

PHYSICS, B.S. (SCIENCE)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Career Paths

It's often said that physicists are first and foremost problem solvers. With strong analytical skills in multiple areas, physicists are versatile and adaptable, and find career flexibility in many fields. A BS in Physics provides strong training for direct employment in a wide variety of careers or for further training at the graduate level in many STEM fields. Examples include jobs in private industries, national labs, and small companies involving basic or applied research, engineering applications, data analysis, or modeling, programming, and simulations.

Careers

Physics majors use their analytic and problem-solving skills in a wide variety of 'real world' jobs in both the public and private sector, from national laboratories, the aerospace industry, and advanced technology and communications industries to patent law.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE PHYSICS PROGRAM (<https://www.aps.org/careers/>)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

About half of all Physics B.S. students pursue additional graduate education at some point. Many students proceed directly to a Physics Ph.D. program and the vast majority of students who are accepted into such programs receive both a stipend and have full tuition paid for by the institution. Some students find that their employers subsidize additional education in a technical field useful to the company. Physics majors have successfully pursued graduate degrees in all engineering fields, mathematics, statistics, and data science, law school and medical school, and other life science related areas, such as medical physics and neuroscience.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (<https://gradschoolshopper.com/browse/>)

Professional Resources

- The American Physical Society (<https://www.aps.org/>)
- The American Institute of Physics (<https://www.aip.org/>)
- The National Society of Physics Students (SPS) (<https://www.spsnational.org/>)
- The National Sigma Pi Sigma ($\Sigma\Pi\Sigma$) Physics honor society (<https://www.sigmapisigma.org/sigmapisigma/>)
- The National Society of Black Physicists (NSBP) (<https://nsbp.org>)
- The National Society of Hispanic Physicists (NSHP) (<https://hispanicphysicists.org/>)
- American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) (<https://www.aapm.org/>)