

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, B.S.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Erie

Career Paths

The study of environmental science leads to a wide variety of careers. Penn State Behrend offers two options to help you tailor your degree to your interests. The Environmental Field Studies Option has a concentration in field biology, geographic information systems, and environmental geoscience, while the Environmental Lab Science Option emphasizes analytical chemistry and geochemistry. Penn State Behrend has a comprehensive support system to help you identify and achieve your goals for college and beyond. Meet with your academic adviser often and take advantage of the services offered by the Academic and Career Planning Center beginning in your first semester.

Careers

State and federal agencies, nonprofits, and corporations are looking for environmental scientists. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that over the next twenty years the number of jobs for environmental scientists will grow faster than the average for all occupations. This increase will be driven by population growth and the concurrent need for water, energy, and mineral resources. A recent survey of undergraduate institutions showed that environmental science students typically are prepared for careers in many parts of the economy, including government agencies; nonprofit, advocacy, and nongovernmental organizations; consulting; education; industry; and resource management and conservation.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE PROGRAM (<https://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-science/academic-programs/environmental-science>)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

A graduate degree allows you to take your environmental science education in a targeted direction. Advanced-degree disciplines commonly pursued by environmental science majors include environmental engineering, resource management, environmental science and policy, public health, atmospheric science, oceanography, and sustainability.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (<https://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-science/academic-programs/environmental-science>)

Professional Resources

- Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences (<https://aessonline.org/>)
- National Association of Environmental Professionals (<https://www.naep.org/>)
- Geological Society of America (<https://www.geosociety.org/>)
- American Geophysical Union (<https://www.agu.org/>)
- Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists (<https://www.aegweb.org/>)
- Soil and Water Conservation Society (<https://www.swcs.org/>)
- American Association of Geographers (<https://www.aag.org/>)