



New York State Green Occupation Spotlight

Green Business Operations Specialists

What do they do?

There are many types of business operations specialists with green jobs, such as building consultants, energy auditors and energy analysts. They conduct energy audits of buildings, building systems and process systems.

General Description

On average, how many openings are there per year?

There are 940 openings annually for business operations specialists, such as building consultants, energy auditors and energy analysts.

What is a typical entry-level wage?

\$44.16 hourly, \$91,850 annually

How should I prepare for the job?

Building consultants, energy auditors and energy analysts must typically have a bachelor's degree and usually have practical experience in construction, real estate, architecture or engineering.

What types of employers might hire me?

Typical employers include energy consulting firms, architecture and engineering firms, large real estate developers and financial services firms that specialize in energy efficiency and renewable energy investments.

Where can I get training?*

- Urban Green Council – New York City
- Polytechnic Institute of New York University
- Stony Brook University
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

*See a more complete list of training providers at www.greencareersny.com

Green Description



How many energy auditors are working in a green job in New York State?

In professional services, just over 350 green business operations specialists work at 25 firms.

What do employers say about recruiting them?

17% of businesses in professional services that hire green business operations specialists report having difficulty recruiting qualified workers for these jobs.

What kind of green activities would I do?

Green business operations specialists are fully involved in almost all types of energy efficiency and renewable energy activities. These green activities include retrofitting and new construction, as well as solar, wind, and geo-thermal energy projects.

How would I get the skills to do green projects?

All businesses (in professional services) that hire energy auditors or other business operations specialists require employees to acquire new or enhanced skills to perform a green job. By far the most common source of training for green energy auditors is a professional trade association.

For more information about this occupation go to:

- www.onetonline.org/link/summary/13-1199.01
- www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes131199.htm

For more information about green jobs, go to:

- Green Careers NY: www.greencareersny.com
- Labor Statistics: www.labor.ny.gov/stats/green

Case Study

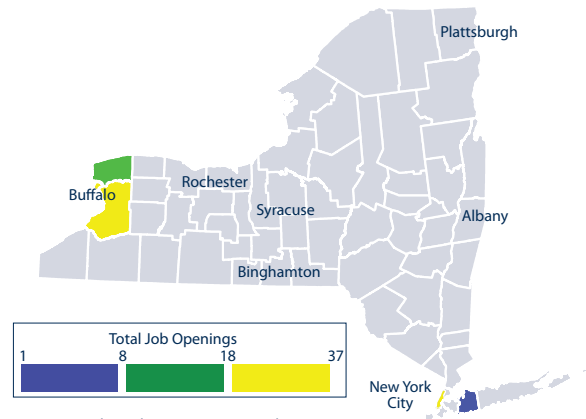
When it comes to buildings in New York State, there is considerable variation -- from large office structures in New York City to the rural farmhouses of upstate. Different expertise is needed to collect data and measure energy usage and efficiency from these different types of structures, leading one major employer of energy auditors to note "there is a real (need for) specialization."

Interpersonal skills are important, too. Energy auditors need to have a customer service mindset.

Furthermore, especially when it comes to larger projects, education is essential. In New York City, a key employer reported, "We've hired a lot of energy auditors in the last two years...there's almost nobody who didn't have at least an undergraduate degree and most have graduate degrees."

An energy auditor's typical background is in mechanical engineering, although some have degrees in urban planning and others have a master's degree in energy management. Successful energy auditors also have hands-on, practical experience, often in construction or engineering.

Job Ads for Green Business Operations Specialists



Source: Geographic Solutions, ALMA®, 2nd Q 2011