



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

Oceanographers study the motion and circulation of ocean waters; the physical and chemical properties of the oceans; and how these properties affect coastal areas, climate, and weather. Oceanographers plan, organize, conduct, and administer seagoing and land-based student and research of ocean phenomena for interpreting, predicting, utilizing, and controlling ocean forces and events.

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## Undergraduate

-  Clubs, student government, or geoscience professional societies
-  Hone skills through courses, community involvement, and conference presentations
-  Geoscience professional society conference
-  NOAA's Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program
-  American Meteorological Society Scholarships (Freshman, Senior, and Minority)
-  SOARS program, Research Experience for Undergraduates, NCAR/UCAR summer internships
-  NOAA's Pathway Program, Educational Partnership Program with Minority-Serving Institutions
-  Undergrad Scholarship Program internship, Woods Hole Partnership Program
-  Marine Advanced Technology Education Internship, Naval Research Enterprise Internship
-  Research and field experience
-  Degree in environmental science, geoscience, ocean sciences, or atmospheric science
-  Coursework in math or computer science and courses with significant writing component
-  Write a senior thesis

## Graduate/Master's

-  Present research at conference
-  Publish research
-  Events, activities, and technical sessions at professional society conference
-  Geoscience professional society conference
-  Departmental committee, Clubs, student government, or geoscience professional societies
-  NOAA's Chesapeake Bay and National Centers for Environmental Prediction internships, NOAA-NSF Graduate Research Internship
-  Naval Research Enterprise Internship
-  NOAA Pathways Program
-  NOAA's Nancy Foster Scholarship
-  NOAA's Knauss Fellowship, Coastal Management
-  NCAR's Advanced Study Program Graduate Student Fellowship
-  American Meteorological Society Graduate Fellowships
-  Degree in geoscience, oceanography, or atmospheric science
-  Master's thesis related to ocean sciences

Also applicable at Ph.D. level

## Ph.D./Post-doc

-  Events, activities, and technical sessions at professional society conference
-  Departmental committees, geoscience professional society
-  Consortium for Ocean Leadership Marine Geoscience Leadership Symposium
-  Present research at conference
-  Publish research
-  Geoscience professional society conference
-  NCAR's Advanced Study Program Postdoctoral Fellowship program
-  Presidential Management Fellowship
-  NOAA/National Research Council Postdoctoral Program, NOAA Climate and Global Change Postdoctoral fellowship, Postdocs Applying Climate Expertise (PACE) Postdoctoral Fellowship
-  Degree in geoscience, oceanography, or atmospheric science
-  Dissertation topic(s) related to ocean sciences

### Symbol Key

-  Attend
-  Communicate
-  Network
-  Participate
-  Leadership
-  Internship
-  Scholarship
-  Fellowship
-  Academics