

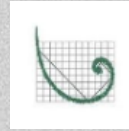
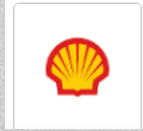
# Exploratory Geology/ Petroleum industry

Mining/mineral/metal services, Drilling Assistant, exploration supervisor, geologic interpreter (classifications) and appraiser, field geologist, etc.

Description: Exploration (search/identification) of materials across the earth, likely precious stones, ores, fossil fuels, metals, and other commercial materials.

## Top industries with specialization in commodity collection and distribution

- Shell
- Wood
- Chevron
- Environmental Resources Management



Local-scale jobs are often found in energy plants, quarry sites, and drill sites. Recent (2023) listings in Richmond under Sequence Systems (a recruitment agency for environmental and earth science workers). Some jobs are hired for travel and others work in a lab under certain agencies.

## Recommended degrees/skills:

Minimum bachelor's degree in Geology with a preferred advanced degree in a specialized geologic field (ex. Mineralogy, economic geology, etc.). For explorative jobs hired for travel, an international practice license may be necessary.

Skills in mapping, mining plans, data analyses, identification, and in-field structural assessment.

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### Statistics:

- Median annual income of ~\$97,000 for mining and geologic engineering as of May 2021. Averages between \$46,000-\$163,000 with most making around \$97k
- oil and gas extraction are the top income industries
- 7,500 employed in 2021
- Growth estimation of 2% by 2031 with ~500 openings per year despite limited employment growth.

### References:

[Exploration Geologist - Job duties and qualifications \(geology.com\)](#)

[Exploration Geologist Jobs, Employment | Indeed.com](#)

[Geologist - Mineral Drilling and Exploration Job in Richmond, VA - Sequence Systems | CareerBuilder.com](#)

[Mining and Geological Engineers : Occupational Outlook Handbook: : U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics \(bls.gov\)](#)