

# GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN

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New enrollments into the Associate in Applied Science and Program Certificate degree options are restricted as of Spring 2022. Please contact an academic advisor about alternative options.

## Program Description

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is a powerful computer-based tool that makes use of spatial and statistical methods to analyze and display geographic information. GIS creates maps from databases linked to location analytics.

BSC is a leader in GIS education with three program options to give students the greatest flexibility for completion. Basic program objectives include knowledge and skill in computer operations and data models. Students learn about cartography, scale, metadata and database management, and take courses in statistics, physical geography, visual basic programming language, remote sensing and unmanned aerial systems (UAS), project development and management, and other GIS applications.

## Preparation

Students should enjoy working with people. GIS workers typically work on teams and need good communication and interpersonal skills. Other considerations are creative thinking and problem-solving skills, curiosity, and aptitude for working with computers.

## Program Requirements

Students who complete the curriculum requirements earn an Associate in Applied Science degree, Program Certificate, or Certificate of Completion. Students should be aware that they will be required to take some classes online.

The Associate in Applied Science degree provides a core set of skills and competencies and broad knowledge of the discipline. The Program Certificate and the Certificate of Completion emphasize GIS applications and computer technology. The two certificates indicate proficiency in GIS as a supplement to another course of study.

## Career Opportunities

GIS proficiency is a skillset employers seek in job applicants today. Geospatial technology is among the three most important emerging career fields, according to the U.S. Department of Labor. Employment opportunities abound.

Career possibilities include energy production and distribution, agriculture, science, transportation, engineering, wildlife and natural resources, law enforcement, emergency management, government, social services, archeology, environmental monitoring, city planning, marketing, telecommunications, repair service, retail business, and more.

## Contact

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## Degree Plans

- Geographic Information Systems Technician Associate in Applied Science
- Geographic Information Systems Technician Program Certificate
- Geographic Information Systems Technician Certificate of Completion