

ET-2002-09-120-ARC

Educational Topic

Weather Station Manager

Related Job Titles:

Meteorologist, Weather Officer, Weather Forecaster, Meteorology Researcher, Meteorological Modeling Specialist

Job Description:

As a manager, the primary work deals with supervising the employees (other meteorologists) working in your area. This means dealing with people-related issues and performance evaluation. The meteorologists collect weather data, survey weather indicators and make predictions regarding developing weather patterns. They advise air traffic controllers on weather hazards such as thunderstorms, developing storm cells and fronts, turbulence, icing and other such weather-related phenomena. They issue to controllers weather advisories for aircraft. They use sophisticated computer software programs that assist them in modeling the potential flow and intensity of storm cells and fronts. They are also available to participate in weather-related research projects that seek to improve air traffic management in adverse weather conditions.

Interests / Abilities:

- Do watching weather reports on television interest you?
- Do you notice the slightest change in the sky, the air temperature and the wind?
- Do you enjoy motivating people to work as a team?
- Do you like to motivate people toward self-improvement?
- When you take measurements, are you precise and double check your readings for accuracy?

Education / Training Needed:

A Bachelors of Science and a Masters of Science degree in Meteorology from an accredited college or university is required. Experience in computer modeling techniques is helpful for this position. Management training courses are essential for competent and efficient job performance.

Suggested School Subjects / Courses:

- Algebra
- Trigonometry
- Physics
- Meteorology
- Statistics
- Computer modeling
- Psychology (to help deal with people)
- Interpersonal communication (to help deal with people)

Areas of expertise:

- Meteorology
- Severe storms
- Icing
- turbulence
- Fronts
- Computer modeling software
- Human resources management

Additional Resources:

- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration http://www.noaa.gov/
- Weatherwise
 http://www.weatherwise.org/
- National Severe Storms Laboratory http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/
- National Weather Service http://www.nws.noaa.gov/
- Federal Aviation Administration http://www.faa.gov/
- Schools with programs in meteorology http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/edu/schools.html
- Student Educational Employment Programs http://nasajobs.nasa.gov/stud_opps/employment/index.htm
- NASA Jobs http://nasajobs.nasa.gov/
- NASA Summer High School Apprenticeship Research Program (SHARP) http://www.mtsibase.com/sharp/

What can I do right now?

- Get up your own weather station and provide your local radio station with a daily report.
- Get some work experience at the local airport, television or radio station as a weather data compiler or weather statistics researcher.
- Interview pilots about how different weather phenomena affect their aircraft's flight characteristics.
- Call the Automatic Terminal Information System (ATIS) phone number and listen to the local airport's weather report.
- Learn to read and interpret the various types of weather maps, charts and data available through the internet.
- Learn how to use data base software.
- Attend a seminar about basic management skills.





http://quest.nasa.gov/people/index.html