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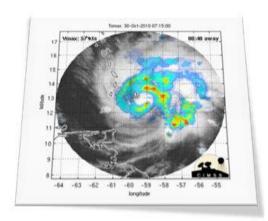
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Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service

Becoming a Meteorologist...



What you should know...



The profession of monitoring and understanding weather and climate forecasts is formally called **Meteorology**. The men and women behind the profession are formally called **Meteorologists**.

Meteorology here I come!



From the definition, meteorology is a science of the atmosphere and so the prerequisite for the job is a flare for science. A good combination of Mathematics and Physics is the main

prerequisite for the job.

There are three levels of entry into the profession:

> Straight from secondary school, someone with at least five (5) subjects at CAPE, CSEC, or GCE level is recruited through the granting of government scholarships as a Meteorological Assistant (Weather Observer). This is the person who is responsible for weather monitoring, a function which is an indispensable input into weather forecasting. On recruitment the person is given a four-month training in meteorological observations, coding, plotting, data collection and transmission, and meteorological instrumentation at the Caribbean Institute of Meteorological and Hydrology (CIMH), Barbados, which is World Meteorological Organization's



- regional training center.
 Upon completion of on the job training, he or she obtains an Entry-level
 Technician certificate in Meteorology.
- The second entry level is through awards of competitive internal scholarships where weather observers are granted an eighteen-month Diploma course in weather forecasting at the CIMH. Thereafter, depending on the granting of scholarships once more he or she is also considered for a scholarship to pursue a Bachelor of Science Degree (BSc.) course in Meteorology, a course that is attainable at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados or at a University abroad.
- The third entry point is at the graduate level. Bachelor of Science graduates from the University of the West Indies, Cave-hill Campus, Barbados or any other recognized International University majoring in Meteorology are recruited based on the needs of the Division.

At the BSc degree level, the main subjects are Dynamic, Physical and Synoptic Meteorology, which are combined with Mathematics, Physical and Statistics which are phased out gradually by year two, after which meteorology becomes the major subjects.



Graduate meteorologists are sent for a postgraduate diploma in meteorology abroad, Master of Science (MSc.), or even Doctors of Philosophy(PhD). These are usually intense courses which actually demand the Mathematics, and Physics mentioned earlier on. This is where he or she is free to specialize in areas such as Agricultural Meteorology, Climatology and Hydrometeorology to become climatologists, marine meteorologist, agro-meteorologist, and research meteorologist

One heading, different opportunities!

In the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service staff work in the various sections such as Monitoring, Prediction, Aviation Weather Services, Climate Services and Public Weather Forecasts.

We are one family!!!

Meteorologists also participate in international meteorological issues such as climate change, global warming, ozone depletion, desertification, regional drought monitoring and air pollution. Some have had chances to be attached at specialized meteorological centers such as Climate Prediction Centre (CPC) in Washington DC United States of America, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Hurricane Center and Finish Meteorological Institute.

Yes Sir or Madam!

The main employer of meteorologists is currently the government. A few institutions employ meteorologists in areas such as television presenters.

