

Professional Geologist

Professional geologists gather and interpret data about the Earth's physical structure, its history, and the processes that act upon it. Examples of services:

- create geological maps
- advise governments, industries, and the public on the natural processes that act upon the earth's materials
- predict and evaluate the occurrence of natural resources
- study and identify geological elements, including their hazards and usefulness to people

Education

Bachelor's degree in a [Department-registered](#) geological sciences licensure program, or the equivalent

OR

Bachelor's degree in a related science or engineering and a master's or doctoral degree in geological sciences

Experience

4 or 5 years of professional experience, based on education

Examination

ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology OR Principals of Geology Exam

- ▶ Visit the [Office of the Professions](#) for a listing of all options and requirements.

Video



Salary and Projected Growth

- Median salary: \$91,130 in the U.S., \$72,280 in NY
- Salary range: \$53,770 - \$89,650
- Projected growth: faster than average

Where Could I Work?

- Consulting
- Government and education
- Oil and gas exploration, mining
- Engineering and construction

Your Interests and Abilities

- Physics and chemistry
- Mathematics
- Technical writing
- Ability to complete fieldwork

Professional Skills

- Independence
- Attention to detail
- Analytical thinking
- Communication

What Interests You?

Match your interests and personality to career options! Explore a free career tool at mynextmove.org/explore/ip

Tip: try searching for mentoring programs—talk to a professional geologist about what they do and how they got started!