

# What's New? In Future Careers

Winter 2005

In this issue:

- Hot New Careers
- Website Helps
- Youth Future
- Health Careers

This newsletter is sponsored by the Western Wisconsin Workforce Development Board, Inc. Its purpose is to provide career and labor market information to educators and students.

## Information on Hot New Careers

### Have you heard of Geospatial Technology?

It has to do with **Geographic Information Systems (GIS)**. GIS is the study of spatial information. Spatial information refers to data collected by means of remote sensing and Global Positioning Systems (GPS).

What is Remote Sensing? It is the observation of the earth from distant vantage points, usually by/from satellites or aircraft. Cameras mounted on these platforms capture detailed pictures of the earth that reveal features not apparent to the naked eye. Once captured, the images are passed on to analysts who interpret the data, extract information, and use it to answer questions. This information may be used to map forests, detect pollution, measure elevation, locate a diseased crop, and answer a variety of other questions.

What is Global Positioning Systems (GPS)? The basis of GPS is "triangulation" from satellites. To "triangulate", a GPS receiver measures distance using the travel time of radio signals. To measure travel time, GPS needs very accurate timing which it achieves with some tricks. Along with distance, you need to know exactly where the satellites are in space. High orbits and careful monitoring are the secret. Finally, you must correct any delays the signal experiences as it travels through the atmosphere.

Check out the website that has been developed:  
<http://www.sitc.cc>

Associate Degree and Certificate programs are offered in Geographical Information Systems (GIS), Global Positioning Systems (GPS), and Remote Sensing Technology. Geospatial isn't really its own industry, but it permeates all industries (just as computers do).

### Some of the areas in which you could work using Geographic Information Technologies include:

Agriculture, Business, Electric/Gas, Environment, Forestry, Geology, Hydrology, Land Use Planning, Law Enforcement, Local Government, Mapping, Marketing, Military, Risk Management, Site Planning, Transportation and Waste Water Treatment.



### Skills and knowledge needed:

- General computer operations
- Database management
- Computer programming
- Geography and Cartography
- Communications skills
- Earth science and math

### Education vs. Starting Salary:

- 2 year degree - \$25,000 to \$35,000
- Bachelors - \$30,000 to \$50,000
- Masters - \$45,000 to \$60,000

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

This newsletter is formatted and edited by  
Workforce Connections, Inc. Staff.



402 N. 8th Street, PO Box 2908  
La Crosse, WI 54602-2908  
phone (608) 789-5602 fax (608) 785-9939  
[www.workforceconnections.org](http://www.workforceconnections.org)



## Using Web-sites to help learn about the Wisconsin Labor Market (Where the Jobs Are)

To learn about demand occupations enter the Wisconsin Labor Market Information website into your computer:

[http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi/projections\\_st.htm](http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi/projections_st.htm)

There is an underscore between the s at the end of the word projections and the st in the web link.

To search for jobs in Wisconsin or find the nearest Job Center try this website:

<http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/jobnet/mapWI.htm>

Search job openings, post a resume, or find information on specific occupations:

<http://www.careeronestop.org>

Find career information by occupation:

<http://stats.bls.gov/oco/home.htm>

Choose a career in Wisconsin:

<http://www.careers4wi.org>

### How "Getting into Trouble" Can Affect Your Future

Do you know that criminal records are open to employers? Employers are able to access any convictions after age 16. Law enforcement agencies are able to access convictions that took place before the age of 16.

**How does this affect future career choices?**

**Convicted for theft (including shoplifting) -** many businesses including retail, manufacturing, and any customer service business may not hire an individual with this type of conviction.



**Convicted for disorderly conduct or any type of conviction where someone was injured -** A career in health care or services to individuals (helping people), may be closed to an individual with this type of conviction.

**Multiple driving accidents or driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol or more than one speeding ticket -** A career in any transportation industry may be closed to an individual, including delivery jobs.

**For any of the above convictions a career in law enforcement may be closed to an individual.**

### Health Care Job Market

The U.S. is experiencing a high demand for various levels of healthcare personnel such as technologists, computer coders (medical records), and clinical documentation personnel as well as home health aides, medical assistants, physician assistants and nurses. Ten out of 20 occupations projected to grow the fastest are concentrated in health services.

Many health care jobs require less than four years of college education although most technical jobs require at least a two-year technical degree. There are also a variety of post-high school programs that provide specialized training for jobs in health services.

Students contact your local Job Center ([www.wvjobcenter.org](http://www.wvjobcenter.org)), your local technical college, or your guidance counselor for more information on healthcare careers. Or go to [www.bls.gov/oco/cg/cgs035.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oco/cg/cgs035.htm) for more information on healthcare careers.



#### HEALTH CAREERS ARE HOT

*"Today, one of the most pressing issues facing our health care system is the shortage of health care workers. From lab technicians, to nurses, to pharmacy technologists, to rural and urban physicians, the demand for our health care workers is increasing just as more and more of our workers reach retirement age and leave the workforce. We cannot afford to have our hospitals short-staffed or our health care professionals to be working triple shifts. We must address this shortage and ensure that all of our citizens have access to quality health care."*

- Governor Jim Doyle

The Youth Council, acting under the direction of the Western Wisconsin Workforce Development Board, Inc., (WDB) is working to establish a comprehensive youth development system that provides effective learning environments linking education, employment, leadership development, mentoring, and sustained support for youth to achieve economic self-sufficiency. The WDB is a business-led Board that formulates strategies to address workforce development issues in western Wisconsin. For more information contact Ann Wales, WDB Administrative Coordinator, at (608) 789-5600, [Walesa@wwtc.edu](mailto:Walesa@wwtc.edu), or visit our website at [www.wvjobcenter.org](http://www.wvjobcenter.org).

