Scrum Master

Scrum masters control and manage project tasks using the Agile project management method. This involves working with a small team (scrum team), leading them through the project management process to achieve the desired results. They often work in software development.

The Work

You could be:

- coordinating sprints (a set period of time, usually 2-3 weeks, in which specific work has to be completed)
- scheduling and leading daily stand-up meetings (15-minute discussions on progress)
- scheduling and leading retrospective meetings (where the scrum team reflect on the work done in each sprint and how to improve)
- liaising between the scrum team and other departments involved in the project
- mentoring and coaching team members in following the Agile framework
- resolving issues and conflicts that arise
- managing any risks to the successful completion of the project
- continually monitoring the project and adapting to changes in requirements or timelines
- doing project demonstrations.

Pay

The figures below are only a guide. Actual pay rates may vary, depending on:

- where you work
- the type of industry or business you work for
- the size of company or organisation you work for
- the demand for the job.

A junior scrum master can earn around £25,000 - £35,000 a year. With more experience and professional certification, this could rise to around £60,000 a year. With several years of experience, the salary could be up to £90,000 a year.

Conditions

- You would work in an office, from home or a mixture of both, but you may visit clients on site.
- Working hours could be long and might include evenings and weekends to meet deadlines.

Getting In

- Many entrants have a degree (SCQF Levels 9-10) in computing, business or communications.
- For entry to a degree you normally need 4-5 Highers, with subjects required depending on the course, but useful subjects could include English, Maths and Computing Science.
- Some scrum masters may have previous experience in software development and working in an Agile

project management environment.
- It will help to have a foundation level professional qualification in Agile (see 'Training' below).

What Does It Take

You should be able to:

- think strategically
- communicate (including listen) and negotiate well
- make decisions confidently
- cope with stress and work under pressure to meet deadlines.

You should have:

- excellent problem solving skills
- strong networking and influencing skills
- excellent 'people' and teamworking skills
- knowledge of coding and software development frameworks
- excellent organisational skills
- business awareness.

Training

- You could study part time for a degree or postgraduate qualification in business, computing or communications courses while you are working.
- You would usually be expected to have or be working towards professional qualifications in Agile at various levels from any one of the following organisations: the Project Management Institute (PMI) and The British Computer Society (BCS).

Getting On

- If you start as junior scrum master, with experience you would move on to be a scrum master.
- There is generally no hierarchy in terms of senior posts, but with experience your salary will grow, and you may take on bigger or more complex projects.
- You could become an Agile coach.

Contacts

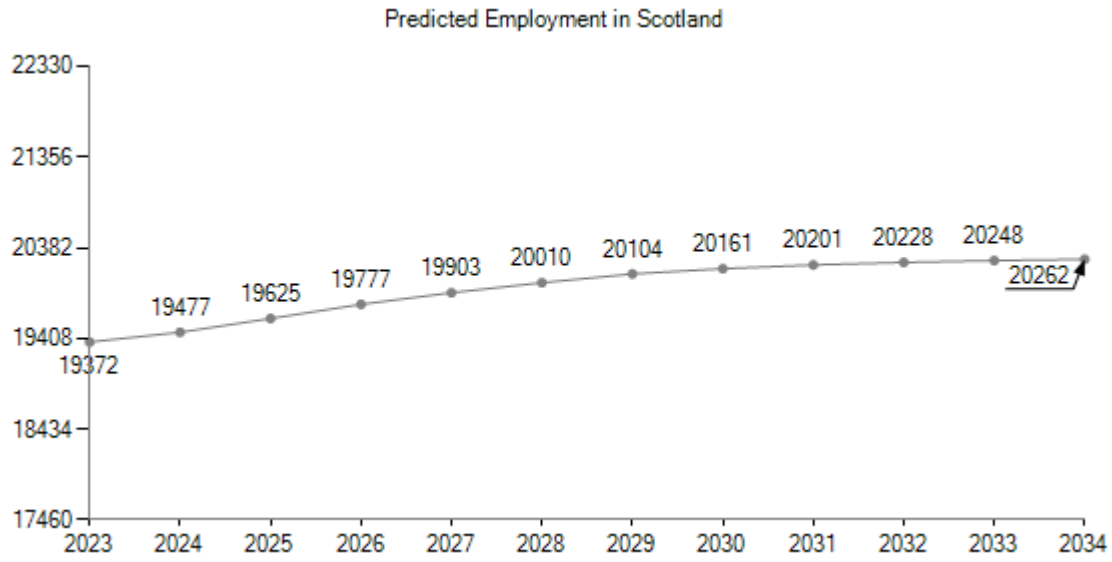
BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT
Tel: 01793 417417
Website: www.bcs.org
X: @bcs
Facebook: www.facebook.com/IT.BCS

Statistics

Employment Status : Not available this career.

Past Unemployment - Scotland

No Claimant statistics available for Scotland.



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