

Mapping Your Career: Urban Planning, BSP

The School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning – Career & Internship Services

Planning is a highly collaborative field, and planners spend much of their time working with others. The planner's role is to provide the big picture and to relate the project to various goals and guidelines, such as ordinances or design review, in order to achieve a final project that meets the needs of the community. This might include appropriate design, environmental considerations, support for the local economy, or equitable access for all members of the community.¹

Industry Opportunities

- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, within cities, urban planners will be needed to develop revitalization projects and address issues associated with population growth, environmental degradation, the movement of people and goods, and resource scarcity. Similarly, suburban areas and municipalities will need planners to address the challenges associated with population changes, including housing needs and transportation systems covering larger areas with less population density.
- Most planners perform their work in one or more particular fields of specialization within the larger planning profession. The American Planning Association has 23 divisions that cover planning specialty and interest areas such as Community Activism/Empowerment, Economic Development, Environmental & Natural Resources Planning, Historic Preservation, and many more.²

Navigating Your Future in Urban Planning

(*Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. Employment figures are for 2020; projected growth is for the period 2020-2030; median wages are for 2020)

Urban and Regional Planner

Urban and regional planners develop land use plans and programs that help create communities, accommodate population growth, and revitalize physical facilities.

- **Projected Growth:** 7%
- **Median Wages:** \$75,950

Property, Real Estate, and Community Association Managers

Takes care of the many aspects of residential, commercial, or industrial properties. They make sure the property is well maintained, has a nice appearance, operates smoothly, and preserves its resale value.

- **Projected Growth:** 3%
- **Median Wages:** \$59,660

Property Appraisers and Assessors

Property appraisers and assessors provide a value estimate on real estate and tangible personal and business property.

- **Projected Growth:** 4%
- **Median Wages:** \$58,650

Conservation Scientist and Foresters

Conservation scientists and foresters manage the overall land quality of forests, parks, rangelands, and other natural resources.

- **Projected Growth:** 7%
- **Median Wages:** \$64,010

Add Value to Your Degree

Extra-curricular opportunities can provide you with practical, real-world experiences to complement your degree.

Student Planning Association at ASU

Helping to further Arizona State planning student's educational goals and enhance their experience within the planning program through events, advocacy, and distribution of information. asu.campuslabs.com/engage/

American Planning Association

Planners help communities thrive in a changing world — APA serves to elevate and unite their efforts, advancing a diversity of thought and representation in the profession. [Planning.org](https://www.planning.org)