

A.S. in Earth and Planetary Sciences

DESCRIPTION OF THE EARTH & PLANETARY SCIENCES PROGRAM

The Earth and Planetary Sciences Associate of Science (A.S.) degree program provides the foundation courses needed to transfer into four-year programs in earth and planetary science. Students who graduate from this program are able to demonstrate an understanding of the earth's subsystems, describe the interaction and evolution of these subsystems on different temporal and spatial scales, demonstrate an understanding of the nature of human interactions with the earth subsystems, recognize the relevance of the earth system to the individual and to society, and demonstrate an understanding of the nature of scientific knowledge and its historical development.

SKILLS

Communication skills. Geoscientists write reports and research papers. They must be able to present their findings clearly to other scientists and team members, as well as clients or professionals who do not have a background in geoscience.

Analytical skills. Environmental scientists and specialists base their conclusions on careful analysis of scientific data. They must consider all possible methods and solutions in their analyses.

Critical-thinking skills. Environmental science and protection technicians reach their conclusions through sound reasoning and judgment. They have to determine the best way to address environmental hazards.

CAREER INFORMATION

An Earth & Planetary Sciences degree can be the foundation that leads to a variety of careers.

Geoscientists study the physical aspects of the Earth, such as its composition, structure, and processes, to learn about its past, present, and future.

Environmental scientists and specialists use their knowledge of the natural sciences to protect the environment and human health. They may clean up polluted areas, advise policymakers, or work with industry to reduce waste.

Environmental science and protection technicians monitor the environment and investigate sources of pollution and contamination, including those affecting public health.

08-2022

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Career Development Center
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Room C-102 | 718-368-5115

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

Employment of geoscientists is projected to grow 7 percent from 2020 to 2030, about as fast as the average for all occupations.

Employment of environmental scientists and specialists is projected to grow 8 percent from 2020 to 2030, about as fast as average for all occupations.

Employment of environmental science and protection technicians is projected to grow 11 percent from 2020 to 2030, faster than the average for all occupations.

CAREER PATH

Geoscientists typically need a bachelor's degree in geoscience or a related field, such as physical science or natural resources. Employers sometimes prefer to hire candidates who have a master's degree. The median annual wage for geoscientists was \$83,680 in May 2021.

Environmental scientists and specialists typically need a bachelor's degree in environmental science or a related natural resources field. However, a master's degree may be needed for advancement. The median annual wage for environmental scientists and specialists was \$76,530 in May 2021.

Environmental science and protection technicians typically need an associate degree in environmental science, environmental health, or public health, or a related degree. Because of the wide range of tasks, environments, and industries in which these technicians work, there are jobs that do not require postsecondary education and others that require a bachelor's degree. The median annual wage for environmental science and protection technicians was \$47,370 in May 2021.

CAREER COACH – SEARCH CAREER INFORMATION & CURRENT LOCAL WAGE DATA

<https://kingsborough.emsicc.com/programs/earth-and-planetary-sciences-as/190619>

INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY: www.cuny.edu/apply or 718-368-4600

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