Bakers and pastrycooks prepare and bake bread loaves and rolls, buns, cakes, biscuits and pastry goods.

**Job title examples**

- Baker
- Pastrycook
- Patissier
- Pastry Chef

**Other jobs in this field of work**

**What bakers and pastrycooks do**

- check the cleanliness of equipment and operation of premises before production runs to ensure compliance with occupational health and safety regulations
- check the quality of raw materials and weigh ingredients
- knead, mature, cut, mould, mix and shape dough and pastry goods
- prepare pastry fillings
- monitor oven temperatures and product appearance to determine baking times
- coordinate the forming, loading, baking, unloading, de-panning and cooling of batches of bread, rolls and pastry products
- glaze buns and pastries, and decorate cakes with cream and icing
- operate machines which roll and mould dough and cut biscuits
- empty, clean and grease baking trays, tins and other cooking equipment

**Main employing industries**

- Manufacturing – food products
- Retail Trade
Qualifications

The following government subsidised qualifications are available in NSW:

- **Certificate III in Plant Baking** available as an apprenticeship or qualification
- **Certificate III in Retail Baking (Cake and Pastry)** available as an apprenticeship or qualification
- **Certificate III in Retail Baking (Combined)** available as an apprenticeship or qualification
- **Certificate III in Patisserie** available as an apprenticeship or qualification
- **Certificate IV in Patisserie** available as a traineeship or qualification

**Apprenticeships and traineeships:** Find out how to get an [apprenticeship or traineeship](#).

**Course fees:** You may be eligible for government subsidised training under Smart and Skilled. Go to the [Course Finder](#) to find training in your area, estimate your fee and find a training provider.

Job prospects and pay

- There are around 8,366 bakers and pastrycooks working in NSW.
- Over the next four years, employment in this occupation is expected to remain stable in NSW.
- Employers report current state-wide baker shortages in NSW and difficulties in recruiting qualified and experienced pastrycooks for positions in small independent retail patisseries.

**Average weekly full time earnings (before tax):**

- Bakers and Pastrycooks: $990
- All occupations: $1,200

Related jobs

- Chef
- Cook
- Fast Food Cook
- Food Trades Assistant
- Kitchenhand

To find out more regarding these related jobs, visit the [Job Guides Homepage](#).

Information sources

Occupations: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, 1220.0
Skills shortages: Department of Employment, Skill Shortage List NSW 2015-16
Job prospects: Centre of Policy Studies (CoPS), Victoria University, Employment Forecast Data for NSW 2015/16 to 2022/23