

Landscape Architects

SOC: 17-1012 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

\$79,660

Median Salary

21,800

Employment

+3.0%

Growth Rate

■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: Bachelor's degree

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Low Risk - 17.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job is relatively safe from automation due to its creative, social, or complex problem-solving requirements.

■■ Work-Life Balance

7.2/10 - Good work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	8.2/10	Investigative	8.8/10
Artistic	6.4/10	Social	5.2/10
Enterprising	5.8/10	Conventional	6.6/10

■ Top Skills Required

Analytical skills, Communication skills, Creativity, Problem-solving skills, Technical skills, Visualization skills

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Landscape Architects plan, design, and oversee **the development of outdoor spaces, including parks, gardens, campuses, and urban areas**. They combine aesthetics, environmental science, and engineering principles to create functional, attractive, and sustainable landscapes. Their work is critical in urban planning, environmental conservation, and public spaces.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy design, creativity, and working with natural and built environments.

What Do Landscape Architects Do?

These professionals develop landscape designs, prepare plans and specifications, and supervise project implementation.

Common responsibilities include:

- Analyzing site conditions, climate, and environmental factors
- Developing conceptual and detailed designs for outdoor spaces
- Preparing drawings, models, and computer-aided designs (CAD)
- Coordinating with clients, architects, engineers, and contractors
- Ensuring compliance with zoning, environmental, and safety regulations
- Supervising construction and implementation of landscape projects
- Incorporating sustainability, accessibility, and aesthetic considerations

Key Areas of Landscape Architecture

Landscape architects may focus on specific projects, environments, or design principles:

- Urban and Site Planning: Designing parks, streetscapes, and public spaces
- Environmental Design: Restoring natural habitats and sustainable landscaping
- Residential and Commercial Landscapes: Creating functional and visually appealing gardens or grounds
- Construction Oversight: Managing project implementation and quality control
- Design Software and Visualization: Using CAD, GIS, and 3D modeling for planning

Skills and Abilities Needed

These professionals combine creative, technical, and analytical skills.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Career Pathway

This role typically requires formal education, licensure, and practical experience:

- Bachelor's Degree (minimum): Landscape architecture or related field
- Master's Degree (optional): Advanced specialization or project leadership roles
- Internships and Field Experience: Hands-on experience in landscape design projects
- Licensure: Required to practice as a professional landscape architect
- Continuing Education: Staying current with design trends, sustainability practices, and regulations

Where Do Landscape Architects Work?

They are employed in organizations designing, planning, and managing outdoor spaces:

- Architecture and Design Firms
- Urban Planning and Government Agencies
- Construction and Landscaping Companies
- Parks and Recreation Departments

- Environmental and Consulting Organizations

Work environments include offices, design studios, construction sites, and outdoor project locations.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career requires creativity, technical knowledge, and project management skills. Landscape architects must balance design, functionality, environmental impact, and client needs.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy designing and planning outdoor spaces
- Are creative, analytical, and detail-oriented
- Can collaborate with clients, engineers, and construction teams
- Have interest in sustainability and environmental impact
- Want a career shaping functional, beautiful, and sustainable landscapes

How to Prepare Early

- Take courses in design, architecture, environmental science, and horticulture
- Participate in internships or volunteer in landscaping or urban planning projects
- Develop skills in CAD, GIS, and 3D modeling software
- Explore undergraduate and graduate programs in landscape architecture
- Gain hands-on experience in design, site analysis, and project management

Landscape architects create functional and aesthetically pleasing outdoor environments, enhancing communities, conserving natural resources, and shaping sustainable public and private spaces.

*Generated by StartRight • Data from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics & O*NET*

Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/architecture-and-engineering/landscape-architects.htm>