Archaeologists work in a variety of settings including local authorities, advising on the archaeological implications of planning applications, commercial planning and development consultancies and archaeological field units or trusts. You could also be employed by a museum or heritage centre, assisting with the conservation, display and interpretation of artefacts or in a national organisation like Historic England or the National Trust.

You may find yourself working on short employment contracts particularly if you are involved in field work as many archaeological excavations are comparatively short term. You will also find most people don’t take up a career in Archaeology for the pay. Self-employment or freelance work is also a possibility. It is a competitive job market but the Archaeology Market Survey 2015 is quite positive about the immediate future of the profession.

Most jobs will ask for experience and you should aim to get as much practical experience as possible. Volunteering is an excellent way to get started and there should be opportunities with local archaeological societies. This means getting involved with as many tasks as possible from planning the project, cleaning, recording, investigating and conserving finds, writing up notes and reports. Volunteering also demonstrates your interest and commitment. Work experience and volunteering are great for your CV as well as being a valuable networking opportunity to develop useful links and contacts with people working in the sector.

**Key Resources**

- **British Archaeological Jobs and Resources (BAJR)**
  Includes employment, training and industry news, advice on getting a job and adverts for job vacancies and studentships

- **Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA)**
  A good resource for finding jobs and postgraduate studentships. Members can sign up to the jobs information and training service (JIST) list which is a weekly jobs bulletin advertising archaeological, heritage, research and training opportunities

- **Council for British Archaeology (CBA)**
  The 'participant' section has a great deal of useful information about training and working in archaeology including bursaries and volunteering

- **Training Online Resource Centre**
  You can search for courses, contacts, events and fieldwork taking place near you. Also a good source of information on careers, training, courses, professional development, public involvement and fieldwork for archaeology in the United Kingdom. There is also a directory of organisations involved in archaeology in the UK, including national heritage bodies, museums, local societies and archaeological contractors

- **Creative and Cultural Skills**
  The national skills academy for the creative and cultural sector. The Creative Choices section has information on jobs, careers advice and training

Access this page and more industries at [reading.ac.uk/careers/resources](http://reading.ac.uk/careers/resources)
myjobsScotland

Local government jobs in Scotland

Earthworks

Advertises jobs and research opportunities in the UK and abroad

Leicester University School of Museum Studies Jobs Desk

A really good source of national and international job vacancies, internships and volunteering opportunities in museums, galleries and heritage sites

Local Government Jobs

Local government jobs in archaeology, museums and heritage

Museum Jobs

Advertises jobs in the cultural sector including museums, galleries, libraries and archives both in the UK and abroad

You may also be interested in...

- Creative Arts
- Libraries, Museums and Archives