

Environmental Careers

MIT Global Education & Career Development Ctr. ♦ 12-170 ♦ (617) 253-4733 ♦ <http://careers.mit.edu>

Overview

Professionals in environmental careers use scientific research and policy expertise to address global and local ecological issues. Environmental careers include not only science but also careers in government settings at all levels and in consulting firms and corporations. Environmentalists also work for non-profit organizations. Writing, fund raising, program administration, education, community organization, and scientific research are all skills used in environmental careers.

A number of environmental firms and agencies recruit through the Career Office including: GZA, Geoenvironmental Inc., Malcolm Pirnie, Beals & Thomas, Black & Beateh, CDM, Parsons Engineering Science, Metcalf & Eddy, and TRC Environmental.

Exploration Resources

Print Resources in the Career Development Ctr. Library

- *Environmental Jobs for Scientists and Engineers*
- *Opportunities in Environmental Careers*
- *Massachusetts Environmental Industry/Education Resource Directory*
- *Peterson's Job Opps: The Environment*
- *The Green Book: New England Environmental Resource Directory*
- *Economics of Environmental Management*
- *The New Complete Guide to Environmental Careers*

Recommended Publications:

Environmental Career Opportunities

A biweekly newspaper of current environmental job openings around the U.S.

Conservation Directory

Book listing U.S. organizations and agencies in the natural resources fields.

The New England Environmental Directory

Book listing all types of environmental companies in New England.

Career and Job Search Internet Resources

- Environmental Career Links - <http://www.denison.edu/enviro/careers.shtm>
- Department of Energy Labs and Facilities - <http://www.energy.gov/>
- Environmental Business Council of New England - Links to websites of member organizations in New England - <http://www.ebc-ne.org/>
- EnviroExpo - Billed as "one of the largest, most comprehensive exhibitions and conferences covering environmental, health, safety, and energy management and unparalleled networking and information sharing opportunities." - <http://enviroexpo.com/>
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - <http://www.epa.gov/>
- Environmental Organization Web Directory including a section on employment – <http://www.webdirectory.com/employment/>
- Environmental Career Opportunities - <http://www.ecojobs.com/>
- Environmental Careers Organization - <http://www.eco.org/>
- Environmental Careers World - <http://www.environmental-jobs.com/>
- Environmental Consulting Firms - <http://www.cqs.com/econsult.htm>
- Environmental Organization WebDirectory: Employment – <http://www.webdirectory.com/Employment/>
- Environmental Jobs Listings – <http://www.ejobs.org>
- Rocky Mountain Institute - <http://www.rmi.org/>

Environmental Careers (cont'd.)

Salary

For industry specific salary information please visit - <http://web.mit.edu/career/www/salary.html>

Also see <http://www.salary.com>

Training/Education Required for Typical Job Types (BS=Bachelors, MS=Masters, CE = Continuing Education after BS degree,

but not an MS, PhD = Doctoral, * = strongly preferred)

- Environmental Health and Safety: Management BS, MS
- Environmental Regulator: BS, *MS
- Non-Profit/Environmental Issues, Rank-and-File employee: *BS
- Non-Profit Director/Strategist: MS, PhD
- Research with Animals or Plants MS, *PhD
- Environmental Management Systems (EMS) MS or BS+CE
- GIS Technician *MS or BS+CE
- Environmental Engineer BS or MS

Certification

Certification generally involves specialized training and a course of study required by law before an individual can do certain types of work. The most common certification in the environmental field is the OSHA 40-Hour Hazardous Materials Technician. The certificate can be more important than a 4-year degree when it comes to employment because a potential employer will be able to place you in the field immediately.

Proper certification can improve your chances of landing a job, especially if you are competing with other recent graduates who are not certified. You can obtain certification on your own through business and trade schools or through local companies who may sponsor such opportunities. Some companies also arrange for certification as an initial part of internship training or employment.

Professional Associations

- *American Society of Civil Engineers* - <http://www.asce.org>
- *American Academy of Environmental Engineers* - <http://aaee.net/>
- *Institute of Transportation Engineers* - <http://www.ite.org>
- *American Geographic Union* - <http://www.agu.org>
- *Boston Society of Civil Engineers* - <http://www.engineers.org/associations/boces.htm>
- *MIT Civil & Environmental Engineering Student Association* - <http://web.mit.edu/asce/www/>

Doctoral Programs at MIT

Environmental Chemistry and Biology
Construction Engineering and Management
Environmental Fluid Mechanics and Coastal Engineering
Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering
Hydrology
Information Technology
Structures and Materials
Transportation
Engineering and Environmental Mechanics
Environmental Systems (Ralph M. Parsons Laboratory)