

Searching Online for Jobs in Technical Fields

Step 1: Put together a list.

A few types of lists are useful for different phases of the job search. For exploring career possibilities, assemble a list of fields and industries. This list can be a general list at first but aim to break fields down into subfields eventually. Next, make a list of employers to gain industry context. Finally, put together a list of job titles to aid with job browsing on networking and company websites. Below are some examples to get started.

General List of Fields & Industries

- Semiconductors, Electronics, Software
- Biophysics
- Geophysics
- Astrophysics
- Medical Physics
- Health Physics
- Aerospace Engineering
- Nuclear Engineering
- Financial Analysis, Data Science
- Technical Writing, Science Writing

Idaho Physics Employers from AIP.org

- Amalgamated Sugar
- Boeing
- Clearwater Analytics
- Idaho National Lab
- IDEXX Laboratories
- In the Ditch Towing Products
- Micron Technology
- Photronics
- RuleTek
- T Rowe Price
- Vacasa

Common Physics Baccalaureate Job Titles from SPS.org

Computer Hardware and Software

- Software Engineer
- Programmer
- Web Developer
- IT Consultant
- Systems Analyst
- Technical Support Staff
- Analyst

Research and Technical

- Research Assistant
- Research Associate
- Research Technician
- Lab Technician
- Lab Assistant
- Accelerator Operator
- Physical Sciences Technician

Education

- High School Physics Teacher
- High School Science Teacher
- Middle School Science Teacher

Engineering

- Systems Engineer
- Electrical Engineer
- Design Engineer
- Mechanical Engineer
- Project Engineer
- Optical Engineer
- Manufacturing Engineer
- Manufacturing Technician
- Laser Engineer
- Associate Engineer
- Technical Services Engineer
- Application Engineer
- Development Engineer
- Engineering Technician
- Field Engineer
- Process Engineer
- Process Technician
- Product Engineer
- Product Manager
- Research Engineer
- Test Engineer
- General Engineer

Step 2: Pick a Search Platform.

1. Google

Google is useful for general research into career paths, industries and graduate school.

2. Career websites like LinkedIn, Handshake, Indeed, & Glassdoor

Career websites are one option to look for job postings. These sites give filtered search options for finding job postings and most have networking features as well.

3. Company websites

Company websites provide another way to look for jobs. Most companies a section on their website devoted to career information and job postings. This is usually on their “Careers” page or in the “About” section.

It's important to note that companies don't post jobs on every platform. It's best not to rely on a single method for job searching. There are also limitations to looking for jobs online. Some jobs don't get posted at all.

Step 3: Go over job qualifications, assess options and apply.

The quickest way to assess qualifications for a position is to check the education and experience the employer wants. Afterwards, go through the rest of the job description. Job descriptions tend to be idealistic, so it's worthwhile to apply for a job if you meet most of the employer's requirements.

Applying is done through a link on the job description. You will be asked for a resume and to fill out an online form which feels remarkably like the resume you just submitted. There may or may not be an option to attach additional documents, such as a cover letter.