



Careers in Geoscience

California State University, Long Beach

Geological Sciences, Geography, Geoarchæology,
Environmental Science & Policy

What can I do with a degree in geoscience?

some employers who hire geoscientists:

- International Institutions
 - CARE
 - United Nations
 - Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
 - World Bank
 - Global Environmental Facility
- California State Agencies
 - California Geological Survey
 - Department of Water Resources (DWR)
 - California Coastal Commission
 - CalTrans
 - Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)
- Private Sector Firms
 - Thomas Bros./Rand-McNally
 - Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI)
 - Aerospace Corp.
 - SCS Engineering
- Federal Agencies
 - National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
 - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
 - U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
 - U.S. Forest Service (USFS), National Park Service (NPS)
 - U.S. Intelligence Agencies (CIA, NSA, NGA, FBI)
- Local Agencies
 - Metropolitan Water District (MWD)
 - Southern California Association of Governments
 - Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP)
 - Southern California Association of Governments
 - Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering, Dept of Public Works
- Occidental Petroleum
- Signal Hill Petroleum
- CH2M Hill Consulting
- Tetra Tech

typical job titles held by graduates with geoscience degrees:

- geologist
- Certified Geologist
- petroleum geologist
- cartographer
- GIS analyst
- imagery analyst
- remote sensing specialist
- earth scientist
- environmental scientist
- environmental planner
- environmental impact analyst
- environmental quality specialist
- meteorologist
- weather forecaster
- climatologist
- soil scientist
- waste management specialist
- park ranger or interpreter
- emergency management officer
- project manager
- cultural resource specialist
- historic preservation planner
- urban, community, or regional planner
- middle or high school teacher
- professor
- intelligence analyst
- Registered Professional Archæologist
- biogeographer
- ecologist
- hydrologist
- water resources specialist
- coastal zone specialist



what can I expect to earn? This varies by the particular major you study, the particular subfield you specialize in, skills you acquire, how much math is in your background, whether you have a bachelor's or graduate degree, your seniority and level of responsibility, prevalent practices in a particular region, whether you're in the private sector or public sector, and your own initiative and assertiveness.

wage and salary estimates for geosciences (Occupational Employment Statistics program with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, as of May 2010, <http://www.bls.gov/oes/>):

• **for anthropologists and archaeologists**

Base	Average	10 th percentile	25 th percentile	Median:50 th percentile	75 th percentile	90 th percentile
Hourly	\$27.90	\$15.05	\$18.80	\$26.07	\$35.01	\$43.00
Annual	\$58,040	\$31,310	\$39,110	\$54,230	\$72,820	\$89,440

• **for environmental scientists, including health**

Base	Average	10 th percentile	25 th percentile	Median:50 th percentile	75 th percentile	90 th percentile
Hourly	\$32.60	\$18.20	\$22.51	\$29.66	\$39.42	\$51.92
Annual	\$67,810	\$37,850	\$46,820	\$61,700	\$82,000	\$107,990

• **for geographers**

Base	Average	10 th percentile	25 th percentile	Median:50 th percentile	75 th percentile	90 th percentile
Hourly	\$35.05	\$20.41	\$27.38	\$35.00	\$42.43	\$49.25
Annual	\$72,890	\$42,450	\$56,960	\$72,800	\$88,260	\$102,440

• **for geologists**

Base	Average	10 th percentile	25 th percentile	Median:50 th percentile	75 th percentile	90 th percentile
Hourly	\$44.89	\$21.07	\$27.80	\$39.66	\$55.51	\$77.36
Annual	\$93,380	\$43,820	\$57,820	\$82,500	\$115,460	\$160,910

• **for hydrologists**

Base	Average	10 th percentile	25 th percentile	Median:50 th percentile	75 th percentile	90 th percentile
Hourly	\$38.11	\$23.21	\$28.49	\$36.39	\$45.33	\$54.08
Annual	\$79,280	\$48,280	\$59,260	\$75,690	\$94,280	\$112,490

to learn more:

- **IL State Museum archaeology jobs FAQs:** <http://www.museum.state.il.us/ismdepts/anthro/dlcfqa.html>
- **Environmental Careers Organization:** <http://www.eco.org/>
- **Association of American Geographers:** <http://www.aag.org/cs/careers/>
- **American Geological Institute:** <http://www.agiweb.org/workforce/>
- **Water Encyclopedia:** <http://www.waterencyclopedia.com/Bi-Ca/Careers-in-Hydrology.html>

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