Want to go to grad school?

Need a break first...

A gap year is great way to gain experience and explore different career fields!

Gaining experience

Certifications:

- Good for technical skills or jobs requiring federal regulations knowledge GIS, OSHA, Programming, etc.

Networking/ job experience:

- Good for any sector, find networking tips here
- Some employers may fund grad school, explore available benefits offered by potential employers
- Build professional connections, explore mentoring opportunities through AGU's Mentoring365

Research and Internships:

- Good for grad school preparation or attaining federal positions
- Explore additional opportunities here
- Many research opportunities in many different sectors

Yes, or I'm considering...

Do you have a specific career goal in mind?

No

I'm still exploring fields

Not sure

Yes!

What sector?

Private sector and industry

Government

Education

Consider:

- Job application timeline
- Security clearance
- G-scale
- Federal research may require PhD

Consider:

- See the GROW website for more information about pursuing a career in education, from K-12 to faculty and other educator roles
- Many PhD graduates work outside of academia, find out more here

Have an idea, but still exploring pathways/goals

Will you need an advanced degree?

No

Not sure

Learn more with these resources:

- Geoscience Resources on Opportunities in the Workforce (GROW)
- AGI Career Compasses
- Find out more about workforce trends for geoscience graduates with AGI's workforce data
- Check out the annual Career Issue in Eos to read about pathways through Earth and space sciences
- Pathways to Science, explore funded STEM programs

Yes!

Consider:

- Will you need MS or PhD?
- Learn more about funding from the Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)

Do you feel ready to apply?

No, I think I need to build my resume more.

For more info about CV building, click here.

Yes!

Then it's time to start researching schools and apply!
Thriving in Grad School
Consider applying through the AGU Bridge program

AGU BRIDGE PROGRAM

Adapted from the work of Chloe Obara, College of William and Mary Department of Geology