Geological Sample Test Technician (19-4041.02)

At-a-Glance Statistics

Sample Job Titles
Core Inspector, Electron Microprobe Operator, Environmental Field Services Technician, Environmental Sampling Technician, Laboratory Technician, Materials Technician, Organic Section Technical Lead, Physical Science Technician, Quality Control Technician (QC Technician), Research Associate

Key Tasks
- Test and analyze samples to determine their content and characteristics, using laboratory apparatus or testing equipment.
- Collect or prepare solid or fluid samples for analysis.
- Compile, log, or record testing or operational data for review and further analysis.
- Assemble, operate, or maintain field or laboratory testing, measuring, or mechanical equipment.
- Participate in geological, geophysical, geochemical, hydrographic, or oceanographic surveys, prospecting field trips, exploratory drilling, well logging, or underground mine survey programs.
- Prepare or review professional, technical, or other reports regarding sampling, testing, or recommendations of data analysis.
- Adjust or repair testing, electrical, or mechanical equipment or devices.
- Plot information from aerial photographs, well logs, section descriptions, or other databases.
- Prepare notes, sketches, geological maps, or cross sections.
- Participate in the evaluation of possible mining locations.
- Assess the environmental impacts of development projects on subsurface materials.

### Education and Training

- Bachelor's Degree: 52%
- Master's Degree: 24%
- Some college, no degree: 10%

### Median Wages

- Hourly: $25.62
- Annually: $53,620

### Top Industries

- Mining, Quarrying, Oil, and Gas Extraction
- Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services

### Number Employed

- 16,000 positions
- 1,800 job openings

### Top Ten States for Occupational Percentage Growth

- WY: 67%
- UT: 40%
- MI: 25%
- MO: 23%
- CO: 23%
- NM: 20%
- TX: 17%
- KS: 16%
- OK: 16%
- NV: 15%