

# The CHP Corner, February 2023

For CHPs, aspiring CHPs, and anyone else on the bell curve.



## The American Academy of Health Physics

Address contributions to:  
Editor – Kyle Underwood, CHP  
Associate Editor – Dan Sowers, CHP

Email: [j.kyle.u@gmail.com](mailto:j.kyle.u@gmail.com)  
Email: [dsowers430@gmail.com](mailto:dsowers430@gmail.com)



### CALL FOR AAHP NOMINATIONS

*Michelle Baca, CHP, AAHP Nominating Committee Chair*

The American Academy of Health Physics Nominating Committee has identified candidates for Academy offices on the 2023 ballot. Successful candidates will take office on January 1, 2024. Offices that will be elected include President-elect, Secretary, and Director. All three positions are three-year terms.

At this time, the nominating committee is seeking candidates for the [Joyce P Davis Memorial award](#). Our recommendation is due to the Professional Standards and Ethics committee by April 1, 2023. Please consider nominating an individual for this prestigious award!

To volunteer or nominate someone for service or an award, please contact me directly at [michelle.ann.baca@gmail.com](mailto:michelle.ann.baca@gmail.com) or any of our committee members.

AAHP Nominating Committee for 2023:

- Michelle Baca, Chair, 2024 ([michelle.ann.baca@gmail.com](mailto:michelle.ann.baca@gmail.com))
- Allen Mabry, 2022 (ex officio), [amabry@ec.rr.com](mailto:amabry@ec.rr.com))
- Jason Flora, 2023 ([jasonf@dnfsb.gov](mailto:jasonf@dnfsb.gov))
- Andy Miller, 2023 ([miller18@ccf.org](mailto:miller18@ccf.org))
- Tim Barvitskie, 2023 ([tjbarvit@gmail.com](mailto:tjbarvit@gmail.com))
- Chris Helstern, 2024 ([chris.helstern@gmail.com](mailto:chris.helstern@gmail.com))
- Kara Beharry, 2025 ([karabeharry@hotmail.com](mailto:karabeharry@hotmail.com))
- William Bosley, 2025 ([wbozman@hotmail.com](mailto:wbozman@hotmail.com))
- Charles Wilson, 2025 ([cwilsonhps@gmail.com](mailto:cwilsonhps@gmail.com))

### CEC INSTRUTORS WANTED!

*Michael Canino, AAHP Executive Director*

We are looking for instructors to impart knowledge upon their audience in correlation with the upcoming HPS Annual Meeting in July. The courses would be delivered in person on Saturday, July 22 and provided in either a two-hour, four-hour or eight-hour educational workshop format.

Instructors can be AAHP members or industry experts who can provide a workshop focused on topics relevant to health physics. Submit an abstract for consideration via email to [director@aahp-abhp.org](mailto:director@aahp-abhp.org).

### THE 2022 CHP SALARY SURVEY

*Gary Lauten, CHP, Salary Survey Coordinator*

#### Introduction

The 2022 Certified Health Physicist (CHP) survey data was collected by having CHPs submit their responses to survey questions on a web-based data entry form. As was done in previous years, data was collected in conjunction with a salary survey of the entire Health Physics Society (HPS).

The HPS salary survey results will be reported separately in the Health Physics Newsletter. The survey was also available in hardcopy form for those who preferred to fax or mail their responses. Questions about this survey should be directed to Gary Lauten, via email: [chpsalariesurvey@yahoo.com](mailto:chpsalariesurvey@yahoo.com)

#### Data Analysis

The salary ranges marked by CHPs on the completed survey forms were rounded to the midpoints of those ranges before statistical analyses were performed. For example, if a CHP marked the

# The CHP Corner, February 2023

---

salary range \$150,000 to \$152,499; their salary was rounded to the midpoint value of \$151,250.

Responses from CHPs who were either part time or retired were not analyzed, since the data did not allow meaningful comparisons to be made.

To minimize skewing the results, data from seven survey respondents were excluded from the data analysis because they indicated that they earned less than \$75,000 or more than \$250,000 per year.

Of 28 respondents attaining ABHP certification within the last two years, 79% did not receive a significant (10% or more) salary increase, whereas 21% did receive a significant salary increase.

Of respondents receiving a significant (10% or more) salary increase upon attaining ABHP certification within the last two years: 67% received this increase from their current employer, 17% from a new employer, 17% received this increase from a promotion.

## Employer Required CHP

Among all CHPs, 7% indicated that their employer required a CHP designation, 23% indicated it was not required, 22% indicated it was recommended, and 48% did not answer.

## Value of Certification

Of 102 respondents who answered questions about the value of becoming a CHP, 91% indicated it was a worthwhile and positive experience, 8% were neutral, and 1% negative. Of those answering that it was a positive experience, 77% indicated they gained more professional respect, 60% indicated an

increased opportunity for advancement, and 54% indicated they were compensated with an increased salary.

## Data Presentation

To make the results of the survey interesting and useful, CHPs were subcategorized in several ways by education, primary job responsibility, years of experience, and combinations of these subcategories.

Readers are advised that for statistical validity, results were only given if there were 10 or more CHPs within that subcategory. Data presented for one subcategory of CHPs may not be possible for another subcategory.

The subcategories in the tables may also change from year to year, depending on the number of responses received. Every effort was made to keep the subcategories consistent with previous surveys, but if there were less than 10 CHPs for a subcategory the results were not given.

CHP salaries by region are also presented in this report.

## Tables and Figures

Tables show results for full-time CHPs who received health, vacation, and retirement benefits from their primary employer unless otherwise noted.

Histograms of the data shown in Table 1- All CHPs, and Table 2 - Masters Health Physics are included as Figures 1 and 2 respectively.

**All the following tables are for fulltime CHPs with health, vacation, and retirement benefits unless otherwise indicated.**

**Table 1: All CHPs**

All CHPs	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
CHPs	198	\$158,342	\$156,250	\$250,000	\$78,750	\$32,110

# The CHP Corner, February 2023

---

**Table 2: CHPs by Education and Field**

<b>Education</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Std Dev</b>
Bachelors Health Physics	19	\$146,342	\$141,250	\$228,000	\$81,250	\$33,527
Bachelors Other Field	21	\$151,881	\$148,750	\$212,000	\$103,750	\$25,026
Masters Health Physics	85	\$160,113	\$158,750	\$250,000	\$78,750	\$32,938
Masters Other Field	22	\$160,693	\$161,250	\$229,000	\$103,750	\$39,176
Masters Nuclear Engineering	18	\$157,778	\$151,250	\$238,000	\$118,750	\$32,475
Ph.D. Health Physics	12	\$171,196	\$168,750	\$208,100	\$136,250	\$22,389

**Table 3: CHPs by Education and 6-15 Years' Experience**

<b>Edu &amp; 6-15 Yrs Experience</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Std Dev</b>
All CHPs 6-15 yrs Experience	53	\$137,759	\$138,750	\$191,250	\$81,250	\$21,010
Masters Health Physics	23	\$142,120	\$141,250	\$191,250	\$103,750	\$20,220

**Table 4: CHPs by Education and >15 Years' Experience**

<b>Edu &amp; &gt;15 Yrs Experience</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Std Dev</b>
All CHPs >15 yrs Experience	142	\$165,936	\$168,750	\$250,000	\$78,750	\$31,876
Bachelors Health Physics	12	\$159,313	\$151,250	\$228,000	\$123,750	\$30,485
Bachelors Other Field	18	\$154,903	\$152,000	\$212,000	\$103,750	\$25,467
Masters Health Physics	59	\$167,006	\$166,250	\$250,000	\$78,750	\$33,647
Masters Nuclear Engineering	12	\$171,042	\$170,000	\$238,000	\$123,750	\$31,490
Masters Other Field	19	\$165,868	\$171,250	\$229,000	\$111,250	\$38,797
Ph.D. Health Physics	10	\$175,185	\$175,000	\$208,100	\$136,250	\$21,723

**Table 5: CHPs by U.S. Regions\***

<b>CHPs by Region</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Std Dev</b>
Northeast	32	\$159,688	\$161,250	\$230,000	\$81,250	\$32,778
Midwest	24	\$154,844	\$151,250	\$225,000	\$101,250	\$31,716
South	65	\$155,508	\$153,750	\$243,000	\$103,750	\$29,676
West	63	\$161,317	\$158,750	\$250,000	\$78,750	\$34,518

\*- The four major regions of the United States as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau for which data are presented represent groups of states as follows:

**Northeast.** Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont.

**Midwest.** Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin.

**South.** Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia.

**West.** Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

# The CHP Corner, February 2023

---

**Table 6: Masters Health Physics and Primary Employer**

<b>Masters Health Physics &amp; Primary Employer</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Std Dev</b>
Federal Government	12	\$153,333	\$161,250	\$186,250	\$106,250	\$29,558
Medical	14	\$163,954	\$163,750	\$225,000	\$103,750	\$34,194
University	10	\$136,875	\$131,250	\$220,000	\$78,750	\$39,831
National Laboratory	14	\$161,964	\$157,000	\$193,750	\$128,750	\$21,064
Government Contractor	14	\$172,446	\$162,500	\$250,000	\$101,250	\$42,301

**Table 7: All CHPs by Other Certifications**

<b>All CHPs by Other Certifications</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Std Dev</b>
NRRPT	40	\$160,003	\$156,250	\$243,000	\$78,750	\$36,979
Other	35	\$164,139	\$171,250	\$222,850	\$78,750	\$33,870

**Table 8: Masters Health Physics and Primary Job Responsibility**

<b>Masters Health Physics &amp; Primary Job Responsibility</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Std Dev</b>
Applied Health Physics	20	\$163,250	\$165,000	\$250,000	\$78,750	\$36,059
Medical Health Physics	11	\$170,941	\$171,250	\$225,000	\$111,250	\$40,922

**Table 9: All CHPs by Primary Job Responsibility**

<b>Primary Job Responsibility</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Std Dev</b>
Applied Health Physics	51	\$158,178	\$153,750	\$250,000	\$78,750	\$32,777
Dosimetry	15	\$156,250	\$158,750	\$191,250	\$101,250	\$27,173
Emergency Preparedness	12	\$149,583	\$142,500	\$191,250	\$113,750	\$26,700
Environmental	13	\$164,654	\$168,750	\$228,000	\$108,750	\$34,185
Medical Health Physics	26	\$167,292	\$166,250	\$238,000	\$111,250	\$39,685
Regulations/Standards	12	\$153,333	\$151,250	\$186,250	\$113,750	\$23,131
Waste Management	10	\$157,275	\$156,250	\$229,000	\$103,750	\$33,666

**Table 10: CHPs as Professional Staff (All CHPs in this category and by Education)**

<b>CHPs as Professional Staff</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Std Dev</b>
All CHPs in this Category	100	\$149,906	\$150,000	\$238,000	\$81,250	\$28,903
Bachelors Health Physics	10	\$130,750	\$125,000	\$178,750	\$81,250	\$29,856
Bachelors Other Field	10	\$149,000	\$146,250	\$183,750	\$118,750	\$18,725
Masters Health Physics	46	\$150,951	\$153,750	\$210,000	\$101,250	\$27,755
Masters Nuclear Engineering	12	\$160,625	\$151,250	\$238,000	\$118,750	\$38,113

# The CHP Corner, February 2023

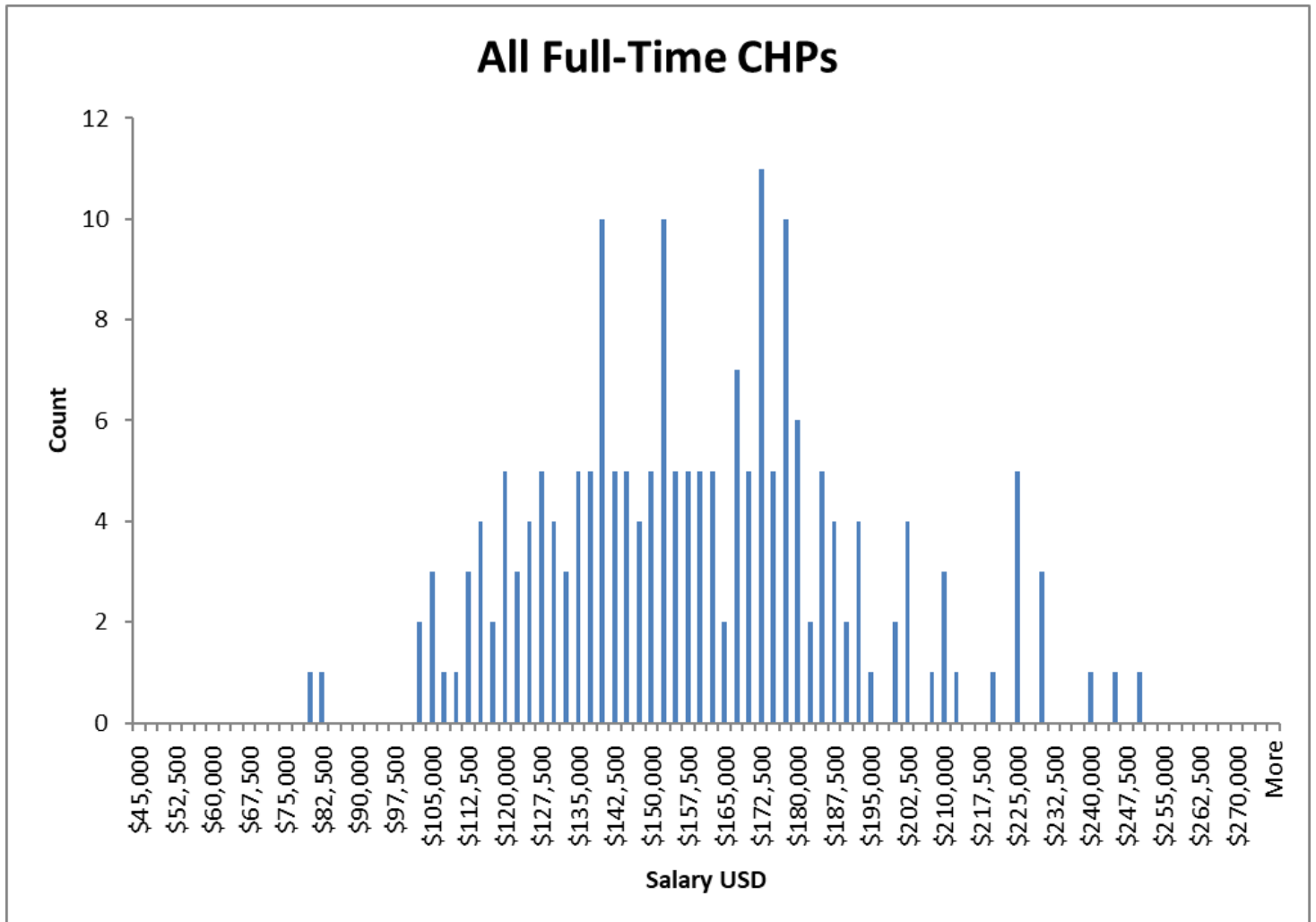
**Table 11: CHPs as Supervisor of Professional Staff (All CHPs in this category and by Education)**

CHPs as Supervisor of Professional Staff	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
All CHPs in this Category	28	\$167,098	\$171,250	\$250,000	\$111,250	\$29,111
Masters Health Physics	12	\$178,438	\$176,250	\$250,000	\$138,750	\$27,696

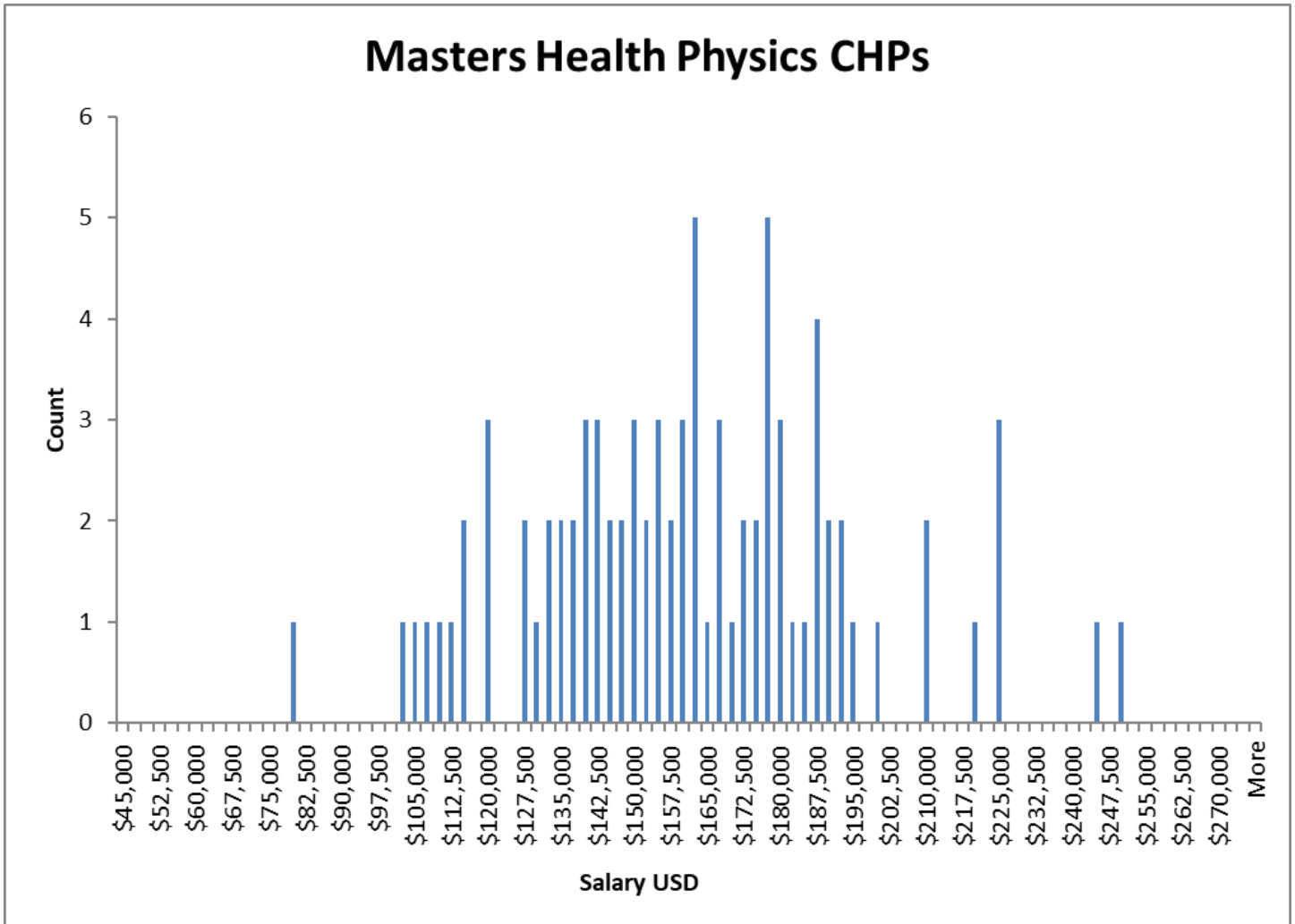
**Table 12: All CHPs as RPM/RSO, University RSO, Medical RSO, University-Med RSO**

CHPs as RPM/RSO	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
All CHPs RPM/RSO	25	\$168,820	\$168,750	\$243,000	\$103,750	\$33,806
All CHPs Medical RSO	15	\$182,440	\$178,750	\$225,000	\$141,250	\$24,116
University/Medical RSO	13	\$165,481	\$158,750	\$230,000	\$123,750	\$31,394

**Figure 1: Histogram of Table 1 Data, all CHPs**



**Figure 2: Histogram of Table 2 Data, Masters Health Physics CHPs**



### Acknowledgements

Thank you for participating in this survey. Your confidential data benefits the entire health physics community and is never shared such that it would be possible to identify individual participants.