Just the Job Information Sheet

Job title Planner

Job description

Planners give technical and specialist input into the creation and delivery of plans and projects to make streets, neighbourhoods, cities, towns and regions good places to live.

They work with businesses, organisations, residents, communities and politicians. They have input into resource management law reviews, provide planning advice to organisations, and deal with resource management policy development and analysis.

When people want to make changes to their homes or the way they use their land, planners assess these applications against legal requirements and decide if the changes are allowed.

They work in a diverse range of areas – including housing, energy, health, education, communications, leisure, tourism and transport. Planners can specialise in a particular field such as urban development, regional and rural planning, social and community based planning, transport planning, environmental planning and natural resources management.

Planners frequently work with other professionals such as engineers, architects, building surveyors, economists, developers, scientists, and environmental scientists.

Qualifications required

• A tertiary qualification is required in planning, resource management or a related field.

General requirements

- Understands the Resource Management Act
- Understands the other legislation relevant to local government administration
- Understands and is familiar with the operational practices of the council
- Free of criminal convictions
- Entitled to work and reside in New Zealand.

Training costs

Costs will vary depending on qualification and tertiary institution. Generally requires four years study.

Career path

Planners will either work in private practice or for government – e.g. council.

The two main areas of work at council involve resource consenting (making applications for private clients or assessing applications as a council planner) or policy (preparing strategic plans, delivering projects).

Salary range \$55,000 +

How to increase the chances of successfully entering this industry Hold a tertiary qualification.

Other places to source information about this job

University of Auckland. Waikato University. Massey University Lincoln University. Ministry for the Environment New Zealand Planning Institute.