Science Career Outlook 2009-2010

Science Programs Available at Bemidji State University:

Major: Science (B.S.): Teacher Licensure Grades 5-12
Specialty: Elementary Education (B.S.): Science
Department Website: http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/departments/science

Major Highlights:
While the term "science" is applied generally to the study of natural phenomena, in the Science degree program at Bemidji State University it applies to a combined study of the life, earth, and physical sciences in the context of teacher certification for grades 5-8. This "broad science" degree is favored by school districts for their junior high/middle school science positions. Students in the Teacher Licensure Grades 5-12 degree program are also required to select at least one specialty for grades 9-12 from one of the following science areas: Chemistry, Earth and Space Science, Life Science, or Physics.

Employment Areas:
There are a variety of areas for employment with a science major, although most become teachers, either at the elementary or secondary level. The “Occupational Outlook Handbook” reports that in 2008 there were 659,500 middle school teachers, and 1.1 million secondary school teachers. Employment of teachers is geographically distributed much the same as the population.

Projected Demand for Science Majors in Minnesota:
MnCareers reports that the outlook for secondary education teachers is fair with an average income of $45,750 annually. The DISCOVER guidance system reports the average salary for science technicians is $55,500 annually but earnings vary widely depending on area of specialty. There are currently 1,160 science technicians in Minnesota.

Projected Demand for Science Majors Nationwide:
The DISCOVER guidance system reports that the nationwide demand for secondary education teachers is growing slowly with a 0.6% expected growth rate per year. The average starting salary was $38,500 in 2009. The “Occupational Outlook Handbook” reports that the median annual wages of secondary school teachers ranged from $47,100 to $51,180 in May 2008. Beginning teachers started around $33,227 in 2005-06. The American Association for Employment in Education, Inc. (AAEE), reports a considerable shortage of Physics and Chemistry teachers. The AAEE also reports some shortage for Biology (life science) and Earth/Physical Science teachers.

Placement Information for Science Graduates:
There are many career opportunities for the Bemidji State University science graduates. Of the BSU 2008-2009 science education graduates, 75% reported obtaining related employment within one year of graduation. This does not include students who were not seeking employment, furthering their education, unavailable, or had unknown status. In 2005-2006 BSU science students reported having earned starting salaries of $36,000.

A Partial List of Employers Who Have Hired BSU Science Graduates:

| Anchorage School District | Science Teacher | Anchorage, AK |
| Annandale Middle School | Science Teacher | Annandale, MN |
| Anoka-Hennepin School District | Middle School Life/Earth Science Teacher | Coon Rapids/Anoka, MN |
| Area School Districts | Substitute Teacher | Hill City/Remer, MN |
| Austin High School | Environmental Science Teacher | Austin, MN |
| Belgrade-Broten-Eloosa School District | Science Teacher | Belgrade, MN |
| Bemidji Middle School | Seventh Grade Science Teacher | Bemidji, MN |
A Partial List of Employers Who Have Hired BSU Science Graduates (Continued):

- Bemidji School District Science Teacher, Bemidji, MN
- Blue Sky Online School Math & Science Teacher, St. Paul, MN
- Bold School District Biology Teacher, Olivia, MN
- Bottineau School District Science Teacher, Bottineau, ND
- Brainerd School District Biology Teacher, Brainerd, MN
- Breckenridge High School Substitute Teacher, Breckenridge, MN
- Cass lake School District Teacher, Cass Lake, MN
- Central MNChristian School Sixth Grade Teacher, Prinsburg, MN
- Chisago Lakes School District Fifth / Sixth Grade Teacher, Lindstrom, MN
- Cook School District Teacher, Cook, MN
- Coon Rapids School District Biology Teacher, Coon Rapids, MN
- Crosby-Ironton School District Teacher, Crosby, MN
- Eagle Valley High School Science Teacher, Eagle Bend, MN
- Ellicott City Public Schools Science Teacher, Ellicott City, MD
- Floodwood School District Teacher, Floodwood, MN
- Goodridge School District Teacher, Goodridge, MN
- Grand Rapids School District Teacher, Grand Rapids, MN
- Great River School Science Teacher, St. Paul, MN
- Grygla School District Teacher, Grygla, Mn
- Hastings School District Teacher, Hastings, MN
- Headwaters Science Center Education Program Assistant, Bemidji, MN
- Hibbing School District Chemistry Instructor, Hibbing, MN
- Hibbing School District Teacher, Hibbing, MN
- Hinckley-Finlayson School District Science Teacher, Hinckley, MN
- Humboldt High School Science Teacher, St. Paul, MN
- Independent School District #196 High School Science Teacher, Apple Valley, MN
- Independent School District #196 Teacher, Eagan, MN
- ISD #196 Science Teacher, Rosemount, MN
- ISD #16 Teacher, Apple Valley, MN
- ISD #2170 Science Teacher, Staples, MN
- ISD #31 Middle School Science Teacher, Grand Rapids, MN
- ISD #318 Science Teacher, Coleraine, MN
- ISD 318 Science Teacher, Grand Rapids, MN
- ISD 361 Teacher, International Falls, MN
- ISD 516/513 Science Teacher, Round Lake, MN
- Lake of the Woods School District Kindergarten Teacher, Baudette, MN
- Laporte School Life Science Teacher, Laporte, MN
- Leech Lake Tribal College Kindergarten Teacher, Cass Lake, MN
- Little Falls Community Middle School Teacher, Little Falls, MN
- Little Falls School District Teacher, Little Falls, MN
- Lower Yukon School District Teacher, Mountain Village, AK
- Minneapolis Public Schools Science Teacher, Minneapolis, MN
- Minneapolis School District Teacher, Minneapolis, MN
- MN Dept of Natural Resources Wild land Firefighter, Bemidji, MN
- Park Rapids School District Substitute Teacher, Park Rapids, MN
- Pequot Lakes School District Middle Level Science Teacher, Pequot Lakes, MN
- Red Lake Middle School 8th Grade Earth Science Teacher, Red Lake, MN
- Sam Houston Middle School Science Teacher, Irving, TX
- SartellHigh School Science Teacher, Sartell, MN
- Sebeka School District Physical Science Teacher, Sebeka, MN
- Solvay Pharmaceuticals QC Chemist 1, Baudette, MN
- South Tama County School District Science Teacher, Tama, IA
- Springfield Public Schools Science Teacher, Springfield, MN
- St. Cloud School District Life Science Teacher/Coach, St. Cloud, MN
- St. Louis County Schools Teacher, Babbitt, MN
A Partial List of Employers Who Have Hired BSU Science Graduates (Continued):

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<th>Employer</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>St. Mark's School</td>
<td>Middle School Science Teacher</td>
<td>St. Paul, MN</td>
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<td>St. Mary's Mission School</td>
<td>Science/Health Teacher</td>
<td>Red Lake, MN</td>
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<td>St. Michael-Albertville High School</td>
<td>Science/Physics Teacher</td>
<td>Albertville, MN</td>
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<td>St. Paul Public Schools</td>
<td>Science Teacher</td>
<td>St. Paul, MN</td>
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<td>St. Philip's School</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
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<td>Triton Jr/Sr High School</td>
<td>Math &amp; Science Teacher</td>
<td>Bourbon, IN</td>
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<td>Verndale School District</td>
<td>Science Teacher</td>
<td>Verndale, MN</td>
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<td>Warroad High School</td>
<td>Chemistry/Environmental Studies Teacher</td>
<td>Warroad, MN</td>
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<td>West Fargo School District</td>
<td>Science Teacher</td>
<td>Fargo, MN</td>
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<td>Wheaton Area High School</td>
<td>7-12 Science Teacher</td>
<td>Wheaton, MN</td>
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<td>White Bear Lake High School</td>
<td>Science Teacher</td>
<td>White Bear Lake, MN</td>
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<td>Winona Public Schools</td>
<td>Science Teacher</td>
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<td>Bagley School District</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
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<td>Blackduck School District</td>
<td>High School Science Teacher</td>
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<td>Braham School District</td>
<td>Substitute Teacher</td>
<td>Braham, MN</td>
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<td>North Branch Area Public Schools</td>
<td>Eighth Grade Earth Science Teacher</td>
<td>North Branch, MN</td>
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<td>Pillager School</td>
<td>Middle School Science Teacher</td>
<td>Pillager, MN</td>
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<td>Warroad School District</td>
<td>5th Grade Teacher</td>
<td>Warroad, MN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Red Lake School District</td>
<td>Science Teacher</td>
<td>Red Lake, MN</td>
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**Note 1:** Some of the above job/career titles require advanced degrees or specialized training.

**Note 2:** Degrees alone do not get students jobs. Internships, summer jobs, volunteer work, part-time jobs, work-study positions, and active participation in student organizations on campus are all ways to become more competitive in a tight job market.

**Note 3:** Personal Competencies: it is also recommended that individuals be competent in a variety of communication methods, and computer skills are a must.

**Bibliography:**
- Bemidji State University Undergraduate Catalog 2006-2008. Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2009)
- DISCOVER. The American Testing Program, Educational Technology Center, Hunt Valley, MD (2009)

For more information, please contact the Career Services Office in 102 Sanford Hall or call us at 218-755-2038 or toll free at 800-657-3726.