

Providing young people with green jobs is one of the means of addressing youth unemployment. After all, the climate and ecological emergency will mostly harm young people and future generations as it unfolds, so addressing both these emergencies together is a win-win for young people.

Friends of the Earth (2021) An Emergency Plan on Green Jobs for Young People

So, what is a 'green job'?

Green jobs exist across all aspects of the economy, not just in the energy sector. To make our planet sustainable we will have to do lots of things in new ways.

The construction industry and farming are, for example, two of the areas where big changes will need to happen.



The main industries of the green economy include:

- Energy (renewables including solar, wind, heat pumps)
- Construction (using natural materials, low-heat loss and water use).
- Transport (electrification of public transport, electric vehicles, managing and promoting bicycle and walking schemes).
- Engineering (low-carbon engine research, design, and development).
- Water management (flood, sewage, fresh water, working on the waterways).
- Waste management (recycling and upcycling).
- Food and land management (horticulture, farming, gardening, growing etc.).

Other jobs which also need new, green approaches

- Policy and advocacy work (sustainable consulting, campaigning, civil service, local and national government).
- Food sector (local food for restaurants).
- Beauty and fashion (Low-chemical hairdressing and makeup, ethical fashion design and production).
- Performing arts (renewable energy production for live music, green influencer).
- Cleaning (non-harmful chemical cleaning and low water use).
- And of course there are other places of work that are naturally low-carbon such as health and social care, teaching, care work etc.

How can I get a green job?

The Climate Challenge College

Climate Challenge @ Tod College offers a taster course in skills for the future green economy. Students have the opportunity to develop knowledge and skills in sustainable building, farming and land management, energy production, and understanding and challenging the climate crisis. The course is very practical and suitable for people from a wide range of starting points.

To find out more, contact Chelsie Naylor, Programme Leader on chelsie@tlchub.org.uk

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