

AGRICULTURE and NATURAL RESOURCES

What can I do with this degree?

AREAS	EMPLOYERS	STRATEGIES
<u>ECONOMICS & BUSINESS</u> Appraisal Consulting Risk Management Credit Analysis Retail Management Marketing Sales Public Relations Finance and Banking Economic and Policy Analysis Commodity Trading Farm Management	Agricultural businesses Production industries Credit agencies, banks, brokers Real estate and appraisal services Public/private market analysis firms Farm information services utilizing mass communications County agricultural offices Purchasing/supply firms Feedlot operations Federal government Private foundations Farm cooperative services Feed and seed companies Self-employment	Plan on securing a masters or doctoral degree for advanced positions. Gain work experience in area of interest through internships, co-ops, or summer or part-time work. Get involved in campus and community organizations. Learn the federal job application procedure for government work.
<u>EXTENSION/EDUCATION</u>	Schools Extension services Agricultural agencies Agricultural communications and media firms Agribusinesses Government agencies	Obtain teacher certification for public school positions. Develop excellent writing and speaking skills. Take courses in economics and community development. Learn to work well with all types of people. Develop strong interpersonal skills. Be willing to live in rural communities for extension positions.
<u>BIOSYSTEMS ENGINEERING</u> Power and Machinery Structures and Environment Electronic Systems Soil & Water Conservation Food Engineering Engineering Technology	Equipment design, testing, and manufacturing firms Equipment and food industries including: processing, packaging, and storing Quality control organizations for food, feed, or fiber Biotechnology research firms Environmental consulting firms Local, state, and federal government Public health service	Gain experience through co-ops or internships. Develop strong math skills and problem solving abilities. Earn an advanced degree for positions in research and development.

AREAS	EMPLOYERS	STRATEGIES
<u>ANIMAL SCIENCE</u> Research Inspection Farm Production and Management Veterinary Science Sales	Genetic research organizations Agribusinesses: meat, poultry, feed Government laboratories Livestock producers Feed companies; Feedlot operations Supply and equipment industries Extension services Veterinary practices Universities	Gain extensive laboratory and research experience. Get experience in a veterinary medical practice and prepare for application to veterinary school. Obtain knowledge of sales and business principles if interested in that area. Develop good communication skills.
<u>FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY</u> Quality Assurance Research Food Chemistry and Microbiology Manufacturing & Distribution	Food industry, including: Processing plants Quality control units Manufacturing Distribution Government laboratories and regulatory agencies such as the USDA Universities	Plan on securing advanced degrees for promotion. Obtain laboratory and research experience. Find a related internship. Take additional courses in chemistry, biology, and microbiology.
<u>FORESTRY</u> Forest Recreation Resource Interpretation Resource Management Wood Products/Utilization	Local, state and federal government Forestry Service USDA National and state parks Reserves Research Centers Lumber, pulp, and paper industries Private industry Landowners Nature centers	Develop physical stamina, resourcefulness, and outdoor skills. Gain experience through volunteer opportunities or internships. Be willing to relocate.
<u>WILDLIFE & FISHERIES</u> Law Enforcement Conservation Resource/Range Management Wildlife/Fisheries Biology Aquaculture	Local, state, and federal government including: Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Wildlife refuges Management areas Private industries (e.g. aquaculture production firms) County/municipal agencies Foundations, museums, nature centers, zoos Nonprofit organizations	Develop physical stamina, outdoor skills, and attention to detail. Plan to earn a business minor or take additional communications courses including conflict management. Earn a minor in criminal justice for game management. Develop interpersonal skills. Obtain paid or volunteer experience while in school.

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

PLANT & SOIL SCIENCES

Crop Production Management
Research
Environmental Science
Plant Breeding
Soil and Water Conservation
Soil and Plant Tissue Analysis
Pest Management
Farm Management
Sales

Extension services
Federal agencies
Agribusiness
Construction agencies
Plant propagation/production agencies
International agricultural agencies
Harvesting and fertilization manufacturers

Find a related internship.
Develop effective communication skills.
Supplement curriculum with courses in business, geology, entomology, or pathology depending upon interests.

ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE & LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Growing/Production
Design
Landscape Construction
Nursery Management
Arboriculture
Turfgrass Management
Sales
Plant Therapy

Landscaping firms
Parks and amusement parks
Golf courses
Cemeteries
Large hotels and resorts
Industrial sites
Wholesale growers: nurseries, greenhouses, florists
Retail outlets
City and highway departments
Botanical gardens and arboreturns
Floral designers
Government agencies: local, state, and federal
Colleges and universities
Self-employed
Health-related organizations and community centers

Get practical experience in the field through internships or summer and part-time jobs.
Develop skills in speaking, writing, and photography.
Minor in business if interested in management or self-employment.
Be prepared to work seasonally or move to a climate where more year-round opportunities are available.
Earn Registered Horticultural Therapist licensure for plant therapy.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- For entry-level positions, a bachelor's degree is sufficient. A master's or doctoral degree is often necessary for advancement. Some federal and private agency work, consulting positions, and especially research positions require a graduate degree.
- Obtain volunteer, part-time, summer, internship, or co-op experience in field of study.
- Develop excellent computer skills.
- Join a student club or student professional association to network and cultivate related academic interests.
- Many students apply to professional programs such as pharmacy, medical, or veterinary school with an agriculture and natural resources background.
- Majoring in two subject areas or pursuing a minor can increase marketability. For example, study in landscape design and business can lead to higher-level management opportunities.