

Career Outlook 2019: Geography

Geography Programs Available at Bemidji State University:

Major: Geography (B.A.) (B.S.); Wilderness Management (B.A.S.) based on articulation agreement with Vermilion Community College- Refer to separate Career Outlook

Fields of Emphasis: Physical Geography; Planning; Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Related Field of Emphasis: Social Studies: Geography (B.A.)

Minors: Geography, Graphic Information Systems (GIS)

Department Website: <http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/departments/geography>

EMPLOYMENT AREAS AND PROJECTED DEMAND:

The "Occupational Outlook Handbook" (OOH) reports that surveyors, cartographers, photogrammetrists, and surveying and mapping technicians held about 117,600 jobs in 2016. The architectural, engineering, and related services industry—including firms that provided surveying and mapping services to other industries on a contract basis—provided the majority of jobs for these workers. Major Federal Government employers are the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Army Corps of Engineers. Most surveyors in State and local government work for highway departments or urban planning and redevelopment agencies. Utility companies also employ surveyors, cartographers, photogrammetrists, and surveying technicians.

OOH reports that the nationwide demand for cartographers and photogrammetrists is projected to grow much faster than average through 2026, with people established in their career generally earning between \$40,390 and \$100,670 per year. Cartographer's median income was about \$63,990 in 2017, while surveyors averaged \$61,140 and surveying and mapping technicians earned an average of \$43,340 per year.

PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR GEOGRAPHY GRADUATES:

Of the Bemidji State University 2016-2017 Geography B.S. graduates 77.8% obtained 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.

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

Beltrami County Highway Department	GIS Mapping Technician	Bemidji, MN
City of Blaine	Planning and Economic Development	Blaine, MN
City of Willmar	City Planner	Willmar, MN
Fastenal	GIS Analyst	Winona, MN
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	GIS Technician	Cass Lake, MN
Northern Lights Council- BSA	Assistant Ranger	Park Rapids, MN
Ottertail Power Company	GIS Technician	Fergus Falls, MN

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WHERE BSU GEOGRAPHY GRADUATES HAVE GONE TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION:

Nipissing University, North Bay, ON

*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 2016-2017. Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2019)

Bemidji State University Undergraduate Catalog 2018-2019. Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2018)

Occupational Outlook Handbook. U.S. Dept. of Labor, JIST Publishing Inc., Indianapolis, IN (2018)

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

For more job listings please visit:



<https://www.bemidjistate.edu/services/career/events-guides-resources/job-listings/>