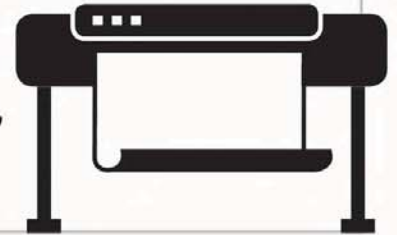


LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT



JOB DESCRIPTION

Landscape architects design, create, and manage open spaces in both man-made and natural environments. In this role, you work with other construction and engineering professionals to plan and manage projects as diverse as parks and recreational sites, pedestrian areas, sports venues, and urban regeneration.



SALARY

Junior landscape architect ★★★★★

Senior landscape architect ★★★★★

INDUSTRY PROFILE

Growing demand for landscape architects due to environmental planning requirements • Salaries higher in private practice • Around 25 percent of professionals are self-employed

AT A GLANCE



YOUR INTERESTS Design • Art • Environmental science • Architecture • Town planning • Information Technology (IT) • Geography



ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS A degree from a landscape architecture program is required for most jobs. State licensure may also be required.



LIFESTYLE Regular office hours are the norm, but the job is deadline driven, so evening and weekend work may sometimes be required.



LOCATION The work is office-based, although it features regular travel to survey projects, visit sites, and present plans to clients or the public.



THE REALITIES Improving urban and natural spaces for the benefit of the community and the environment is highly rewarding.

CAREER PATHS

A bachelor's degree or certification in a relevant subject is usually required to find work as a landscape architect. Local authorities and private practices are the biggest employers, but jobs may also exist with environmental agencies, utility companies, construction firms, and voluntary organizations. With experience, you can also work on a self-employed basis.

GRADUATE You will need a professionally accredited degree in a subject such as garden design, landscape architecture, planning, or environmental conservation.



POSTGRADUATE You can take a postgraduate-level conversion course in landscape architecture if you have a prior degree in a related subject, such as architecture, horticulture, or botany.



SKILLS GUIDE



Effective communication skills for liaising with clients and construction staff.



A flair for design and an awareness of the future need for creating aesthetic, sustainable spaces.



The ability to understand client requirements and incorporate them into the site's design.



The ability to use Computer-aided Design (CAD) software to create designs and presentations.



Commercial awareness, combined with an understanding of social and environmental issues.

RELATED CAREERS

- ▶ **HORTICULTURAL WORKER** *see pp. 168–169*
- ▶ **ARCHITECT** *see pp. 194–195*
- ▶ **COST ENGINEER** *see pp. 198–199*
- ▶ **TOWN PLANNER** *see pp. 200–201*
- ▶ **LANDSCAPER** Works to a landscape architect's designs and specifications to build features such as garden paving, patios, walls, and borders. Landscapers also use their knowledge of horticulture to plant and maintain vegetation.
- ▶ **LAND SURVEYOR** Carries out survey work to gather data for mapping an area of land, in advance of building or engineering projects.

LANDSCAPE CONTRACTOR

Works to realize a landscape architect's designs by hiring and overseeing construction staff and the machinery required to complete the job.



LANDSCAPE PLANNER Advises on land development proposals with the aim of protecting natural resources and historic or cultural sites in urban and rural settings.



LANDSCAPE MANAGER Helps to plan new landscapes and maintain existing ones, supervising and directing the work of landscape architects, monitoring progress, and advising on legal aspects of the planning process.



LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT To progress in this career, you will need to achieve professional status. You can then choose to specialize in a particular type of work—such as ecological design or highways landscaping—or become a partner or owner of a private practice.



LANDSCAPE SCIENTIST Carries out surveys of ecologically valuable habitats and advises on how to manage them in order to improve their long-term viability and enhance biodiversity.