

FOCUS ON

AEROSPACE

Houston Gulf Coast Region*

FOR SOME CAREERS, YOU AIM HIGH. WITH OTHERS, YOU REACH FOR THE STARS...

WIDE OPEN IN AEROSPACE: CAREERS WITH ROOM TO GROW

Want to be part of groundbreaking scientific discoveries? Enjoy math and science? If so, a career in aerospace may be the right choice for you. The aerospace industry is seeking the nation's sharpest minds to achieve new heights of ingenuity and inventiveness. You know, like they said in Star Trek, "to boldly go where humankind has never gone before."

The Gulf Coast Region offers great opportunities in aerospace because we are home to NASA's Johnson Space Center. Johnson Space Center (JSC) is the lead space flight center with these responsibilities: astronaut training, mission control, space shuttle activity center, International Space Station center, and the Orion space platform development center. JSC has an estimated budget of over 5.7 billion dollars for 2009. A significant portion of that budget is used to pay salaries for employers of JSC as well as those employed to work at JSC by contractor companies. College graduates with degrees in math and science fields are particularly desired by JSC and these contractors.



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Latest data available. January 2009.

*Includes the following counties: Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller, and Wharton.

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CAREER PATHS TO PURSUE

The industry offers many career opportunities for scientists, engineers and technicians. Opportunities exist across a wide variety of fields, such as flight mechanics, automation, robotics, power systems, flight systems, measurement and instrumentation, data systems and more. The industry also offers many jobs in human resources, accounting and administrative support. Here are some of the aerospace career paths you can pursue:

Astronauts

Pilot
Mission Specialist
Payload Specialist

Scientists

Astronomer
Biologist
Chemist
Medical Doctor
Meteorologist
Nutritionist
Physicist
Physiologist
Psychologist

Mathematicians

Computer Scientist
Mathematician
Statistician
System Analyst

Technicians

Aerospace Model
Aircraft
Avionics
Electrical/Electronics
Engineering

Engineering

Aerospace
Biomedical
Chemical
Civil
Computer
Electrical
Electronic
Environmental
Industrial
Materials
Mechanical
Nuclear
Safety
Systems



WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO LAUNCH YOUR CAREER IN AEROSPACE?

Competition for the nation's top aerospace careers is fierce. To succeed, you need to prepare early by taking as many math and science courses as you can. Here are some specific courses that you can take in high school that will help you get started:

- Algebra
- Calculus
- Computer Mathematics
- Geometry
- Physics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- English
- Math Analysis
- Trigonometry

There are also many opportunities outside of class, such as science and engineering fairs and organizations like the Civil Air Patrol, that can help prepare you for a career in aerospace.

For more information about NASA's Johnson Space Center (JSC), check out <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/johnson/home/index.htm>.

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