

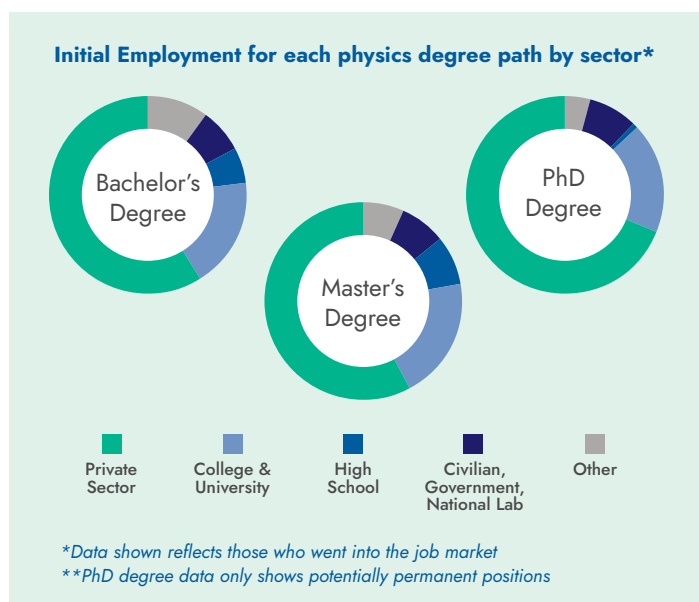
# CAREERS IN PHYSICS

## A compact guide to finding your success!

With tips, advice, and resources on career planning, networking, and searching and applying for jobs.

### Know Your Options and Plan Early

Because most physicists—regardless of their degree path—do not become an academic professor.



Did you know that a majority of physics degree holders find rewarding careers outside of academia? A few examples of non-academic jobs held by physicists include:

- Research Scientists
- Engineers
- Patent Lawyers
- Financial Analysts
- Science Policy Consultants
- Data Scientists



For more information on jobs held by physicists after graduation, check out the AIP Statistical Research Center:

[aip.org/statistics/employment](http://aip.org/statistics/employment)

It is never too early to begin exploring career options and figuring out what jobs are your best fit. A thorough self-assessment is the first and essential step for successful career planning, and can take a fair amount of time—so you will want to begin this process months or even years before graduation.

### SELF-ASSESSMENT

Evaluate your Interests

Assess Your Skills

Understand your Priorities



### APS CAREER NAVIGATOR

This tool is your online career roadmap. Learn more about career planning, self-assessment, and topics like informational interviews, networking, resume writing, and more!

[aps.org/careers/career-navigator](http://aps.org/careers/career-navigator)

### Next Steps Forward

Discovering More About the Physics Workforce

### INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEWS

An informational interview is one of the best tools for getting an “insider” view of an industry. They are brief discussions with someone working at a company or industry of interest. The interview is your opportunity to ask about this person’s career choices, specific aspects of their job, and more!

[aps.org/careers/advice/informational-interviews](http://aps.org/careers/advice/informational-interviews)

### EXPLORE APS CAREERS RESOURCES



#### APS Job Prospects for Physicists Page

Explore different career paths physicists can take and learn about starting salary, degree path, and a description of daily activities for each type of job.

[go.aps.org/jobprospects](http://go.aps.org/jobprospects)



#### APS Physicist Profiles

Browse our profiles to explore the career paths of over 60 people with physics degrees.

[go.aps.org/careerprofiles](http://go.aps.org/careerprofiles)



#### APS Webinars

Check out the large library of APS webinars, covering topics like science policy, data science, skills for industry jobs, opportunities for non-US citizens, and much more!

[aps.org/events/webinars](http://aps.org/events/webinars)

## Building Networks

Experts estimate that about 80% of jobs are found through networking, so having a strong network is extremely important.

### APS IMPact: Industry Mentoring for Physicists

IMPact connects you directly with industry physicists. If you're not sure where to start networking, sign up for APS IMPact and search for mentors by field of work, demographics, location, interests and hobbies, and more!

[go.aps.org/IMPact](https://go.aps.org/IMPact)

### APS National Mentoring Community (NMC)

The NMC connects historically marginalized and minoritized students with a network of mentors to support them on their academic and career journeys.

[go.aps.org/nmc](https://go.aps.org/nmc)

### LinkedIn®

A feature of LinkedIn® is that it will show you how many "degrees of separation" exist between you and a company or person. If that degree is two or less, you could ask your connection for an introduction. The more connections you build, the larger your potential reach.

[go.aps.org/linkedin](https://go.aps.org/linkedin)

### APS Meeting, Job Fairs, and Exhibits

Attending conferences is a fantastic way to expand your network. To get the most out of APS meetings:

- Attend career panels and networking events.
- Attend APS Career Fairs.
- Visit the Exhibit Hall.

[aps.org/events](https://aps.org/events)

### APS FUTURE OF PHYSICS DAYS EVENTS

Each year, APS and the Society of Physics Students team up to offer events just for undergraduates at the Annual Meetings. Events include a grad school fair, career panels, undergraduate research sessions, and more!

[go.aps.org/fpd](https://go.aps.org/fpd)

## Summary

While physics is one of the most employable majors, a majority of graduates find work in non-academic sectors. So, it is essential that you begin learning about options and planning your career early.

### APS is Here to Help!

APS is invested in your success as an early career physicist and has developed a host of resources on our careers website to help you discover your path forward. For access to all of the resources listed in this brochure—along with other career-related information—please visit our careers page: [www.aps.org/careers](http://www.aps.org/careers)

## Searching and Applying for Jobs

### APS PHYSICS JOB BOARD

The APS Job Board can put literally hundreds of science employment opportunities at your fingertips! Job seekers can store multiple versions of their resumes, set up job alerts, and perform targeted keyword searches—all for FREE!

[careers.aps.org](https://careers.aps.org)

### CV VERSUS RESUME

Most industry job postings you find will likely ask for a resume, not a CV! While CVs are comprehensive, broad, tend to be long, and are required for academic positions, resumes are generally 1-2 pages in length and only include skills and experiences that are relevant to a specific job description.

For more tips on writing a good resume, check out the Resume Guide of the APS Career Navigator.

[aps.org/careers/advice/effective-resumes](https://aps.org/careers/advice/effective-resumes)



## Interviewing and Negotiation

When your resume does its job, you will need to prepare for a successful interview by doing the following:



**Review the job description and be prepared to address how your skillset is a good match**



**Look up common interview questions and practice with a friend**



**Prepare some questions that you might want to ask**



**For more tips on interviewing and negotiation, see the APS Career Navigator**

[aps.org/careers/advice/interview-negotiate](https://aps.org/careers/advice/interview-negotiate)