

The following is a sample of occupational titles and work settings related to Physics.

Keep in mind that career options are not dictated solely by choice of major.

Just as there are many careers open to graduates of any major, there are many paths to careers that do not require a specific degree. Use this information as a beginning guide to exploring options.

## Sample Job Titles:

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- Aerodynamist
- Aerospace Engineer
- Air Traffic Controller
- Airline Dispatcher
- Airplane Pilot/Navigator
- Architect
- Architectural Drafter
- Astronomer
- Astrophysicist
- Atmospheric and Space Scientist
- Aviation Inspector
- Ballistics Expert
- Biomedical Engineer
- Biophysicist
- Chemical Engineer
- Computer Programmer
- Computer Software Engineer
- Computer Systems Engineer
- Consultant
- Cosmologist
- Crime Laboratory Analyst
- Curator/Natural History Museum
- Editor (Technical)
- Elementary Particle Physicist
- Engineering Technician (Electrical, Civil)
- Environmental Scientist
- Experimental Physicist
- Fire Prevention and Protection Engineer
- Flight Engineer
- Fluid Physicist
- Forensic Science Technician
- Geophysical Data Technician
- Geoscientist
- Hydrologist
- Information Scientist
- Instrumental Technician
- Laboratory Technician
- Laser Technician
- Librarian, Special
- Machinist
- Manufacturers' Representative
- Materials Engineer
- Materials Scientist
- Mathematician
- Mechanical Engineer
- Medical Lab Technician
- Medical Physicist
- Medical Technologist
- Metallurgist
- Meteorologist
- Microbiologist
- Mining and Geological Engineers
- Nuclear Engineer
- Nuclear Physicist
- Nuclear Technician
- Occupational Health and Safety Specialist
- Optical Physicist
- Optometric Assistant
- Optometrist
- Petroleum Engineers
- Pharmacologist
- Photogrammetrist
- Photo-optics Technician
- Physical Scientist
- Physician
- Physicist
- Physics Teacher, Postsecondary
- Planetologist
- Plasma Physicist
- Product Safety Engineer
- Radiologic Technologist
- Radiologist
- Safety Manager
- Salesperson, Scientific Apparatus
- Science Technologist
- Seismologist
- Software Engineer
- Solar and Stellar Physicist
- Solar Astronomer
- Solidstate Physicist
- Space Physicist
- Stress Analyst
- Systems Analyst
- Technical Secretary
- Theoretical Physicist
- Writer, Technical
- Zoologist

## Possible Professional Settings:

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- Airlines Industry
- Astronaut Corps
- Atomic and Nuclear Laboratories
- Chemical Companies
- Colleges & Universities
- Electronic Firms
- Engineering Firms
- Federal Government
- Government Agencies:  
Dept. of Agriculture  
Dept. of Commerce
- Dept. of Defense
- Dept. of Energy
- Dept. of the Interior
- High Tech Firms
- Hospitals
- Laboratories
- Mining Companies
- Museums
- National Aeronautics &  
Space Administration
- National Oceanic &  
Atmospheric Administration
- National Science  
Foundation
- National Transportation  
Safety Board
- Nonprofit Research Groups
- Nuclear Regulation  
Commission
- Observatories
- Oilfields
- Patent Law Firms
- Petroleum Companies
- Power Plants
- Private Industry:  
Corporations such as IBM,  
Allied, Carrier, and Dow  
Chemical
- Research & Development  
Firms
- School Boards
- State & Local Governments
- United States Military:  
Army, Navy, Coast Guard,  
Air Force
- Weather Bureaus

## Resources:

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The following lists are samples of resources available for learning more about majors and careers.

### Websites Related to this Field

- Institute of Physics: [www.iop.org/](http://www.iop.org/)
- Physics Central: [www.physicscentral.com](http://www.physicscentral.com)
- Physics World.com: [www.physicsworld.com](http://www.physicsworld.com)

### Professional Associations - Samples

- American Association of Physics Teachers: [www.aapt.org](http://www.aapt.org)
- American Association of Physicists in Medicine: [www.aapm.org](http://www.aapm.org)
- Biophysical Society: [www.biophysics.org](http://www.biophysics.org)
- Physics Teacher Education Coalition: <http://www.phystec.org/>
- Society of Physics Students: [www.spsnational.org/cup/](http://www.spsnational.org/cup/)

### General Career Information

- Occupational Outlook Handbook: [www.bls.gov/ooh/](http://www.bls.gov/ooh/)
- The Occupational Information Network, (O\*Net): [www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org)

### SPU Resources

- Physics Department Website: <http://www.spu.edu/academics/college-of-arts-sciences/physics>
- Major & Career Exploration (GS 2001 - 2 credits, offered every quarter)
- Career Counseling: call 206.281.2485 or stop by the Center for Career and Calling on the second floor of the SUB
- Academic Advising: [www.spu.edu/depts/sas](http://www.spu.edu/depts/sas)
- Academic Catalog: [www.spu.edu/academics.aspx](http://www.spu.edu/academics.aspx)

\* Websites are current as of August 2020. If any go inactive, please let us know.

Center for  
Career  
and Calling