

So, you're not a social sciences or liberal arts major? The nonprofit world still needs you!

It's a common misconception that the nonprofit sector is made up solely of social sciences and liberal arts majors. This simply isn't true! While degrees in psychology, sociology, anthropology, political science, art, media studies, history, or English can prepare you for an exciting career in nonprofits, the sector is big enough for everyone! The nonprofit sector addresses an incredibly broad array of issues – everything from poverty to the environment, from housing to the arts, from conflict resolution to literacy – so diverse skill sets are needed. If you have a passion for creating social change – and you also have a passion for business, or biology, or buildings – then you can make a huge impact by working in the nonprofit sector.

Please note: The websites and job listings below are not nearly exhaustive. They are meant to serve as a starting point for continued research, and to illustrate the wide variety of career opportunities available in the nonprofit sector.

General Information about Nonprofits and Nonprofit Job Search Websites:

- Action Without Borders: <http://www.idealists.org>
- Bridgestar: <http://www.bridgestar.org>
- Nonprofit Careers: <http://www.nonprofitcareers.org>
- Chronicle of Philanthropy Careers: <http://philanthropy.com/jobs/>
- Young Nonprofit Professionals Network: <http://www.ynnpn.org> (check out the Career Center)
- Nonprofit Times Classified Ads : <http://nptjobs.nptimes.com/>
- Careers for Causes: <http://www.placementpros.com/careersforcauses.htm>
- Nonprofit Career Network: <http://www.nonprofitcareer.com>
- Opportunity Knocks: <http://www.opportunitynocs.org/>

Agriculture:

Sustainable agriculture is a hot topic among farmers, environmentalists, politicians, and consumers. Skilled agriculturalists are needed in the nonprofit sector to research, set policy, and educate about agricultural practices. In your job search, consider organizations that are working on issues of clean water or air, sprawl, or biodiversity – they are all thinking about agricultural issues.

Relevant websites:

- National Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture: <http://sustainableagriculture.net> (check out their employment section)
- Environmental Jobs and Careers: <http://www.ejobs.org>
- Environmental Career Opportunities: <http://ecojobs.com>
- DEVJOBS: <http://www.devjobs.com> (mailing list for announcing jobs related to agriculture, poverty alleviation, health, population, and natural resource management)

- Organic Volunteers: <http://www.organicvolunteers.com> (volunteer and employment opportunities)
- Orion Grassroots Network: <http://www.oriononline.org/pages/ogn/ics.cfm> (job opportunities and additional resources)

Sample job postings:

- The Center for Science in the Public Interest is hiring a Research Assistant for the Food Safety Project, and a Food and Agriculture Policy Director
- The Watershed Agricultural Council is seeking a Farm to Market Manager to direct the development and implementation of a comprehensive program that will enhance the economic viability of farms in the New York City Watershed Region through farm product promotion, marketing, distribution, and sales systems.

Architecture/Environmental Design:

Nonprofits need architects, designers, and builders to support sustainable design, a growing and critical movement in the field. Architects and designers can also have exciting careers in public policy, urban planning, and international development.

Relevant websites:

- Architects Without Borders: <http://www.awb.iohome.net/> (tend to have job postings on their message boards)
- The Enterprise Foundation: <http://enterprisefoundation.org> (sponsors a number of Rose Architectural Fellows each year to work with community development organizations in low-income neighborhoods)
- Community Design Opportunities: <http://www.designcorps.org> (excellent resource for navigating the world of Community Design which includes housing, commercial facilities, industrial facilities, recreational facilities, health care, child care, and landscaping; includes job search advice)
- Association for Community Design: <http://www.communitydesign.org> (not a job listing site, but has a membership of about 250 Community Design Centers from around the world)
- US Green Building Council: <http://www.usgbc.org/> (a coalition of members working to create environmentally-responsible, safe, healthy buildings)
- Greener Buildings: <http://www.greenerbuildings.com> (content rich site)
- Environmental Works: <http://www.eworks.org> (not a job listing service, but a good source of information about sustainable design)

Sample job postings:

- Afghans for Civil Society is looking for a professional to oversee the construction of a Skills Training Institute.
- The United Nations Development Programme is seeking a Project Advisor to support a \$1.3 million straw-bale housing project in Mongolia
- Conservation Services Group is seeking an Energy Support Specialist to assist in certifying residential construction projects

Business:

Nonprofits need employees with business skills including management; finance and accounting; strategic planning; development; public relations and marketing; evaluation and assessment; entrepreneurship; and human resources management, among others. Many organizations in the

nonprofit sector are working to create a “business” culture – emphasizing professionalism and capacity-building. A growing trend is for executive directors to be called CEO’s, and many nonprofits are hiring CFOs, Marketing Directors, Communications Directors, and other traditional “business” roles.

Also note there is a growing “social responsibility” movement within the corporate sector. For those who work for for-profit companies, there are ample leadership opportunities related to community investment, environmental protections, and human rights.

Relevant websites:

- DEVJOBS: <http://www.devjobs.com> (mailing list for announcing development jobs including microfinance, poverty alleviation, population, and economic development)
- Business for Social Responsibility: <http://www.bsr.org> (great source of information about socially responsible business practices)
- Sustainable Business: <http://www.sustainablebusiness.com> (be sure to check out the “Green Dream Jobs” section)

Sample job postings:

- Women for Women International is seeking a Microfinance Consultant to work in collaboration with the Country Director to oversee all aspects of the microfinance program
- The National Wildlife Foundation is hiring a Senior Financial Analyst
- New York Cares is seeking a Communications Director to develop campaigns and promotions that inspire and move audiences to action, while achieving concrete marketing objectives

Engineering:

There are many opportunities for engineers to work in the nonprofit sector both domestically and internationally on critical issues including clean water, sanitation, renewable energy, transportation, shelter and housing, and capacity building.

Relevant websites:

- Engineers Without Borders: <http://www.ewb-international.org> and <http://www.ewb-usa.org>
- Environmental Career Opportunities: <http://ecojobs.com> (includes a section on engineering careers)
- Global Village: <http://www.i4at.org/> (Global Village researches promising new technologies that can benefit humanity in environmentally friendly ways.)
- Institute for Affordable Transportation: <http://www.drivebuy.org> (IAT is devoted to developing high-quality, low-cost transportation for the working poor in developing countries.)
- International Center for Appropriate and Sustainable Technology: <http://www.ic-ast.org/>

Science/Math:

The nonprofit sector is host to professionals in a wide variety of science and math fields including information technology, web development, renewable energy, global warming, agriculture and farming, environmental engineering, medicine/public health, and many more.

Relevant websites:

- Bioneers: <http://www.bioneers.org>
- Geekcorps: <http://www.geekcorps.org>

- Environmental Career Opportunities: <http://ecojobs.com>
- Association of Science and Technology Centers: <http://www.astc.org> (includes a job bank)
- Public Health Employment Connection: <http://cfusion.sph.emory.edu/PHEC/phec.cfm>
- Orion Grassroots Network: <http://www.oriononline.org/pages/ogn/ics.cfm> (job opportunities and resources)
- PATH: <http://www.path.org> (PATH improves the health of people around the world by advancing technologies, strengthening systems, and encouraging healthy behavior.)

Sample job postings:

- The EthnoMedicine Preservation Project is seeking qualified staff to help preserve the medicinal plant knowledge of indigenous cultures
- The United Nations Development Programme is hiring a Chief Technical Advisor to the Afghan Legislature
- The Center for Urban Community Services in New York is seeking a qualified Nutritionist to support residents in a housing facility for tenants with a history of mental illness, homelessness, substance abuse, or HIV/AIDS.