



CAREER PATH

# Natural Resources Agriculture

CAREER CLUSTER

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

CAREER PATHWAY

Natural Resources and Environmental Service Systems



## ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST AND SPECIALIST

Conduct research or perform investigation for the purpose of identifying, abating, or eliminating sources of pollutants or hazards that affect either the environment or the health of the population. Utilizing knowledge of various scientific disciplines may collect, synthesize, study, report, and take action based on data derived from measurements or observations of air, food, soil, water, and other sources.

### Knowledge and Skills Needed

In addition to courses required for high school graduation, essential skills and knowledge needed for a career as an environmental scientist and specialist are reinforced by taking rigorous and relevant courses, as well as participating in work-based experiences and student organization activities.

(See the Sample Personal Plan of Study for suggested coursework, activities, and knowledge and skills to pursue in preparation of an occupation in this Career Cluster.)

### Education Requirements

Occupation	Percent of Missouri employees aged 25 to 44 in the occupation whose highest level of educational attainment is:		
	High School or Less	Some College	Bachelor Degree or More
Environmental scientists and specialists, including health	0.0%	6.9%	93.0%
Physical Scientists	0.0%	4.0%	96.0%
Life, Physical, and Social Science	5.6%	12.7%	81.7%

Most Common Educational Level: Master's degree

Note: Be sure to learn whether your occupation has a specific requirement for education or licensing. Apprenticeships are available for more than 240 occupations. Visit [www.oa.doleta.gov/bat.cfm](http://www.oa.doleta.gov/bat.cfm)

### National and State Wage Information

Location	Pay Period	2007		
		Entry*	Median	Experienced**
United States	Hourly	\$21.35	\$28.07	\$37.32
	Yearly	\$44,400	\$58,400	\$77,600
Missouri	Hourly	\$17.05	\$20.09	\$24.92
	Yearly	\$35,500	\$41,800	\$51,800

Based on (\*) lower 25% and (\*\*) upper 25% percentile of wages

### National and State Employment Trends

Environmental Scientist and Specialist	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings*
	2006	2016		
United States	83,300	104,100	+ 25%	4,240
Missouri	1,100	1,180	+ 7%	30

\*The estimate for Job Openings includes both turnover that results from people who leave the occupation (e.g. quit, retire, death) and new jobs that are created.

### Educational Opportunities

Note: This list may not be all inclusive. For more information about Missouri schools and programs, visit [www.dhe.mo.gov](http://www.dhe.mo.gov)

**Central Methodist University**  
- College of Liberal Arts & Sciences  
Fayette, MO  
(660) 248-3391  
[www.centralmethodist.edu](http://www.centralmethodist.edu)

**Columbia College**  
Columbia, MO  
(573) 875-8700  
[www.ccis.edu](http://www.ccis.edu)

**Drury University**  
Springfield, MO  
(417) 873-7879  
[www.drury.edu](http://www.drury.edu)

**Maryville University of Saint Louis**  
Saint Louis, MO  
(800) 627-9855  
[www.maryville.edu](http://www.maryville.edu)

**North Central Missouri College**  
Trenton, MO  
(660) 359-3948  
[www.ncmissouri.edu](http://www.ncmissouri.edu)

**Southeast Missouri State University**  
Cape Girardeau, MO  
(573) 651-2000  
[www.semo.edu](http://www.semo.edu)

**Washington University**  
St. Louis, MO  
(314) 935-5000  
[www.wustl.edu](http://www.wustl.edu)

**Webster University**  
Saint Louis, MO  
(314) 961-2660  
[www.webster.edu](http://www.webster.edu)

**Westminster College**  
Fulton, MO  
(573) 642-3361  
[www.westminster-mo.edu](http://www.westminster-mo.edu)



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