New York State Green Occupation Spotlight

Architects

What do they do?
The plan and design structures, such as private residences, offices, stores, theaters, factories, and other buildings.

General Description

On average, how many openings are there per year?
There are some 290 openings annually for architects.

What is a typical entry-level wage?
$37.68 hourly, $78,370 annually

How should I prepare for the job?
Architects typically need a bachelor's degree in architecture.

What types of employers might hire me?
About two-thirds of architecture jobs are in architectural, engineering, and related firms. Self-employment is common for licensed architects; the proportion of self-employed architects is three times the average.

Where can I get training?*
- New York Institute of Technology, Old Westbury
- Columbia University in the City of New York
- Cornell University
- Syracuse University

*See a more complete list of training providers at **www.greencareersny.com**

Green Description

How many architects are involved in green business in New York State?
In professional services, just over 9,000 green architects work at 1,380 businesses.

What do employers say about recruiting them?
7% of businesses in professional services that hire green architects report having difficulty recruiting qualified workers for these jobs.

What kind of green activities would I do?
All but a few green architects are involved in energy efficiency projects, such as new green construction. Over half of green architects are also involved in renewable energy projects, such as solar photovoltaic design.

How would I get the skills to do green projects?
Almost all firms (in professional services) that hire architects require employees to acquire new enhanced skills to perform a green job. The most common source of these skills is a professional trade association, followed by on-the-job training.

For more Information about this occupation, go to:
- www.onetonline.org/link/summary/17-1011.00
- www.bls.gov/oco/ocos038.htm
- www.nycareerzone.org/cz/profile.jsp?onetsoc=17-1011.00

Case Study

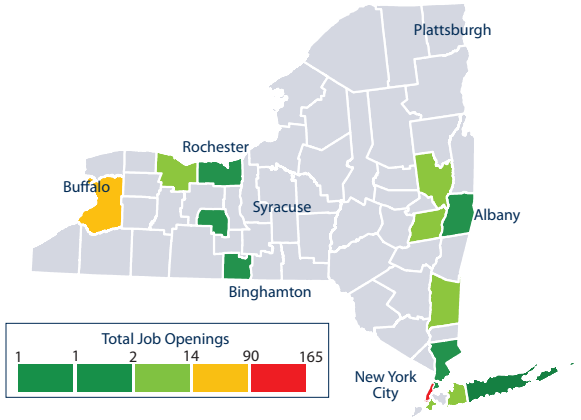
According to industry experts interviewed for the New York State Green Jobs Study, the growth in green architecture has been exponential in recent years. One leading architect reported that "green is now part and parcel of how work is done in the industry -- we design it green." This paradigm shift has affected the way architects do their jobs; green is now part of the design process.

Green architects must take a comprehensive view of design, incorporating elements of the environment that others might not think of -- such as a building's orientation to the sun. They need to interact closely with fellow professionals, such as mechanical engineers, structural engineers and landscape architects.

An industry expert also explained that, "sustainable design is about more than designing a green building – it's about urban density and transit-oriented development." Another noted that, "it's about the adaptive reuse of heritage buildings. This is the oldest form of green building."

For more information about green jobs, go to:
- Green Careers NY: **www.greencareersny.com**
- Labor Statistics: **www.labor.ny.gov/stats/green**

Job Ads for Architects



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