

RECRUITER'S QUICK GUIDE TO GEOINT PROFESSIONALS

If you are an employment recruiter who wants to find, evaluate, and hire GEOINT professionals, this web page is for you.

Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT) is the professional practice of integrating and interpreting all forms of geospatial data to create historical and anticipatory intelligence products used for planning or that answer questions posed by decision makers.ⁱ While the term GEOINT comes from a government context,ⁱⁱ the same principles have broad application in the commercial world. For example, Location-Based Services (LBS) such as Yelp, Google Maps, and Meetup, among others, are all commercial services that use geospatial intelligence.

GEOINT professionals are employed in both government and commercial industries. Government agencies and government contractors employ people for jobs that include sensor data and imagery analysis, mission planning, data science, map and terrain model development, data fusion, standards development, and cyber/data security. Commercial (non-government related businesses) employ GEOINT professionals in jobs that include mapping and location data analysis, product generation, tool development, vehicle navigation, location-based services, marketing, data management, and data visualization, among others. Qualified people can be found in the United States and around the world.

When searching for geospatial professionals, look for job titles including: GIS Manager, Imagery Analyst, Geospatial Analyst, Data Scientist, Photogrammetrist, Computer Scientist, Geographer, Geodesist, Location-Based Market Researcher, Census Statistician, Mapping Scientist, and Surveyor,. Recognize that people placed in these roles often have cross-training in some or many of the other roles. Look for people with college degrees in Engineering, Science, Mathematics, and some business fields (e.g. market research). Relevant engineering fields include Aerospace, Civil, Geotechnical, Mechanical, Electrical, Computer, Operations Research, and Systems, among others. Relevant science fields include Geography, Geology, Geophysics, Remote Sensing, Hydrography/Hydrology, Oceanography, Geodesy, Geomatics, Computer Science, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, and Geographic Information Systems, among others. A college degree in any field might be relevant, depending on the job. Look for people with academic or work experience in sensor design, data analysis, tool and algorithm development, and education and training.

In addition to appropriate academic credentials, recruiters can look for GEOINT-specific qualifications, such as certifications, USGIF scholarship winners, and graduates of USGIF-affiliated academic programs with GEOINT Certificates. Also, several professional societies offer GEOINT-related certifications, each with a different focus. Some are test-based, while some are experience-based. Useful links are provided below.

- **US Government GEOINT Professional** (www.nga.mil/Careers/Pages/GEOINT-Professional-Certification.aspx)
- **USGIF Certified GEOINT Professional** (usgif.org/certification). Certifications include: CGP-G (GIS & Analysis Tools), CGP-R (Remote Sensing & Imagery Analysis), and CGP-D (Geospatial Data Management); USGIF is the United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation.
- **ASPRS Geospatial Professional Certifications** (www.asprs.org/Certification-Program.html) Certifications include: Photogrammetrist, Mapping Scientist – Remote Sensing, Mapping Scientist – GIS/LIS, Mapping Scientist – Lidar, Mapping Scientist – UAS; ASPRS is the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing.
- **GISP Certification** (www.gisci.org/Home.aspx) Certification as a GIS Professional is offered by the GIS Certification Institute (GISCI).
- **NSPS/THSOA Certifications** (www.nsps.us.com/?page=Certification) Certifications include: Survey Technician, Hydrographer, Federal Surveyor, Floodplain Surveyor; NSPS is the National Society of Professional Surveyors. THSOA is The Hydrographic Society Of America.
- **USGIF Accredited Academic Programs** (usgif.org/education/accreditation). Schools who can issue USGIF GEOINT Certificates can be found on this link; USGIF is the United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation.
- **USGIF Scholars** (usgif.org/education/scholarships). From this link, scholarship recipients can be found by selecting the year; USGIF is the United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation.

ⁱ Darryl Murdock and Robert M. Clark *The Five Disciplines of Intelligence Collection* (2015)

ⁱⁱ Within the United States Government ("[10 U.S.C. § 467 : US Code - Section 467: Definitions](#)"), **Geospatial intelligence, GEOINT (GEOspatial INTelligence)** is [intelligence](#) about the human activity on earth derived from the exploitation and [analysis](#) of imagery and [geospatial information](#) that describes, assesses, and visually depicts physical features and geographically referenced activities on the Earth. GEOINT, as defined in US Code, consists of imagery, [imagery intelligence](#) (IMINT) and [geospatial information](#)