



Geography is not only up-to-date and relevant, it is one of the most exciting, adventurous and valuable subjects to study today. So many of the world's current problems boil down to geography, and need the geographers of the future to help us understand them.

GEOGRAPHY

CAREERS OPTIONS

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You will find geographers working in a wide range of jobs, from the City to planning, working in the environment to travel and tourism, or in international charities and retail. Studying geography can help young people achieve careers that are professionally and financially rewarding and also enjoyable.

Contoso 2

Geographical Information Systems Officer

Useful links

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/GIS>

Qualifications Required

- The most common route into the profession is with a degree or postgraduate qualification in a relevant subject such as:
- computer sciences
- environment and sustainability
- geographical information systems
- geography
- maths or statistics
- software engineering
- surveying
- urban planning.



Details about the job

- use a range of GPS tools in the field to capture the location of 'assets' such as bridges, street lights, road barriers and flood defences
- undertake desk-based data capture to convert paper maps to GIS datasets to, for example, record the location of telecoms cables or water pipelines from original maps
- manipulate, analyse and present geographical information by creating programs to convert GIS information from one format to another
- develop internet apps to present GIS data and tools on corporate websites
- use tools to join together different GIS datasets and create new information or investigate patterns.



Salary

- Starting salaries for GIS officers typically range from £18,000 to £25,000.
- With more experience, you can earn in the region of £30,000.
- Salaries for senior level roles, such as team leader or project manager, can reach in excess of £40,000.

Environmental consultant

Useful links

https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/environmental_consultant

Qualifications Required

- A good honours degree is the minimum entry qualification. The following degree subjects in particular may increase your chances of employment in this sector:
- ecology or wildlife management
- environmental and earth sciences
- environmental engineering
- environmental management
- geology
- geophysics
- hydrogeology
- sustainability and environmental management



Details about the job

- conduct field surveys and collect data about levels of pollution or contamination on a site or area of consideration
- carry out desk-based research, interpreting data which can include using software-modelling packages
- write reports and share findings with multi-disciplinary colleagues and clients
- advise on best courses of action based on research findings
- research previous investigations of a site to provide information to clients considering purchase
- look at the suitability of new developments, like housing, power stations, wind farms or other large sites that may impact the environment
- manage legislative issues for clients and maintain an awareness of how legislation impacts projects.



Salary

- Graduate starting salaries typically range from £22,000 to £25,000.
- Salaries for consultant grade positions, for those with an average of two to five years' experience, typically range from £22,000 to £35,000.
- As a senior consultant with five to ten years' experience, you could expect to earn up to £45,000. This could rise up to around £60,000 in a principal consultant position.

Planning and development surveyors

Useful links

[www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/Development Surveyor](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/Development%20Surveyor)

Qualifications Required

- Several undergraduate degree courses in property-related areas are accredited by RICS (Royal institute of Chartered Surveyors), such as:
- building surveying
- estate management
- planning and development
- property development
- real estate.



Details about the job

- assess land and property use requirements, including traffic and infrastructure
- manage projects, from the earliest planning stages through to completion
- Conducting research and networking
- Draw up, present and negotiate competitive proposals. Know market conditions and client needs
- advise clients and prepare and present applications for planning permission
- provide valuations and advise clients about the provision of finance for commercial and residential developments
- use strong management and entrepreneurial skills to ensure that projects are managed successfully, efficiently and profitably
- consider the physical, environmental and social impact of proposed developments
- advocate the conservation and protection of historic or environmentally sensitive sites and areas
- promote the use of effective land management and administration and communicate and negotiate effectively with colleagues, clients and financial stakeholders



Salary

- Graduate starting salaries for a planning and development surveyor are around £20,000 to £25,000.
- As an experienced chartered surveyor, you can earn £30,000 to £42,000, depending on your level of experience, the company and the location.
- Surveyors in more senior positions earn in the region of £40,000 to £70,000.

Town Planner

Useful links

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/planner>

Qualifications Required

- To become a chartered town planner you will need to complete a RTPI accredited degree, either at undergraduate or postgraduate level.
- Graduates from a range of subjects are accepted onto postgraduate courses but the following subjects may be particularly relevant:
- Architecture/landscape architecture/design
- ecology and environment
- economics
- engineering
- geography
- Law, politics, government or public administration
- transportation
- urban studies/built environment.



Details about the job

- cover a broad area of work using many different skills
- develop creative and original planning solutions to satisfy all parties
- consult with stakeholders and other interested parties
- negotiate with developers and other professionals, such as surveyors and architects. Assess planning applications and monitor outcomes as necessary
- research and design planning policies
- research and analyse data. Use information technology systems such as computer-aided design (CAD) or geographical information systems (GIS)
- attend and present at planning boards, appeals and public inquiries
- write reports, often of a complex nature, which make or explain recommendations.



Salary

- Starting salaries for graduate or assistant planners are typically in the range of £18,000 to £25,000.
- With experience, in roles such as principal planner and team leader, salaries can reach £30,000 to £45,000.
- Chief planning officers, heads of departments and directors can earn salaries of more than £55,000. In some instances, they can reach up to £100,000.

Secondary School Teacher

Useful links

[https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/secondary school teacher](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/secondary-school-teacher)

Qualifications Required

- **Undergraduate degree courses:** If you're yet to take a degree, you could complete a Bachelor of Education (BEd) or a BA/BSc with qualified teacher status (QTS) for England and Wales,
- Independent schools, free schools and academies may employ teachers without QTS although, in practice, this is uncommon.
- **Postgraduate teacher training:** If you already have a degree, you'll need to complete a postgraduate teacher training course, which leads to QTS in England and Wales.



Details about the job

- prepare and deliver lessons to a range of classes of different ages and abilities
- mark work, give appropriate feedback and maintain records of pupils' progress and development
- research new topic areas, maintaining up-to-date subject knowledge, and devise and write new curriculum materials
- select and use a range of different learning resources and equipment.
- prepare pupils for qualifications and external examinations
- manage pupil behaviour in the classroom and on school premises.
- undertake pastoral duties, such as supporting pupils on an individual basis through academic or personal difficulties
- communicate with parents and carers over pupils' progress and participate in departmental meetings, parents' evenings



Salary

- NQTs in England and Wales start on the main pay range, which rises incrementally from £23,720 to £35,008 (excluding London and its fringes). For inner London, the range is £29,664 to £40,372.
- Teachers may move into Key Stage or year leader, mentoring and management roles. Management roles in particular attract considerable salary increases.
- Teachers may be able to supplement their income through private tuition, national exam marking, teaching evening classes or writing textbooks.

Cartographer

Useful links

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/cartographer>

Qualifications Required

- As there aren't any undergraduate degrees specifically in cartography, you'll typically need a degree in a spatial science. Relevant subjects include:
- earth sciences
- geographic information technologies
- geographical information systems (GIS)
- geography and geology
- geomatics and geoinformatics
- land surveying.
- A degree in design, and computer science and software engineering can also be useful.



Details about the job

- research and then decide on what should appear on a map. Design maps, graphics, illustrations and layouts
- communicate information through the use of colour, symbols and style Compile and produce graphs on computers for specialist and general users
- research, select and evaluate map source data for use of maps and charts to various scales
- liaise with clients about their requirements and with external contacts, such as surveyors and designers, regarding the supply of information
- collate data provided by remote sensing techniques
- design, maintain and manipulate geographical information (GI) databases . Work with geographical information systems (GIS) to see, model and analyse landscape features



Salary

- Starting salaries typically range from £18,000 to £22,000.
- With experience, you can earn between £20,000 and £30,000.
- At senior level, you'll typically earn around £30,000 to £47,000.



THANK YOU

For more information, please contact Mr Langley 