Minerals Day 2021
Cool Careers

Glass and Ceramics Industry

This industry produces many of the materials and components on which modern technologies rely. The industry depends greatly on the expertise and innovation of its materials scientists and engineers.

Museum Curator

A museum curator for gems and minerals is a scientist with profound knowledge of his or her subject area. The curator is responsible for guiding the museum in establishing and maintaining its collections, as well as advising on how the collections are displayed so as to be most educational to the public.

K-12 Earth Science Teaching

Teaching Earth Science to K-12 students is a rewarding and challenging career. Teachers plan and teach lessons, mentor and encourage their students, and strive to develop a life-long interest in the sciences. A bachelor’s degree is the minimum requirement for most school districts.

Scientific Federal Agencies

A number of federal agencies hire mineralogists and petrologists for a wide variety of tasks. The National Science Foundation, for example, exists to provide grants for scientific research. Program Officers there must have the necessary scientific expertise to decide which grant proposals are worthy of funding. Another example is the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). The USGS hires all types of scientists, particularly those with degrees in the geosciences.