

AG ENERGY

AgCareers.com has identified high demand jobs in the agricultural industry. These career profiles are a helpful resource for students and job seekers to explore new roles in the industry, as well as for career educators.

Biorefining Specialist

JOB OVERVIEW

Work to convert biomass into fuels, power & chemicals

Keep track of dried distillers, grains, ethanol, corn, oil, wet cake feed, and distiller's syrup loaded and unloaded into trucks and rail cars

Oversee maintenance & cleaning of all equipment associated

Operate all plant processing equipment and maintain knowledge of process flow



EDUCATION NEEDED

Bachelor's degree in Chemical or Electrical Engineering

RECOMMENDED H.S. COURSES

Ag education, chemistry, computer courses, mathematics

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Ethanol and other alternative energy companies

JOB OUTLOOK

POOR FAIR GOOD GREAT EXCELLENT

Energy Sales Specialist

JOB OVERVIEW

Generate sales of fuel or energy products in assigned territory

Maintain a prospect list and conduct sales calls

Monitor, coordinate, and lead sales activities, inventories, product needs, and service requirements

Follow up on customer complaints and seek solutions in a timely manner



EDUCATION NEEDED

Associate's or Bachelor's in Ag Business, Marketing, or Accounting

RECOMMENDED H.S. COURSES

Ag education, earth science, biology, chemistry, mathematics

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Cooperatives as well as wind and solar energy construction and equipment companies

JOB OUTLOOK

POOR FAIR GOOD GREAT EXCELLENT

Ethanol Engineer

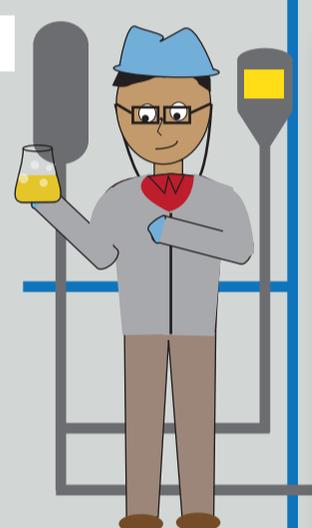
JOB OVERVIEW

Maximize efficiencies of plant operations and implement process improvement projects

Help with cost-saving projects like energy reclaim/reduction, yield optimization, and chemical usage reduction

Identify process needs to maintain production levels

Ensure environmental, health, and safety needs of team members



EDUCATION NEEDED

Bachelor's in chemical/electrical engineering with additional training in microbiology

RECOMMENDED H.S. COURSES

Ag education, biology, chemistry, writing, computer courses, and mathematics

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Ethanol plants, bio-energy firms, and other biorefineries

JOB OUTLOOK

POOR FAIR GOOD GREAT EXCELLENT

Propane Sales & Delivery

JOB OVERVIEW

Sell and deliver propane to farms and businesses

Actively contact customers and prospects to market propane

Assist with customer service and energy operations

Maintain logs with each shipment, completing daily invoices and reports

Perform visual inspections of trucks and maintenance daily



EDUCATION NEEDED

High school diploma and Class B CDL with hazmat and tanker endorsements

RECOMMENDED H.S. COURSES

Ag education, chemistry, business courses, mathematics

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Energy companies and cooperatives

JOB OUTLOOK

POOR FAIR GOOD GREAT EXCELLENT

Wind Substation Technician

JOB OVERVIEW

Perform installation, maintenance, and testing of wind energy collection sites

Inspect wind turbines and equipment associated with wind energy

Interpret schematics to repair mechanical, electrical, or hydraulic problems

Conduct voltage testing of electrical power equipment



EDUCATION NEEDED

Technical, Associate's, or Bachelor's degree in wind/electrical technology

RECOMMENDED H.S. COURSES

Ag education, mechanics, English, computer courses, mathematics

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Electrical companies and cooperatives as well as some private energy firms

JOB OUTLOOK

POOR FAIR GOOD GREAT EXCELLENT

Wind Turbine Technician

JOB OVERVIEW

Install, maintain, and repair wind turbines

Conduct basic cleaning and maintenance of wind turbines (requiring climbing several hundred feet) as well as surrounding areas and fleet vehicles

Perform diagnostic electrical analysis

Communicate with landowners and supervisors as needed



EDUCATION NEEDED

Associate's degree in applied sciences such as wind energy technology or special training as a technician

RECOMMENDED H.S. COURSES

Ag education, environmental science, physics, computer courses

TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Energy companies in states that generate wind power

JOB OUTLOOK

POOR FAIR GOOD GREAT EXCELLENT

PROFESSIONALS IN AG ENERGY CAN EXPECT TO EARN

AN AVERAGE OF \$55,700 PER YEAR