

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN ... ARCHITECTURE

OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW:

Licensed professionals trained in the art and science of building design—transform these needs into concepts and then develop the concepts into images and plans of buildings that can be constructed by others. Architects design the overall aesthetic and look of buildings and other structures. They may be involved in all phases of development, from the initial discussion with the client through the entire construction process. Their duties require specific skills—designing, engineering, managing, supervising, and communicating with clients and builders. They often work with engineers, urban planners, interior designers, landscape architects, and other professionals.

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

To gain entry into the field of architecture, one must receive either a Bachelor's or Master's degree from an accredited school of architecture, complete a full-time internship (three to five years) and pass a licensing examination.

EMPLOYERS/INDUSTRIES & SUGGESTED STRATEGY:

Please ask your Career Advisor (CDF) for identifying employers or additional resources for your occupation of choice.

Residential: Architecture firms – Real Estate – Construction – Self-employed – Single Family Housing – Multiple Family Housing – Consulting

Suggested Strategy: Gain experience in an architect's office, develop communication skills, study various architecture styles, gain experience and knowledge of computer skills, and learn about advanced degree opportunities.

Commercial: Architecture firms – Universities/Colleges – Federal Government – Local/State Government – Corporations – Self-employment – Design firms – Manufacturers

Suggested Strategy: Gain experience in school, develop strong computer skills, expand writing skills, understand the various jobs inside construction as well as technical specifications, get knowledge of specific areas of interest, may require advanced degree.

Education: Research – Teaching – Instruction

Suggested Strategy: Obtain related experience in field of architecture, advanced degree most often desired, develop strong communication skills, strong writing skills, as well as professional portfolio.

STATE AND NATIONAL WAGES (2006) for Architects, except Landscape and Naval:

	10%	25%	Median	75%	90%
New Mexico	39,900	46,500	60,400	73,900	91,000
United States	39,400	49,800	64,100	83,400	105,000

INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:

The American Institute of Architects
 National Council of Architectural Registration Boards
 E-Architect
 American Institute of Architecture Students
 Internet Community for Architects and Designers
 Society of Architectural Historians
 3D Café

www.aia.org
www.ncarb.org
www.e-architect.com
www.aias.org
www.akropolis.net
www.sah.org
www.3dcafe.com



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