Economic Experience and Educational Backgrounds of Afghan Arrivals Through Operation Allies Welcome

Afghan refugees accessing Upwardly Global employment services have been placed in jobs on average within 136 Days

Average starting salary ≈ $63,000

We estimate that 10,260 out of the 41,040 working-age Afghans are professionals with college degrees ≈ 25%

Their projected economic contributions would total $646 million per annum

Top Job Titles include
- Accountant
- Civil Engineer
- IT Help Desk Technician
- Case Manager
- Program Manager
- IT Network Engineer

Top Industries for Placed Afghan Jobseekers

53% have a bachelors degree or higher
26% have a masters degree or higher

Education rates are roughly the same between men and women.

3,372 Afghan arrivals are currently enrolled in Upwardly Global career programs

Since launching our online portal, Afghan arrivals have logged on 3,540+

Information Technology
Engineering/Architecture
Business/Logistics/Operations
Other
Admin/HR
Government
Finance/Banking
Education
Nonprofit
Healthcare
Hafiz’s Story

“In the 5,000 year history of Afghanistan, I am the 115th commercial licensed pilot.”

After working his way up from check-in staff to cabin crew at Kam Air in Afghanistan, Hafiz, an Upwardly Global alum, was the first of Kam Air staff sent to the U.S. for pilot training. Once he received his pilot license, Hafiz went back to Afghanistan to fly 3,000 hours as a commercial pilot. During the Afghan evacuation, the U.S. military helped Hafiz and his family flee to the United States. Once there, he connected with Upwardly Global to help transfer his licensure to the U.S. and land a job in aviation again. One day, he believes he will fly again.

Shahpur’s Story

“I was born to fly, and I believe I will fly again.”

Shahpur, an Upwardly Global alum, was one of the first Black Hawk helicopter pilots trained by the U.S. military in Afghanistan. He flew alongside American allies in operations against the Taliban in northern Afghanistan, eventually rising to the rank of Captain and later Black Hawk Squadron Commander. After the fall of Kabul in 2021, Shahpur and his family were forced to flee Afghanistan due to his connection to the U.S. military. They arrived in the United States, where Shahpur hoped to restart his career as an airline pilot. With the help of Upwardly Global, Shahpur found a job as a flight line technician at a U.S. airport. With further training, he hopes to one day become a commercial airline pilot – to fly again.

Interested in learning more?
Apply for our program here, and read more about our work with Afghan arrivals to date here.