

CAREERS FOR THE MATH MAJOR

BEST PRACTICES

- Start working on your resume early on – think about what will make you a good employee and find ways to make this show on paper
- Apply to internships or REUs during the summer. You can get work experience and maybe build connections that will help you when you're on the job market! Also, it may help you decide if you prefer working in industry/academic settings.
- Stay connected and seek out job postings
 - NCSU has a career center that you can apply to and math advisors regularly receive solicitations for job opportunities
 - an online presence will help employers get in touch with you
- Employment begins in the fall semester – be ready near the start of your senior year with a resume, cover letter, and references

CAREERS RIGHT OUT OF UNDERGRAD

There are some jobs you'll qualify for with no more than a bachelor's degree in math, but a little bit of coding experience will go a long way in applications.

- Software or web development is relatively easy for a math major to get into. Programming experience in any language and good performance in the math major signal that you have the head for this kind of work, and employers will teach you the details specific to their company on the job.
- You can become an analyst or consultant in a variety of fields. A background in financial math will help if that's the sector you're interested in, but don't be afraid to apply for jobs that seem outside of your area of expertise.
- With some careful planning, you can be ready for a job as an actuary or in math education soon after graduation.

BECOMING AN ACTUARY

- To become an actuary, you'll need to pass several challenging exams that test your mathematical and financial knowledge
 - If you take 1 or 2 of these exams during your undergraduate career, you can be employed while you finish the remaining exams
- You can apply to the financial math concentration in applied math after you've taken the introductory math courses at NCSU.
- The median salary is ~80k, but an actuary's salary depends on the years of experience they have and, to a drastic degree, the number of exams they've passed.
 - The average starting salary is ~40-60k, and experienced actuaries can make upwards of ~150k per year.

PURSUING MATH EDUCATION

- To be a teacher in NC, you'll need a bachelor's degree and a teaching certification (earned by taking a Praxis licensing exam and completing a state-approved education program)
 - NCSU has math education majors or a one-year M.A. you can add onto a bachelor's in math
- The average starting salary for math teachers in NC is ~30-40k, and your salary will increase with years of experience. The average pay for an experienced teacher is ~70k, and in a lot of cases this includes a 10% bonus for holding a master's.