How do I get a job at the Meteorological Services Division?
What are my options?

First of all, if you haven't visited the forecast office, it is highly recommended that you do so. Talk with the Meteorologist-in-Charge (Meteorologist IV) about a career in the Meteorological Office
to get a feel of the job. You are always welcome to visit the office
and learn about the job.

Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service

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Why Choose Meteorology?

Are you curious about the world and the atmosphere around you?
Are you curious about why certain weather events happened?
Are you curious about how funnel clouds, tornadoes and hurricanes form?
Are you curious about how clouds and rain develop?
Are you curious about the changing climate and weather around us?

As a meteorologist, you can satisfy these curiosities by investigating the naturalforces that shape our weather and climate. We live in the weather every day. In oneway or another, the weather impacts our lives in subtle or not so subtle ways.

As a meteorologist you carry tremendous responsibility for protecting and saving the lives and property that can be endangered by hazardous weather events.

You can use your knowledge to warn others when dangerous weather is approaching. You can use the latest tools of modern technology such as computers, radars, and satellites to discover how natural processes affect our atmosphere.

You can learn how human activities are changing the climate and global systems. One thing many meteorologists share is the excitement and love of the weather and the challenge of understanding and forecasting it.

So what is Meteorology?

Meteorology is the science of the atmosphere. The word comes from the Greek word *meteorol*, which refers to something that occurs high in the sky. Modern meteorologists must address many complex issues and answer many difficult questions about the behavior of the atmosphere and its effects on the people of our planet.

The science of meteorology is young; a lot of understanding of the atmosphere's behavior still remains to be discovered.

What is a Meteorologist?

A lot of people do not know what a meteorologist is or how to pronounce it. Many think a weather personality on television who tells us about tomorrow's weather is a meteorologist. Some of these weather broadcasters are professional meteorologists, but many are simply broadcasters relaying weather information from Meteorological Service Division.

A **meteorologist** is one who studies the atmosphere and is a person with a specializededucation who uses scientific principles to explain, understand, observe, or forecast the earth's atmospheric phenomena. This education usually includes a bachelor's degree or higher from acollege or university.

What do Meteorologists do?

Meteorologists work in weather forecasting, atmospheric research, teaching, and otherkinds of applied meteorology such as agriculture, sea and air.

Weather Forecasting - Forecasting has always been at the heart of meteorology. Many people have been drawn to the profession by the challenge of forecasting a natural occurring weather event and seeing that forecast positively affect the lives of thousands of people.

Meteorologists have seen significant advances in their ability to predict the weather. Theaccuracy of a forecast is much greater now and extends further into the future. Newknowledge about interactions between the tropical ocean and the atmosphere make itincreasingly possible to predict regional climate patterns months or even years in advance.

Research - Research meteorologists often workclosely with chemists, physicists, and mathematicians as well as with oceanographers,hydrologists and researchers in other branches ofenvironmental science. They seek to better understand complex weather phenomena such as hurricanes, tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, snowstorms and the dangers that accompany them so that forecasters may improve their forecasts and save lives and property.

Mathematicians and computer scientists help meteorologists design computer models of atmospheric processes. Meteorologists and oceanographers work together to study manyimportant ocean-atmosphere interactions such as El Niño.

Teaching - Atmospheric science education at the college and university level has grown tremendously in recent years. In addition to classroom teaching, many university atmospheric scientists direct research that graduate students are performing to earn their degrees. Many institutions offer a major in meteorology or atmospheric science, while others provide atmospheric science courses to supplement related science and engineering fields or as part of a broader educational curriculum. Training in meteorology is good preparation for a career as a science teacher at any level.