

SHAPE YOUR WORLD – FIND THE RIGHT CAREER FOR YOU!

Just like trying on a pair of shoes, picking a career is all about finding one that's a good fit.

- "Does it match my personality?"
- "Does it call for the skills I'm good at?"
- "Are the location, pay, and benefits right for me?"
- "Will it allow me to learn and grow?"
- "Will I love what I do?"
- "Will it allow me to make a difference in the world?"
- "Is this a "green" job that will protect the environment and lead to a sustainable future?"

Finding a public works career that matches the career pathways and clusters you're most interested in is **as easy as 1-2-3.**

STEP 1

FIND A MATCH.

Use the table on pages 8-15 to find a match between career clusters that appeal to you and fit the questions you answered above in the related, in-demand public works careers.

STEP 2

GET THE FACTS.

Research and read information about public works careers. The American Public Works Association has local chapters across North America and every municipality has public works professionals willing to answer questions and discuss opportunities for job shadowing or on-site visits. To learn more about public works opportunities go to <https://workzone.apwa.net>.

STEP 3

MAKE A PLAN.

Talk to your guidance counselor about how you can apply your current plan of study and interests to best prepare you for a career in public works.

The charts on the following pages will help you quickly identify the public works careers that matches your interests and fit your specific goals, skills, and interests.

KEY

Use the below information to read the table on the following pages.

A

CAREER CLUSTER

- Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
- Architecture and Construction
- Business Management and Administration
- Education and Training
- Finance
- Government and Public Administration
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security
- Manufacturing
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
- Transportation, Distribution and Logistics

The national Career Cluster framework organizes careers based on common knowledge, skills and abilities to help students plan their education for a smooth transition to college or work. Match the Career Clusters that appeal to you with the related public works careers.

B

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- HS = High School Diploma
- TT = Technical Training
- C = College

The educational requirement information is based on entry level positions for each career. This information was provided by public works departments throughout North America.

C

AVERAGE SALARY

Average salaries vary with locations and regions. Average salary information typically comes from the US Dept of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment, and Wage Estimates May 2020. Salary Information for positions not listed by the US Department of Labor come from information provided by public works departments throughout North America.

D

APPLIED LEARNING

Do you see yourself working in an office, the field, a plant?

- Field
- Office
- Plant

E

WORK MODE

Are you most comfortable working with your hands, machines, other people?

- Hands
- Machines
- People

F

APPLIED LEARNING

-
-
-
-

G

GREEN JOBS

Working in this career lets you help meet our most pressing environmental challenges.

- Green Jobs

ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT	CAREER CLUSTER	EDUCATION	AVERAGE SALARY	WORK ENVIRONMENT			WORK MODE			APPLIED LEARNING			GREEN JOB	
				Field	Office	Plant	Hands	Machines	People	Language Arts	Math	Science		Social Studies
Administrative Assistant			\$43,150											
Assistant General Manager			\$100,963											
Billing/Account Clerk			\$36,360											
Budget Analyst for Public Works			\$80,220											
Capital Contracts Manager			\$167,870											
Capital Improvement Program Manager			\$92,850											
Code Enforcement Officer			\$56,598											
Community Development Director			\$80,895											
Contract Specialist			\$47,492											
Customer Service			\$37,136											
Data Entry Clerk			\$36,256											
Deputy Public Works Director			\$101,244											
Finance Manager for Public Works			\$84,780											
General Manager			\$92,230											
Human Resources Manager for Public Works			\$108,600											
IT Systems Specialist			\$59,364											
IT Systems Support Specialist			\$68,252											
Office Manager			\$48,700											
Permit Manager			\$62,100											
Planning and Zoning Director			\$66,020											
Public Education Coordinator			\$50,440											
Public Information Director/Public Relations			\$104,390											
Public Works Director			\$110,000											
Public Works Safety & Training Officer			\$57,830											
Public Works Services Specialist			\$54,500											

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

Construction Inspector			\$64,330											
Construction Manager			\$102,826											
Construction Worker			\$51,702											
Crew Leader			\$31,823											
Equipment Operator			\$46,230											
Heavy Equipment Operator			\$46,200											
Project Manager			\$79,036											
Public Works Operator			\$33,590											

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	CAREER CLUSTER	EDUCATION	AVERAGE SALARY	WORK ENVIRONMENT			WORK MODE			APPLIED LEARNING			GREEN JOB	
				Field	Office	Plant	Hands	Machines	People	Language Arts	Math	Science		Social Studies
Director of Emergency Management			\$90,830											
Emergency Operations Manager			\$60,330											
Emergency Preparedness Coordinator			\$56,950											
Operations Section Chief			\$90,100											
Recovery Coordinator			\$75,000											
Resiliency Officer			\$74,900											
ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY														
Associate Engineer			\$69,281											
CAD Designer			\$52,268											
CAD Manager			\$72,810											
CAD Technician			\$45,225											
City Engineer			\$96,888											
Civil Engineer			\$94,360											
Communications Technician			\$54,912											
Construction Inspector			\$64,330											
Construction Manager			\$105,000											
Engineering Assistant/ Intern			\$60,320											
Engineering Technician			\$60,320											
Geotechnical Engineer			\$84,200											
GIS Manager			\$72,900											
GIS Mapping Technician			\$60,320											
GIS Specialist in Public Works			\$76,000											
Mechanical Engineer			\$93,540											
Structural Engineer			\$89,080											
FACILITIES, GROUNDS AND URBAN FORESTRY														
Arborist			\$54,840											
Building Crafts Mechanic			\$59,160											
Building Inspector			\$52,160											
Carpenter			\$43,890											
Custodian			\$24,370											
Facilities Director			\$106,550											
Facilities Maintenance Sr. Specialist			\$64,350											
Facilities Maintenance Worker			\$43,172											

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	CAREER CLUSTER	EDUCATION	AVERAGE SALARY	WORK ENVIRONMENT			WORK MODE			APPLIED LEARNING			GREEN JOB	
				Field	Office	Plant	Hands	Machines	People	Language Arts	Math	Science		Social Studies
Facilities Manager			\$92,792											
Facilities Supervisor			\$68,281											
Forestry Technician			\$42,740											
Grounds Technicians			\$33,400											
HVAC Worker			\$58,200											
Landscape Architect			\$66,880											
Parks and Grounds Worker			\$28,960											
Parks and Recreation Director			\$81,095											
Urban Forester			\$55,790											
FLEET SERVICES														
Equipment Mechanic			\$51,918											
Fleet Manager			\$98,345											
Fleet Services Supervisor			\$62,048											
Fleet Technicians			\$50,710											
Inventory Control Clerk			\$35,896											
Parts and Inventory Manager			\$51,282											
Shop Foreman			\$56,170											
PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY														
ADA/Pedestrian Facilities Coordinator			\$42,380											
Assistant Surveyor			\$45,385											
Director of Utilities			\$122,500											
Real Property or Easement Manager			\$72,547											
Right-of-Way Manager			\$87,350											
Safety Manager			\$67,500											
Subsurface Utility Engineering Technician			\$36,500											
Survey Technician			\$40,370											
Surveyor			\$58,140											
Utility Clerk			\$32,550											
Utility Coordinator			\$44,200											
SOLID WASTE														
Composting Manager			\$49,000											
Environmental Inspector			\$65,250											

SOLID WASTE CONTINUED	CAREER CLUSTER	EDUCATION	AVERAGE SALARY	WORK ENVIRONMENT			WORK MODE			APPLIED LEARNING			GREEN JOB	
				Field	Office	Plant	Hands	Machines	People	Language Arts	Math	Science		Social Studies
Hazardous Materials Specialist			\$40,800											
Landfill Operator			\$50,700											
Landfill Supervisor			\$56,300											
Recycling Coordinator			\$41,500											
Recycling Program Manager			\$52,800											
Refuse Collection Truck Drivers			\$42,300											
Solid Waste Engineer			\$79,410											
Solid Waste Manager			\$64,500											
Solid Waste Supervisor			\$59,000											
Solid Waste Technician			\$32,160											
Sustainability Director			\$98,400											
Waste Disposal Attendant			\$39,000											
Waste to Energy Manager			\$76,011											

TRANSPORTATION

Airport Manager			\$89,000											
Bridge Inspector			\$59,200											
Bridge Maintenance Worker			\$35,590											
Sign Fabrication Technician			\$41,000											
Sign/ Marking Technician			\$37,450											
Signal Systems Engineer			\$75,400											
Signal Systems Operator/Technician			\$45,700											
Streets Supervisor			\$45,590											
Streets/ Roads Maintenance Worker			\$35,590											
Traffic Engineer			\$55,800											
Traffic Engineering Technician			\$52,590											
Traffic Operations Manager			\$78,500											
Traffic Signal Maintenance Worker			\$41,663											
Transit Dispatcher			\$36,560											
Transit Operator			\$34,250											
Transportation Manager			\$98,079											

TRANSPORTATION CONTINUED	CAREER CLUSTER	EDUCATION	AVERAGE SALARY	WORK ENVIRONMENT			WORK MODE			APPLIED LEARNING			Social Studies	GREEN JOB	
				Field	Office	Plant	Hands	Machines	People	Language Arts	Math	Science			
Transportation Planning Associate			\$70,487												
Transportation Systems Modeler			\$65,750												
Tree Trimmer			\$32,200												
Unmanned Aerial System/ Drone Operator			\$59,139												
WATER RESOURCES															
Chemist			\$71,070												
Environmental Program Manager			\$79,374												
Erosion Control Inspector			\$60,515												
Laboratory Technician			\$35,550												
Meter Readers			\$45,998												
Natural Resources Compliance Officer			\$54,600												
Sewer Maintenance Worker			\$36,550												
Sewer TV Technician			\$42,500												
Stormwater Engineer			\$77,970												
Stormwater Manager			\$47,350												
Wastewater Collection Superintendent			\$70,700												
Wastewater Plant Supervisor			\$60,000												
Wastewater Treatment Plant Maintenance Worker			\$35,500												
Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator			\$42,530												
Water Conservation Specialist			\$58,850												
Water Plant Operators			\$39,950												
Water Plant Supervisor			\$62,750												
Water Production/Quality Control Officer			\$46,600												
Water System Maintenance Worker			\$40,200												
Water Utility Service Worker			\$32,950												