



This career compass provides options, tips, suggestions, and strategies for how a student can obtain critical skills, experiences, and competencies in order to launch their geoscience career based on their academic standing. The content herein is based on data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, interviews with personnel in the occupation, and research on available student opportunities.

Job Summary

Atmospheric scientists study the present weather and future and past climate, and how those conditions affect human activity and the Earth in general. They may develop forecasts, computer models, collect and compile data from the field, assist in the development of new data collection instruments, or advise clients on risks or opportunities caused by weather events and climate change. They are adept at data analysis, uncertainty and risk analysis, computer science, and mathematics.

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Connect





Grow

Build

Undergraduate

-  Departmental activities, student government, clubs, societies
-  Career webinars
-  Conferences (travel grant, awards)
-  Hone skills through community involvement and presentations
-  Social media of research/outreach
-  NOAA's Hollings Scholarship
-  American Meteorological Society
-  National Weather Association
-  Naval Research Enterprise
-  Forecast intern at government, television, or private sector
-  NOAA NCAS-M ETSP for Sophmores
-  Research Experience for Undergraduates, SOARS program, NCAR/UCAR summer internships
-  NOAA or NASA Pathways, Minority University Research and Education Project, Educational Partnership Program with Minority-Serving Institutions, Woods Hole PEP
-  Research and field experience
- Forecasting laboratories/contests
- Degree in meteorology, atmospheric science or other physical science
- Courses in math, physics, media and communications, engineering or computer science
- Broadcast meteorology demonstration
- Write senior thesis

Graduate/Master's

-  Present research at conference
-  Publish research
-  Present at community events, local schools, or public events
-  Events, activities, and technical sessions at conferences
-  Lead workshops at conferences
-  Departmental committee, campus club, professional society
-  AMS Summer Policy Colloquium
-  Career webinars
-  NCAR Innovator's program
-  Workshops/NCAR ASP Colloquium
-  NCAR's ASP Grad Student Fellowship
-  AMS Graduate Fellowships
-  NSF Graduate Research Fellowship
- Naval Research Enterprise
- NOAA or NASA Pathways Program
- NOAA 's Chesapeake Bay and National Centers for Environmental Prediction internships, NOAA-NSF Graduate Research Internship
- Field, observational, or instrumentation experiences
- Forecasting laboratories/contests
- Degree in atmospheric science, geoscience, climate science, oceanography, mathematics or physics, engineering, computer science, chemistry
- Master's thesis related to atmospheric sciences

Ph.D./Post-doc

-  Present at community events, local schools, or public events
-  Present research at conference
-  Publish research
-  Departmental committee, campus club, professional society
-  Research mentor for undergraduates
-  AMS Summer Policy Colloquium
-  Events, activities, and technical sessions at conference
-  NCAR ASP Colloquium
-  Career webinars
-  NCAR's ASP Postdoctoral program
-  NCAR/UCAR laboratories
-  Presidential Management Fellowship
-  NOAA/NRC Postdoctoral Program, NOAA Climate and Global Change Postdoctoral fellowship, Postdocs Applying Climate Expertise (PACE)
- AAAS Congressional Science
- NSF Graduate Research Fellowship
- Field, observational, or instrumentation experiences
- Degree in atmospheric science, geoscience, climate science, oceanography, mathematics, physics, or computer science
- Dissertation topic(s) related to atmospheric sciences

Symbol Key



Attend



Communicate



Network



Participate



Leadership



Internship



Scholarship



Fellowship



Academics