. Years of Experience RBT Hourly Rate Less than 1 year 16.21/hour 1-4 years $17.18/hour 5-9 years $18.11/hour 10-19 years $18.84/hour 20+ years $20/hour Several factors influence the amount you'll earn as an RBT, including:EducationSkillsLocationCertificationsExperienceDemandRBT Salary By State Rank State Average Salary Hourly Rate Job Count 1 Hawaii $54,222 $26.07 91 2 Connecticut $45,739 $21.99 355 3 Montana $48,478 $23.31 106 4 Massachusetts $44,348 $21.32 912 5 Maine $40,338 $19.39 146 6 West Virginia $41,284 $19.85 146 7 Illinois $40,998 $19.71 1,219 8 North Dakota $42,073 $20.23 70 9 Alaska $39,710 $19.09 119 10 Vermont $41,975 $20.18 67 11 New Jersey $42,006 $20.20 754 12 Rhode Island $40,474 $19.46 101 13 Iowa $38,966 $18.73 329 14 California $45,691 $21.97 2,159 15 New York $42,320 $20.35 1,019 16 Pennsylvania $39,421 $18.95 1,208 17 Wisconsin $35,427 $17.03 664 18 Minnesota $37,682 $18.10 467 19 Virginia $39,421 $18.95 735 20 Florida $36,020 $17.32 1,628 20 Indiana $34,902 $16.78 643 30 South Dakota $34,530 $16.60 106 31 Colorado $36,311 $17.46 560 32 Minnesota $37,652 $18.10 450 33 Delaware $36,676 $17.63 112 34 Wyoming $35,795 $17.21 39 35 Texas $35,348 $16.99 1,791 36 District of Columbia $40,868 $19.65 74 37 South Carolina $35,326 $16.98 364 38 North Carolina $35,730 $17.18 713 39 Ohio $34,699 $16.68 675 40 Georgia $34,718 $16.69 966 41 Arkansas $30,812 $14.81 306 42 Tennessee $32,320 $15.54 553 43 New Mexico $34,378 $16.53 141 44 Utah $31,055 $14.93 297 45 Kentucky $32,764 $15.75 266 46 Missouri $30,643 $14.73 540 47 Nevada $32,670 $15.71 136 48 Kansas $33,115 $15.92 186 49 Louisiana $29,478 $14.17 284 50 Oklahoma $30,051 $14.45 197 51 Idaho $25,291 $12.16 84 Highest Paying Cities For RBTs Rank City Average Salary Hourly Rate 1 Urban Honolulu, HI $54,234 $26.07 2 Campbell, CA $46,546 $22.38 3 Worcester, MA $44,464 $21.38 4 Baltimore, MD $42,536 $20.45 5 New York, NY $42,350 $20.36 6 Lakewood, WA $42,347 $20.36 7 Lakewood, NJ $42,115 $20.25 8 Chicago, IL $41,072 $19.75 9 Saint Paul, MN $37,623 $18.09 10 Lakewood, CO $36,340 $17.47 11 Surprise, AZ $36,073 $17.34 12 Tampa, FL $36,054 $17.33 13 Jacksonville, NC $35,770 $17.20 14 Houston, TX $35,517 $17.08 15 Fond du Lac, WI $35,503 $17.07 Average RBT Salary By Year Year Avg. Salary Hourly Rate % Change 2022 $38,000 $18.28 +3.6% 2021 $36,700 $17.63 +2.7% 2020 $35,700 $17.15 +3.7% 2019 $34,400 $16.53 +2.2% 2018 $33,600 $16.16 -0.5% 2017 $33,800 $16.25 +0.0% 2016 $33,800 $16.25 +4.0% 2015 $32,400 $15.59 -0.6% 2014 $32,600 $15.68 +5.3% 2013 $30,900 $14.86 - Frequently Asked QuestionsWhat type of behavior technician makes the most?Mental Health Nurse gets paid the most, as they make a median salary of $106,812 per year.What state pays RBTs the most?Hawaii pays RBTs the most in the U.S., with an average salary of $54,222 per year, or $26.07 per hour.How much does a behavior technician make an hour?Registered behavior technicians earn between $15 to $17 per hour.The hourly rate of an RBT varies depending on the persons location.ReferencesTHE EARLY INTERVENTION CENTRE (THE ETC), TTD1D12 Balsokati, Serangoon, Toa Payoh, SG The Early Intervention Centre is seeking a highly motivated experienced Senior ABA Therapist to join our team and work with young children in our Early Years intervention program.As a part-time the...Show moreLast updated: 24 days agoRegistered Behavior Technicians (RBTs) are an integral part of the healthcare system, providing critical services to individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities. If you're considering a career as an RBT, one of the most important factors to consider is salary. In this article, we'll explore the average RBT salary and what factors can impact your earnings. State Annual Salary Monthly Pay Weekly Pay Hourly Wage New York $48,394 $4,032 $930 $23.27 New Hampshire $45,021 $3,751 $865 $21.64 Vermont $44,450 $3,704 $854 $21.37 Arizona $42,290 $3,524 $813 $20.33 Wyoming $42,237 $3,519 $812 $20.31 Hawaii $41,931 $3,494 $806 $20.16 Massachusetts $41,819 $3,484 $804 $20.11 Tennessee $41,763 $3,480 $803 $20.08 Nevada $41,629 $3,469 $800 $20.01 New Jersey $41,333 $3,444 $794 $19.87 Indiana $40,833 $3,402 $785 $19.63 Washington $40,796 $3,399 $784 $19.61 West Virginia $40,776 $3,398 $784 $19.60 Montana $40,387 $3,365 $776 $19.42 Connecticut $40,362 $3,363 $776 $19.40 Minnesota $40,024 $3,335 $769 $19.24 Pennsylvania $39,807 $3,317 $765 $19.14 Rhode Island $39,695 $3,307 $763 $19.08 Alaska $39,646 $3,303 $762 $19.06 Oregon $39,629 $3,302 $762 $19.05 North Dakota $38,738 $3,228 $744 $18.62 Maryland $38,379 $3,198 $738 $18.45 Wisconsin $38,162 $3,180 $733 $18.35 Ohio $37,819 $3,151 $727 $18.18 Idaho $37,641 $3,136 $723 $18.10 Virginia $37,292 $3,107 $716 $17.93 South Dakota $37,148 $3,095 $714 $17.86 Iowa $37,112 $3,092 $713 $17.84 Utah $37,067 $3,088 $712 $17.82 Alabama $36,838 $3,069 $708 $17.71 Colorado $36,287 $3,024 $697 $17.45 Delaware $36,179 $3,014 $695 $17.39 New Mexico $36,161 $3,013 $695 $17.39 Nebraska $36,097 $3,008 $694 $17.35 South Carolina $35,843 $2,986 $689 $17.23 Maine $35,239 $2,936 $677 $16.94 Kansas $35,202 $2,933 $676 $16.92 $67,557 $5,630 $1,299 $32.49 $67,557 $5,630 $1,299 $32.49 $67,557 $5,630 $1,299 $32.49