

# BACHELOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICE CAREER SNAPSHOT

## BOOST YOUR CAREER PROSPECTS

 Explore your options, clarify your career goals

 Build your networks

 Gain course relevant experience

 Fine tune your job application skills

 Show initiative, engage in extra-curricular activities, stand out

For further ideas access [JCU Job Ready](#)

## JCU Bachelor of Environmental Practice

The Bachelor of Environmental Practice is a 3-year undergraduate degree that builds on the University's reputation and world class expertise in environmental science and management.

The degree is the result of extensive market research and consultation with a wide range of organisations including environmental consultants, natural resource managers, and engineering and construction companies operating in Far North and Northern Queensland<sup>1</sup>.

The degree directly responds to current and expected demands for graduates with **environmental, social and economic skills**.

Majors and potential jobs titles:

- **Biodiversity Assessment and Management** - assessment and management of all living species, on land and in the water e.g., *Biodiversity and Resilience Officer*.

- **Corporate Environmental Management** – business literacy and corporate sustainability with environmental skills e.g., *Environmental/Sustainability Consultant, Environment / Sustainability Program Officer*.
- **Land and Water Management** - physical geosciences and environmental impacts on land, wetlands, river catchments and below the surface. e.g., *Land Management Advisor Integrated Water Policy and Programs Officer*.

Job titles retrieved: [Seek](#) 1 October 2020.

## Graduate Opportunities

As a graduate you can seek employment in a range of different organisations:

- [Environmental consultants](#)
- Councils e.g., [Cairns Regional Council](#), [Townsville City Council](#)
- Queensland Government e.g., [Department of Environment and Science](#)
- Australian Government e.g., [Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment](#)
- A wide range of industries including extractive industries, renewable energy industries, transport and other infrastructure
- Heritage groups
- Non-government organisations working in environmental fields e.g., [Wet Tropics Management Authority](#), [Terrain Natural Resource Management, NRM Regions Australia](#), [NRM Regions Queensland](#), [NQ Dry Tropics](#)
- Administrative and scientific bodies e.g., [Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority](#)
- Tourism businesses

## JOB OUTLOOK INFORMATION

The Australian Government's **Job Outlook** site provides information on

tasks, specialisations, prospects, work environment, and skills and knowledge required within the environmental science field. It identifies the Environmental Scientist as a 'strong growth' profession in Australia.



Source: [Job Outlook](#) October 2020.

## ENVIRONMENTAL JOB NETWORK INFORMATION

The **Environmental Job Networks'** [web page](#) and [LinkedIn page](#) also provide useful information on environmental career paths, job profiles, salaries and tips for obtaining an environmental job.



## JCU LINKED ALUMNI INFORMATION

Over 750 JCU alumni (graduates) have listed environmental practice within their LinkedIn profile.

Investigate the alumni listed on the [James Cook University LinkedIn](#) page to identify career pathways and current and past employers of JCU Environmental Practice students.

## Job Opportunities

Online job boards, graduate directories, employer websites and social media accounts provide information on **job opportunities** and **employer expectations**.

It is recommended that you work towards filling the skills, knowledge and experience expectations identified in your research, to ensure you are competitive when entering the graduate labour market.

### Online Job Boards

- [Seek – Environmental, Earth and Geoscience Jobs](#)
- [JCU CareerHub](#)
- [Environmental Jobs Network](#)
- [NRMjobs natural resource management environmental jobs](#)
- [Ethical Jobs Environment and Sustainability Jobs](#)
- [Green Careers](#)
- [Jobactive - Australian Job Search](#)
- [Smart jobs Queensland Jobs](#)
- [APSJobs Australian Public Service recruitment](#)

The free [NRMjobs email bulletin](#) delivers a weekly listing of new job vacancies in the environment, water and natural resource management field.

### Graduate Recruitment Directories

- [GradAustralia](#)
- [GradConnection](#)
- [Queensland Government Graduate Portal](#)
- [Australian Government Graduate Programs](#)

Check [JCU Land and Water Science Facebook](#) job posts.

## Professional Associations

[Environmental Institute of Australia and New Zealand](#) is a professional association for environmental practitioners across Australia and New Zealand.



Once enrolled in the Bachelor of Environmental Practice you can apply for [student membership](#) at a discounted rate. The benefits include access to industry news and trends, and reduced fees for attendance at professional development and

networking events including conferences and workshops.



Environmental professionals can apply to become [Certified](#)

[Environmental Practitioners \(CEnvP\)](#), providing they meet the experience, training, conduct and ethics requirements. Certification demonstrates to employers and clients that the professional's environmental skills and knowledge meets national standards.

## Experience and Skills

As part of your degree, you will complete a **final year professional placement** which is a tremendous opportunity to gain relevant work experience before you leave University. It is recommended you gain additional relevant experience to further develop your technical and transferrable work skills and professional networks.

**Transferrable skills** commonly listed in environmental job advertisements include – stakeholder management, project management, collaboration across disciplines, information systems and technology, community engagement, customer service and enterprising skills (eye for identifying problems and taking initiative to address them).

Actively plan and look for opportunities to develop these skills in preparation for graduate employment. Consider entering a [student competition](#) or challenge such as *Ideas for Action*, *Go Green in the City*, *ClimateLaunchpad*, *Famelab* or *Top100 Future Leaders* to develop and demonstrate your skills.

## Volunteering

Volunteering in an environmental role provides an opportunity to give to the community plus develop work skills and network.

Volunteer for opportunities presented through your degree and professional placement. Opportunities are also listed on:

- [Wet Tropics Management Authority](#) links to numerous volunteer organisations
- [Cairns and Far North Environment Centre](#)

- [Conservation Volunteers Australia](#)
- [Landcare](#)
- [Tropeco](#)
- [Volunteering Dry Tropics facebook](#)
- [Seek Volunteer](#) – Environment and Conservation
- [FNQ Volunteers](#)
- [Volunteering North Queensland](#)
- [Townsville Community Directory](#)
- [Cairns City Council Community Directory](#)

There are many international volunteer opportunities listed online. Carefully research the organisation's reputation, costs and previous users' feedback.

**Vacation and Internship programs** are generally offered by employers to students in the middle / final years of their degree.

Opportunities are posted on:

- Employer websites, Facebook pages, LinkedIn accounts and twitter feed
- Online job boards e.g. CareerHub
- Graduate recruitment directories - [GradAustralia](#), [GradConnection](#)

## Graduate Programs

While the majority of graduates will find employment with **small or medium size employers**, some final year students will gain entry into **Graduate Programs** offered by large organisations and government departments.

Graduate Programs generally **recruit students in their final year of study**, for commencement of employment in the following year.

Successful applicants are offered on-the-job training and mentoring within the organisation.

**Graduate programs** are competitive so it is important to understand what is expected and work towards ensuring you have the skills, knowledge and experience required.

Graduate programs are advertised through:

- Employer websites and social media accounts
- Graduate recruitment directories and online job boards.

**Reference:** <sup>1</sup> Market potential, program scoping and marketing of a Bachelor of Science & Environmental Management (BESM), Schottler Consulting Pty Ltd, October 2015.