Career Outlook 2018: Environmental Studies

**Environmental Studies Programs Available at Bemidji State University:**

**Major:** Environmental Studies (B.S.)  
**Minors:** Environmental Studies, Sustainability

**Fields of Emphasis:** Industrial Ecology, Environmental Health and Toxicology, Ecosystem, Environmental Policy and Planning, Geohydrology.

**Department Website:** [http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/departments/ceeess/](http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/departments/ceeess/)

**EMPLOYMENT AREAS AND PROJECTED DEMAND:**

The “Occupational Outlook Handbook” (OOH) reports Environmental Scientists and Specialists held about 89,500 jobs in 2016. An additional 5,300 jobs were held by environmental science faculty. About 37% of environmental scientists were employed in state and local governments; and 9% were employed in engineering services.

OOH reports that the nationwide demand for environmental scientists and specialists is expected to grow faster than average through 2026, with people in their career earning between $41,220 and $120,320 per year. The median annual wages of environmental scientists and specialists were $68,910 in 2016. Many hold graduate degrees.

**PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES GRADUATES:**

There are many career opportunities for Bemidji State University Environmental Studies graduates. Of the Bemidji State University 2015-2016 Environmental Studies graduates, 71.4% reported obtaining related employment within one year of graduation, and 33.3% continued their education. This does not include students who were not seeking employment, unavailable, or had unknown status.

**PARTIAL LIST OF EMPLOYERS WHO HAVE REPORTED HIRING BSU ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES GRADUATES**: (This list only includes employment within one year of graduation.)

- **City of Bemidji**  
  - Recreation  
  - Bemidji, MN

- **College of St. Benedict**  
  - Sustainability Fellow  
  - St. Joseph, MN

- **Great Plains Processing**  
  - Health Safety Environment Quality Lead  
  - Luverne, MN

- **Montana State University**  
  - Field Research Crew Leader  
  - Bozeman, MT

- **Oregon State University**  
  - Graduate Student  
  - Corvallis, OR

**COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WHERE BSU ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES GRADUATES HAVE GONE TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION:**

- **Bemidji State University** Bemidji, MN
- **Montana State University**, Bozeman, MT
- **Oregon State University** Corvallis, OR
- **University Of Minnesota Twin Cities**, Minneapolis, MN

*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.

**Bibliography:**

- [Annual Graduate Follow-Up Study 2015-2016](#)  
  Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2018)
- [Bemidji State University Undergraduate Catalog 2017-2018](#)  
  Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2017)
- [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#)  
  U.S. Dept. of Labor, JIST Publishing Inc., Indianapolis, IN (2017)

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For more information, contact Career Services; Decker Hall/218-755-2038/career@bemidjistate.edu

For more job listings please visit:

[http://www.bemidjistate.edu/students/services/career/job_search/jobs/](http://www.bemidjistate.edu/students/services/career/job_search/jobs/)