

ASTRONOMY AND ASTROPHYSICS, 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: University Park

Career Paths

Careers

Penn State students with a B.S. in Astronomy & Astrophysics have been successful in establishing careers in a wide variety of technical fields. Students should be aware that a degree in astronomy is less well known by employers than degrees in computer science or physics. We encourage majors intending to end their education with a B.S. to obtain a minor or double major in one of these two allied fields. Students interested in job placement after a B.S. degree are strongly encouraged to participate in departmental research or the Eberly College of Science internship program during their time at Penn State.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE ASTRONOMY AND ASTROPHYSICS PROGRAM (<https://science.psu.edu/astro/undergrad/career-opportunities>)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

Many of our alumni pursue graduate education in astrophysics after completing our undergraduate degree. Students apply to enter PhD programs in astrophysics in the fall of their senior year. Some students choose to do graduate work in related fields such as physics, geoscience / planetary science, ecology, or engineering. Other students have successfully pursued master's degrees in education in order to earn teaching certification to teach physics or Earth and space science.

Professional Resources

- American Astronomical Society (<https://aas.org>)
- Astronomical Society of the Pacific (<https://astrosociety.org>)