

## Feature Story

# Graduates Going Green?

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**W**hat is the labor supply picture for green jobs in Nebraska's economy? What fields of study may lead to employment in green jobs? In order to answer these questions, graduate outcomes fields of study were linked to occupation classifications to identify labor supply for potential green jobs.

Education fields of study have a coding system called the Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP). Occupations are classified by the Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) codes with additional detail provided by Occupational Information Network (O\*NET) codes. The National Crosswalk Service Center provides CIP to SOC and CIP to O\*NET crosswalks to portray content relationships between occupations and fields of study. This CIP to SOC crosswalk was used to identify the number of people who graduated in fields of study that may lead to employment in O\*NET identified green occupations. Graduates from every degree level in a field of study were counted in the totals.

O\*NET identified green occupations in three categories. Individuals in Green Increased Demand Occupations do

the same work as in existing occupations, such as Electrical Equipment Technicians; however there may be increased demand for the occupation due to green economic activities. Green Enhanced Skills Occupations have the same purpose as existing occupations but may require additional skills or credentials due to the greening of the work place, as in the case of a Mechanical Engineer specializing as a Diesel Retrofit Designer. Green New and Emerging Occupations occur when the work and requirements for an occupation are new, such as Biomass Plant Technician. In July 2009, O\*NET added 153 additional New and Emerging O\*NET-SOC occupations.

The following table displays the top 10 number of graduates by CIP code paired with the corresponding possible green occupations by SOC code and title for the top five numbers of graduates from all participants in the Graduate Outcomes Project. Some fields of study may lead to more than one possible green occupation and some green occupations may be linked to several fields of study. The highest number of graduates was in the General Business Administration field of study. Graduates from this field of study may go into three different green occupations as identified by O\*NET;

however, graduates in General Business Administration and Management may go into many more non-green occupations. For graduates working in Nebraska, it is not possible to know the occupations graduates work in, but the number of graduates may be of use as an indicator of skilled labor supply for these potential green occupations. ■

### Reference:

Dierdorff, Erich, Norton, Jennife, Drewes, Donald, & Kroustalis, Christina, Rivkin, David and Lewis, Phil. Greening of the World of Work: Implications for O\*NET-SOC and New and Emerging Occupations, February 2009. [http://www.onetcenter.org/dl\\_files/Green.pdf](http://www.onetcenter.org/dl_files/Green.pdf)

### Potential Green Occupations

CIP CODE	CIP TITLE	Number of Graduates	SOC Code	SOC Title
520201	Business Administration and Management, General	735	113071	Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers
			111021	General and Operations Managers
			119021	Construction Managers
470604	Automobile/Automotive Mechanics Technology/Technician	118	493023	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics
150303	Electrical, Electronic and Communications Engineering Technology/Technician	100	173023	Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technicians
490205	Truck and Bus Driver/Commercial Vehicle Operation	56	533032	Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer
470201	Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation and Refrigeration Maintenance Technology/Technician (HAC, HACR, HVAC, HVACR)	55	499021	Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers
480501	Machine Tool Technology/Machinist	42	514041	Machinists
520205	Operations Management and Supervision	38	119021	Construction Managers
090499	Journalism, Other	28	273022	Reporters and Correspondents
150702	Quality Control Technology/Technician	14	519061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers
090101	Communication Studies/Speech Communication and Rhetoric	13	273031	Public Relations Specialists