

American Institute of Professional Geologists:  
**How We Help Students Launch a  
Career in the Geosciences**

**STUDENT MEMBERSHIP  
TO YOUNG PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**



Texas Section

# A Bright Future for Young Geoscientists

- Dept of Labor: between 2019 and 2026, Geoscience jobs to grow by 14% (more than any other profession).
- Many geoscience graduates will be needed for [Off-World activities](#) on the Moon, Asteroids, Mars, etc. for NASA and the new [U.S. Space Industry](#), based on Earth.
- Increase in job hiring due largely to retirement of pre-war and post-war “boomer” professionals.
- Recent graduates are entering at a good time, BUT – need to be patient! Getting a good job takes timing and a bit of luck, requires networking with friends and new associates at local and national professional meetings.



# A Bright Future for Young Geoscientists

- **Number of Professionals in U.S. by category:**

<b>Profession</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Year</b>
Software Developers	4,400,000	2015
Lawyers	1,340,000	2017
Doctors	950,000	2016
CPAs	665,000	2016
Geoscientists	32,000	2016
Geoscientists (projected)	36,500	2026

- **Disadvantage:** Not as many jobs available for geoscientists relative to other professions, including Engineers of all types.
- **Advantage:** An acute shortage can occur with relatively few leaving the field (retirees)



# A Bright Future for Young Geoscientists

**If 30% of geoscientists retire before 2026, then:**

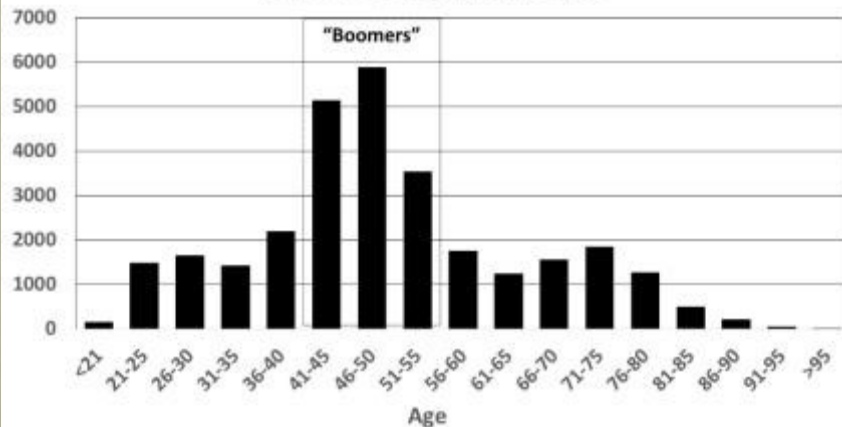
- ❖  $32,000 - 9600 = 22,400$  (remaining geoscientists in 2026)
- ❖  $36,480 - 22,400 = 14,080$  geoscience jobs needed to be filled by 2026 (39% of all geoscience jobs!) -

**Average salary of middle-rank geologists ~ \$70,000., mostly related to environmental and oil and gas jobs.**

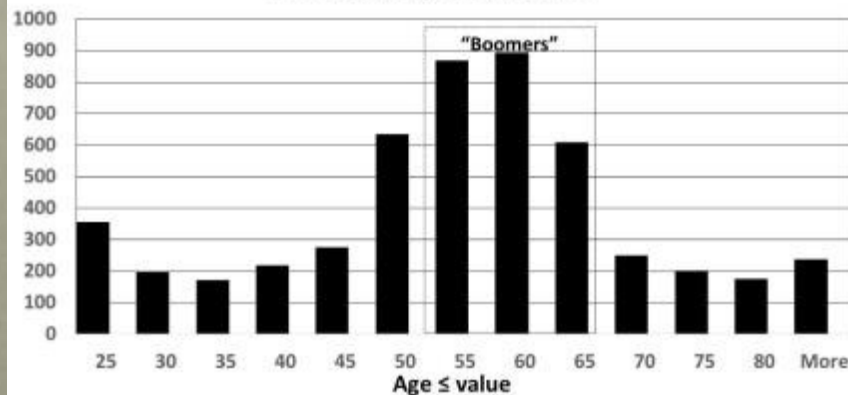


**Bye-Bye Baby  
Boomers!  
Hello Millennials!  
(or whatever they call you ...)**

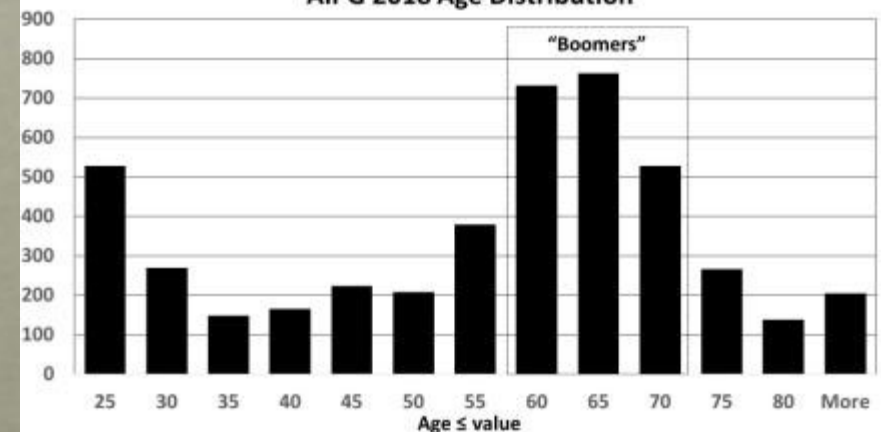
AAPG 2001 Age Distribution



AIPG 2011 Age Distribution



AIPG 2018 Age Distribution



# How Do I Get a Job in the Geosciences?

- **Be Patient but Persistent**
- **Increase your odds by being VISIBLE!**
- **Networking**
  - **Join national organizations like AIPG**
  - **Join local organizations like a state geological society**
  - **Go to conferences; attend field trips and special lectures / short courses**

# What is AIPG?



- Founded in 1963
- Largest association dedicated to supporting geology as a profession
- Presently, AIPG has more than 7,000 members in the U.S. and abroad, organized into 36 regional Sections, including the Texas Section: see: [AIPG-TX.ORG](http://AIPG-TX.ORG)
- Encourages principles of professional responsibility, public health and safety, and public service
- The only international organization that certifies the competence and ethical conduct of geological scientists



# What The AIPG NATIONAL OFFICE Does

- Professional Certification
- Categories of Membership - Certified Professional Geologist (C.P.G.), Professional, Young Professional, Associate, and Student.
- Ombudsman (investigate complaints)
- Lobbying on matters related to the geosciences
- Liability Insurance
- Continuing Education

# The Difference Between AIPG and Other Organizations

- Many organizations represent a particular field of geology (engineering geology, petroleum geology, etc)
- AIPG represents all fields of geological practice
- A member society of American Geological Institute (AGI)



# Student Membership Benefits

- Free
- Undergraduate and Graduate Scholarships
- Make Professional contacts
- Access to meetings and field trips
- Mentorship
- Can post resume and do job searches
- [Publish articles in \*The Professional Geologist\*](#)
- [Texas Section Scholarships](#)





# Scholarships

- AIPG has awarded:
  - undergraduate scholarships in the amount of **\$1,000**
  - graduate scholarships in the amount of **\$2,500**
- Some state sections offer additional undergraduate/graduate scholarships and scholarships for field camps
- [See Texas Scholarships](#)



**The Shoemaker Scholarships  
(\$2,500)**

**2016, 2017 & 2018  
University of Texas - El Paso  
(UTEP)**

**Presented by Mike Jacobs, P.G.  
AIPG-TX District I Representative**

# Mentorships

- What's the industry like in your field of interest?
- Is the industry going through major changes?
- Do you need a post-graduate degree?
- How is the job market (in the state you live or want to live in)?
- What can I do to prepare?
- Difference between working in government and private sectors?



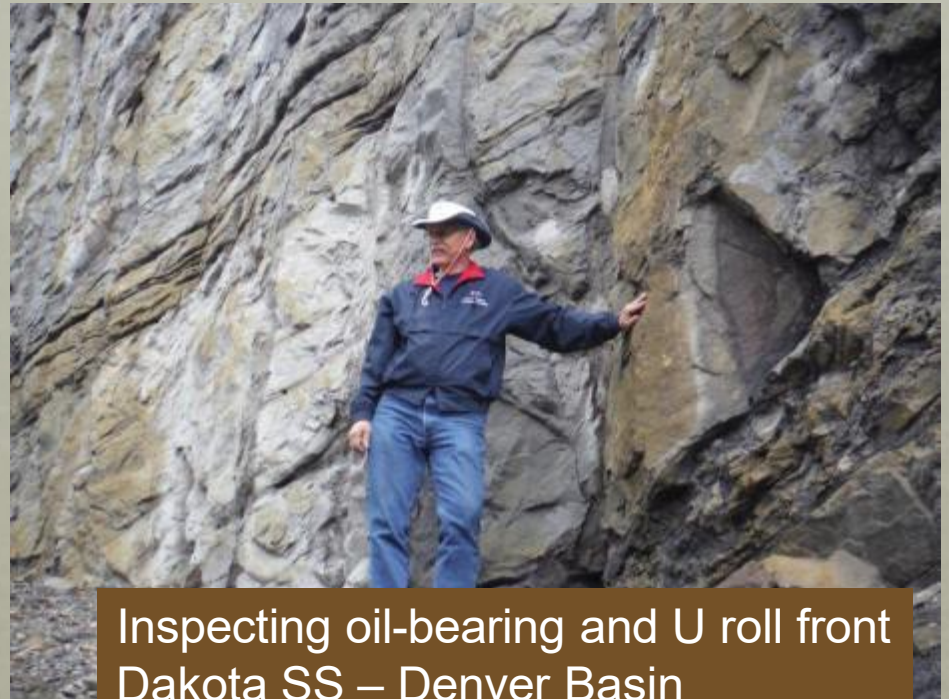


# Section and Annual Meetings





# Executive Committee Meeting & Field Trip Denver, Colorado



Inspecting oil-bearing and U roll front  
Dakota SS – Denver Basin





# Section and Annual Meetings



**2016 Field Trip to Central Texas**  
At Packsaddle Historical Marker

Fieldtrip Guidebook ([here](#))

**AIPG TEXAS SECTION**  
**Field Trips and Training Programs**

For details see TPG, PDF  
pp. 44 to 45 ([more](#))

Also see 2023 Field Trip  
to West Texas ([here](#))



AIPG - TX  
presents

**2018  
GEODAYZ**

Feb. 24 & 25, 2018

1120 NW Stallings Dr.  
Nacogdoches, TX

Learn About the Application of Geological and  
Hydrogeological Techniques ...

For Students and New Professionals in the Industry

Featuring Demonstrations & Presentations



# AIPG ARIZONA SECTION FIELD TRIP



ASU's Dr. Ron Dorn led field trip to South Mtns: evolution of drainages





# AIPG ANNUAL MEETING

ANCHORAGE,  
ALASKA

Denali National Park tour led by  
NPS geologist Denny Capps



Denali – visible 30% of the time!



Usibelli Coal Mine Control Room



**Usibelli Coal Mine**



**Denali Field Trip**







## Alaska National Meeting





# AIPG ANNUAL MEETING SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO



Near Los Alamos and the Valles Caldera



# AIPG ANNUAL MEETING

## NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Gordonsville UG Zinc Mine





# Tennessee



**Mammoth Cave / Corvette Museum**





# What Does it mean to be an AIPG Student Chapter?

- An AIPG Student Chapter is a resource for students to learn about professionalism in the geosciences. To gain insight on careers of interest prior to college graduation.
- AIPG Student Chapters can host/ participate in events, workshops, meetings, and fieldtrips to learn valuable tools in preparation for post- graduation and make professional contacts.



To help bridge the long distances in Texas: The Virtual Statewide AIPG Chapter ([here](#))

# Transitioning to a young professional



Lots of Good Company

- Graduate school or starting a career?
- Do I want (or have) to move?
- What industries interest me most?
- Is a cover letter necessary?
- What can I expect from an entry-level position?
- Should I take the first ASBOG Test ASAP ?
- How do I get involved in the geological community?



# The Future of Young Professional Memberships

- Young Professional member has been added to the national executive committee
- Bridges the gap between students and professionals! The YP representative acts as a resource for student chapters.
- Insight on events, social media, newsletters, marketing, etc.
- YP's gain the opportunity to have responsibility and leadership roles in AIPG



## How Being a member can benefit your career



- Networking is valuable to every business
- AIPG leadership can accelerate your career
- Planning events, AIPG email correspondence, articles in section newsletters or TPG, etc.  
= **GREAT** avenue to practice writing skills and collaborating
- The ins and outs of an organization run in a similar way to a business



# Continuing Education Credits

- Online courses
- Field trips
- Annual Meetings



The geoscience community is moving in the direction of requiring continuing education requirements for licensure.

- 17+ Webinars online at AIPG website
- [Global Energy Resources: Current and Short Term Predictions \(earn 0.1 CEU's\)](#)
- [Basics of Seismic Petroleum Exploration for New Hires](#)
- Publish your thesis/dissertation ([more](#))
- Contribute/use focused web portals ([more](#))



## AIPG Code of Ethics

(Adopted December 11, 1989, with modifications adopted October 5, 2019)

### PREAMBLE

Members of The American Institute of Professional Geologists are dedicated to the highest standards of personal integrity and professional conduct. The Institute's Code of Ethics comprises three parts: the Canons, which are broad principles of conduct; the Ethical Standards, which are goals to which Members aspire; and the Rules of Conduct, Compliance with the Rules of Conduct is mandatory and violation of any Rule will be grounds for disciplinary action by the Institute. Under the Bylaws, the Institute may also impose discipline for legal violations and because of the suspension or revocation of registration or licensure, among other grounds. Disciplinary action may take the form of private admonition, public reprimand, suspension of membership, or termination. The Code of Ethics applies to all professional activities of Members and Associates, wherever and whenever they occur. The title "Member" were used in this Code of Ethics shall include Associates. A Member shall not be relieved of an ethical responsibility by virtue of his or her employment, because the Member has delegated an assignment to a subordinate, or because the Member was not involved in performing services for compensation.

### CANON 1. General Obligations

Members should be guided by the highest standards of personal integrity and professional conduct.

#### STANDARD 1.1

Members should pursue honesty, integrity, fairness, impartiality, candor, fidelity to trust, inviolability of confidence, and honorable conduct as a way of life.

**Rule 1.1.1** By applying for or by continuing Membership in the Institute, a Member agrees to comply with and uphold this Code of Ethics.

### CANON 2. Obligations To The Public

Members should uphold the public health, safety, and welfare in the performance of professional services, and avoid even the appearance of impropriety.

#### STANDARD 2.1

Members should observe and comply with the requirements and intent of all applicable laws, codes, and regulations.

**Rule 2.1.1** A Member shall not knowingly participate in any illegal activities, or knowingly permit the publication of his or her reports, maps, or other documents for illegal purpose.

**Rule 2.1.2** A Member shall neither offer nor make any illegal payment, gift, or other valuable consideration to a public official for the purpose of influencing a decision by such official; nor shall a Member accept any payment, gift, or other valuable consideration that would appear to influence a decision made on behalf of the public by the Member acting in a position of public trust.

**Rule 2.1.3** If a Member becomes aware of a decision or action by an employer, client, or colleague which violates any law or regulation, the Member shall advise against such action, and when such violation appears to be materially affected the public health, safety, or welfare, shall advise the appropriate public officials responsible for the enforcement of such law or regulation.

#### STANDARD 2.2

Members should be accurate, truthful, and candid in all communications with the public.

**Rule 2.2.1** A Member shall not knowingly engage in false or deceptive advertising, or make false, misleading, or deceptive representations or claims in regard to the profession of geology, or which concern his or her own professional qualifications or abilities, or those of other geologists.

**Rule 2.2.2** A Member shall not issue a false statement or false information which the Member knows to be false or misleading, even though directed to be so by an employer or client.

**Rule 2.2.3** A Member shall avoid making sensational, exaggerated, and/or unwarranted statements that may mislead or deceive members of the public or any public body.

### STANDARD 2.3

Members should participate as citizens and as professionals in public affairs.

**Rule 2.3.1** A Member acting in a position of public trust shall exercise his or her authority impartially, and shall not seek to use his or her authority for personal profit or to secure any competitive advantage.

### STANDARD 2.4

Members should promote public awareness of the effects of geology and geological processes on the quality of life.

### CANON 3. Obligations To Employers And Clients

Members should serve their employers and clients faithfully and competently within their overall professional and ethical obligations.

#### STANDARD 3.1

Members should disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest that may affect their ability to serve an employer or client faithfully.

**Rule 3.1.1** A Member shall disclose to a prospective employer or client the existence of any owned or controlled mineral or other interest that may, either directly or indirectly, have a pertinent bearing on such employment.

**Rule 3.1.2** A Member having or expecting to have beneficial interest in a property on which the Member reports shall state in the report the fact of the existence of such interest or expected interest.

**Rule 3.1.3** A Member employed or retained by one employer or client shall not accept, without that employer's or client's written consent, an engagement by another if the interests of the two are in any manner conflicting.

#### STANDARD 3.2

Members should protect, to the fullest possible extent, the interest of an employer or client so far as is consistent with the public health, safety, and welfare and the Member's legal, professional, and ethical obligations.

**Rule 3.2.1** A Member shall not use, directly or indirectly, any confidential information obtained from or in the course of performing services for an employer or client in any way which is adverse or detrimental to the interests of the employer or client, except with the prior consent of the employer or client or when disclosure is required by law.

**Rule 3.2.2** A Member who has made an investigation for an employer or client shall not seek to profit economically from the information gained without written permission of the employer or client, unless it is clear that there can no longer be a conflict of interest with the original employer or client.

**Rule 3.2.3** A Member shall not use his or her employer's or client's resources for private gain without the prior knowledge and consent of his or her employer or client.

#### STANDARD 3.3

Members should serve their employers and clients competently.

**Rule 3.3.1** A Member shall perform professional services or issue professional advice that is only within the scope of the education and experience of the Member, and the Member's professional associations, consultants, or employees, and shall advise the employer or client if any professional advice is outside of the Member's personal expertise.

**Rule 3.3.2** A Member shall not give a professional opinion or submit a report without being as thoroughly informed as might be reasonably expected, considering the purpose for which the opinion or report is requested.

**Rule 3.3.3** A Member shall engage or advise an employer or client to engage and conciliate with other experts and specialists whenever the employer's or client's interests would be best served by such service.

#### STANDARD 3.4

Members should serve their employers and clients diligently and perform their services in a timely manner.

#### STANDARD 3.5

Members who find that obligations to an employer or client conflict with professional or ethical standards should have such objectionable conditions corrected or resign.

**CANON 4. Obligations to Professional Colleagues**  
Members should respect the rights, interests, and contributions of their professional colleagues.

#### STANDARD 4.1

Members should respect and acknowledge the professional status and contributions of their colleagues.

**Rule 4.1.1** A Member shall give due credit for work done by others in the course of a professional assignment, and shall not knowingly accept credit due another.

**Rule 4.1.2** A Member shall not plagiarize another in oral and written communications, or use materials prepared by others without appropriate attribution.

#### STANDARD 4.2

Members should be accurate, truthful, and candid in all communications with others regarding professional colleagues.

**Rule 4.2.1** A Member shall not issue (a) false statement(s), (a) misleading statement(s), or (a) sensational, exaggerated, defamatory, and/or unwarranted statement(s) regarding a professional colleague. Differences of opinion occur and statements regarding opinions should be restricted to and based on logical and scientific principles and should be made in a respectful and professional manner.

### CANON 5. Obligations to the Institute and the Profession

Members should continually strive to improve the profession of geology so that it may be of ever increasing benefit to society.

#### STANDARD 5.1

Members should strive to improve their professional knowledge and skills.

#### STANDARD 5.2

Members should cooperate with others in the profession and encourage the dissemination of geological knowledge.

#### STANDARD 5.3

Members should work toward the improvement of standards of geological education, research, training, and practice.

#### STANDARD 5.4

Members should not only uphold these standards of ethics by precept and example but also encourage by counsel and advice to other Members their adherence to such standards.

#### STANDARD 5.5

Members having knowledge of a violation of these Rules by another Member should bring substantiated evidence of such violation to the attention of the Institute.



For Link ([here](#))

# AIPG CODE OF ETHICS





# Questions??

Revised in 2024 for Texas Section Use by: Michael D. Campbell, AIPG-TX  
Vice President, Eastern Texas ([mdc@i2mconsulting.com](mailto:mdc@i2mconsulting.com))

Created By: Brandy Barnes, 2018 AIPG National Executive Committee  
Young Professional Member ([brandyb@idgsfl.com](mailto:brandyb@idgsfl.com))

Edited By: Doug Bartlett, 2018 National Executive Committee President  
([dbartlett@geo-logic.com](mailto:dbartlett@geo-logic.com))

Photos and Sources: American Institute of Professional Geologists  
([aipg.org](http://aipg.org)) and Doug Bartlett

Approved By: 2018 National Executive Committee