



Technical Management



Kimberly Jenkins
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NASA Kennedy Space Center

I work very closely with the Kennedy Space Center's managers to assess and improve the requirements, processes, and procedures used to ensure successful execution of the center's programs and projects.

Areas of expertise:

- Strategic planning
- Process management
- Project management

How I first became interested in this profession:

I had the opportunity to work at Kennedy Space Center as a summer intern. This experience inspired me to become an engineer.

What helped prepare me for this job:

Throughout my career at NASA, I have had many opportunities to improve myself, and to continue learning by taking advanced education courses, as well, through on-the-job training. These experiences have allowed me to develop the skills I need to make sound engineering and management decisions. In addition, I have taken courses in professional writing, public speaking, and effective leadership. This training, along with past work experiences, have prepared me for my current job.

My role models or inspirations:

My role models are my parents. They taught me valuable life lessons, provided me with the opportunity to obtain a good education, and allowed me the freedom to pursue my goals. They are my heroes.

My education and training:

- B.S., Computer Science, Southern University

My career path:

- Thirteen years at Kennedy Space Center as:
 - Software engineer
 - Payload integration engineer
 - Electrical/software systems lead
 - Project management
 - Technical management

What I like about my job:

What I like most about my job is that I get the opportunity to work with many people doing different kinds of projects. I am always learning and experiencing new things. That's what makes my job fun.

What I don't like about my job:

The NASA business system is very complex; therefore, it may take me a long time to try out new ideas and to reach the goals I set for myself. I wish we could simplify things, so that we could move more quickly and pursue new challenges and projects.

My advice to anyone interested in this occupation:

Get as much experience as possible in the areas that interest you. Find what you really want to do and enjoy doing it!

Additional Resources:

- American Institute of Biological Sciences
<http://www.aibs.org>
- American Physiological Society
<http://www.faseb.org/aps>
- American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
<http://www.biophysics.org/biophys/society/biohome.htm>
- American Society for Microbiology
<http://www.asmsusa.org>
- Astrobiology Summer Academy
<http://academy.arc.nasa.gov/>
- Biotechnology Industry Organization
<http://www.bio.org/welcome.html>
- Earth to Orbit: Engineering Design Challenges
<http://eto.nasa.gov/>
- Education Pays Calculator
<http://www.educationpays.org/calc.asp>
- Graduate Student Researchers Program
<http://spacelink.nasa.gov/Instructional.Materials/NASA.Educational.Products/Graduate.Student.Researchers.Program.Brochure/.index.html>
- MATHCOUNTS Competition
<http://mathcounts.org/>
- Minority University Research and Education Programs
<http://mured.nasaprs.com/>
- NASA Cooperative Education Program for college students
<http://spacelink.nasa.gov/Educational.Services/NASA.Education.Programs/Student.Support/NASA.Cooperative.Education.Program/.index.html>
- NASA Jobs
<http://nasajobs.nasa.gov/>
- NASA Office of Life and Microgravity Sciences and Applications
<http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/olmsa/>
- NASA SHARP Internship Program for high-schoolers
<http://www.mtsibase.com/sharp/>
- NASA Student Employment
http://nasajobs.nasa.gov/stud_opps/employment/index.htm
- NASA Student Involvement Program student contests
<http://www.nsip.net/index.cfm>
- Order NASA career videos such as "Engineers: Turning Ideas into Reality," "Careers: Aerospace Engineer" or "Reaching for the Stars" from NASA CORE.
<http://core.nasa.gov>
- Revolutionary Vehicle Concepts and Systems student competition
<http://avst.larc.nasa.gov/competitions.html>
- Student's Guide to Astrobiology
<http://www.astrobiology.com/student.html>
- Tech-Interns.com
<http://www.tech-interns.com/>

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Thank you.

