

Get into Energy

GET INTO NUCLEAR



More than six million Americans work in energy careers that power our country and our lives. They transform things like natural gas, coal, uranium, water, sun and wind into energy. This essential work requires a multitude of competencies and expertise from a skilled, diverse workforce.

ENERGY PROFESSIONALS WORK IN:

- Skilled trade positions
- Technical operations
- Business and engineering roles

Nearly 100,000 of these employees work in high-quality, long-term jobs in nuclear energy.

WHAT IS NUCLEAR ENERGY?



- Nuclear energy comes from splitting atoms in a reactor to heat water into steam, turn a turbine and generate electricity.



- Ninety-four nuclear reactors in 28 states generate nearly 20 percent of the nation's electricity. These plants are always on, well-operated to avoid interruptions and built to withstand extreme weather, supporting the electric grid 24/7.

Nuclear energy powers our homes and businesses. But beyond providing carbon-free electricity, nuclear technology also fuels space exploration, sterilizes medical equipment, provides potable water through desalination, supplies radioisotopes for cancer treatment and so much more. All that from a tiny atom!

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF CAREERS IN NUCLEAR?

- Nuclear offers meaningful and important work.
- Nuclear provides career advancement opportunities.
- Nuclear fosters teamwork.
- Nuclear protects national security.
- Nuclear fights against a changing climate.
- Nuclear ensures U.S. leadership in technology.
- Nuclear produces electricity reliably.
- Nuclear boosts international development.
- Nuclear protects our air.
- Nuclear powers electric vehicles.

For more information, visit [GetIntoEnergy.org](https://www.getintoenergy.org)

WHAT KINDS OF JOBS EXIST IN NUCLEAR ENERGY?

Some of the most in-demand positions are nuclear power operators, radiation protection technicians, engineers, nuclear technicians, mechanics, cyber-security leads, and electricians, but there are a team of professionals that enable nuclear energy.

SKILLED TRADES	ENGINEERING & PROFESSIONS	TECHNICIANS & RADIOLOGISTS
Carpenters	Accountants	Chemists
Electricians	Chemical engineers	Mechanics
Operators of heavy equipment	Civil engineers	Radiation protection specialists
Masons	Health physicists	Reactor operators
Pipefitters	Lawyers	Scientists
Sheet metal workers	Mechanical engineers	
Welders	Nuclear engineers	

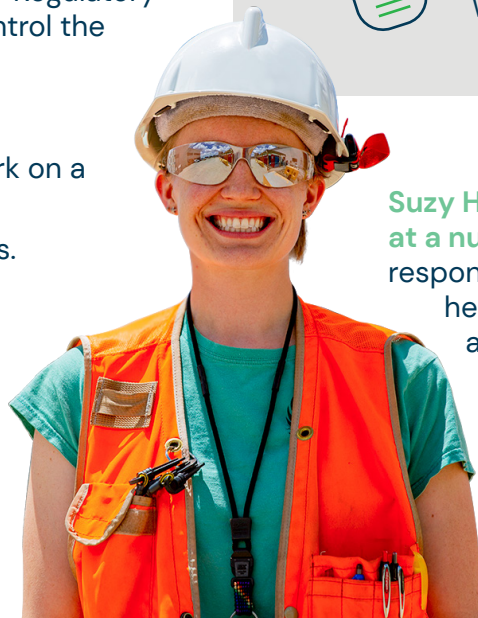
HOW DO YOU GET STARTED IN A NUCLEAR CAREER?

There many paths to a rewarding career in nuclear. Many start in skilled trade jobs. Two and four-year degrees are required for most technical, radiological, engineering, and professional positions. Nuclear experience in the U.S. Navy offers easily transferable skills. For some positions you will need to pass a licensure exam from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to be authorized to control the equipment in a nuclear power plant.

Consider a career in nuclear if:

- You like to know how things work on a practical level.
- You like to work with your hands.
- You like being outdoors or in a plant environment.
- You work well under pressure.
- You want to help protect our environment.

Thank you to the Nuclear Energy Institute for data and information.



Nuclear worker salaries are **20 percent higher** on average than those of other electricity generation sources.



Nearly **one in four** nuclear workers are **veterans**.

Suzy Hirshorn is a systems engineer at a nuclear power plant. She is responsible for ensuring the long-term health of equipment at her facility and is experiencing her dream job, supporting the development of a nuclear power plant under construction. She values learning new things daily and working with passionate, driven people.



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