If you're interested in becoming an operations researcher or an analytics practitioner, you'll want to take the first steps toward an education by examining information that's available online.

INFORMS and the federal government are both excellent resources for information about an education and career in operations research and analytics. Learn more at the websites below.

INFORMS Career
www.informs.org/choose-OR-analytics

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook
www.bls.gov/ooh/Math/Operations-research-analysts.htm

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor, O*Net **www.onetonline.org/link/summary/15-2031.00**

The Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS®) is an international scientific society with over 10,000 members dedicated to applying scientific methods to improve decision making, management, and operations. Operations research (O.R.) is the discipline of applying advanced analytical methods to help make better decisions. Members of INFORMS work in business, government, and academia and represent fields as diverse as aviation, health care, law enforcement, the military, finance, marketing, and telecommunications.

INFORMS serves the scientific and professional needs of O.R. analysts, consultants, scientists, students, educators, and managers, as well as their organizations, by publishing a variety of journals that describe the latest research in O.R.

For additional information:

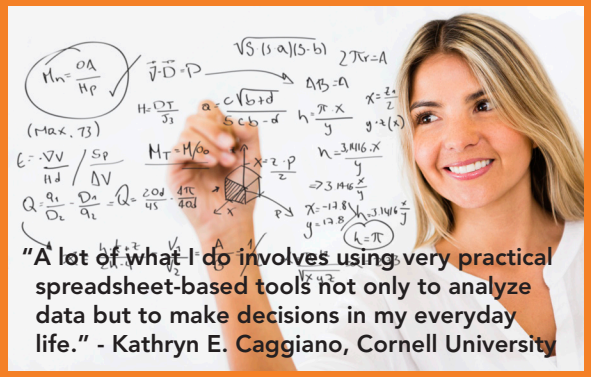
INFORMS
7240 Parkway Drive, Suite 300
Hanover, MD 21076-1310 USA

Phone: +1 443.757.3500 *or*
800.4.INFORMs (800.446.3676)
Fax: +1 443.757.3515
E-mail: informs@informs.org
Web: www.informs.org/choose-OR-analytics

Looking for a Good Career?

Choose Operations Research and Analytics

www.informs.org/choose-OR-analytics



INFORMS Public Awareness Committee

Operations Research and Analytics: Exciting Ways to Use Math

The more challenging the work, the greater the reward.

If you have an aptitude for math, find intrigue in the secrets of data, and have the determination to work through problems until you come up with a good solution, then you're ready to consider a career in operations research and analytics.

The field traces its roots to the late 1940s as mathematicians developed techniques for practical problem solving. Today, operations research is the application of advanced analytical methods to help make better decisions.

Closely connected to operations research, analytics is the scientific process of transforming data into insight for making better decisions.

Both fields offer exciting ways to apply math principles to challenges facing modern organizations.

Websites like LinkedIn and Google use it to make behind-the-scenes connections among personal profiles.

Tech companies like IBM, Intel, and HP use it to strengthen management, improve the way they manufacture, and reduce resource use – all to create less expensive computers and smartphones.

The U.S. Army uses it to plan the delivery of supplies and fight terrorism.

Airlines use it to schedule your flight crew and your flight. They also use it to protect passengers and determine the smartest price to charge for their service.

Humanitarian relief agencies use it to plan for disasters and, when disaster strikes, rush food and medicine to those in need.

Organizations of every type use it to attack problems with lots of choices and even more data to come up with optimal solutions.

Discover operations research and analytics in:

- Healthcare
- Logistics
- Sports
- Social media
- Environmental work
- Product Development
- Advertising/Marketing
- Decision Making
- Big Data

You Can Become an Operations Research/Analytics Professional

Entry-level professionals generally begin with a bachelor's degree in math, business, or industrial engineering with an emphasis in operations research, analytics, or quantitative methods. University operations research and analytics programs are housed in different departments and schools, and most universities offer degrees in operations research and analytics only at the graduate level. But it isn't necessary to hold a degree in operations research or analytics to get your career started as long as you've developed the necessary problem solving skills.

Although entry-level positions start with a bachelor's degree, you may want to consider studying for a master's degree so that you have the opportunity to apply your skills at the highest level in a corporation, consulting group, government agency, or nonprofit. Most graduate programs don't require an undergraduate degree in operations research or analytics for admission. If you can demonstrate you've developed good quantitative skills as an undergraduate you shouldn't hesitate to apply.

If you're interested in taking your skills to the very highest level, perhaps even doing research or teaching, consider pursuing a Ph.D.

The INFORMS website at www.informs.org can provide you with a lengthy list of engineering and business schools that offer a degree. Look for it at www.informs.org/choose-OR-analytics.

The Promise of Operations Research and Analytics

Math-related fields are frequently cited as those promising the most growth in job openings and salary. The fields of operations research and analytics are no exception. According to the Occupational Outlook Handbook*, the median pay for an operations researcher is a healthy $70,960 a year. The number of jobs in the profession was 64,600 in 2010, and that number is expected to grow a strong 15%, another 9,400, by the year 2020. Careers in operations research provide many opportunities for advancement, and put you at the center of an exciting new world where technical savvy is respected and relied upon.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics**, the work you do in analytics and operations research will challenge you just about every day. You will

- Analyze data and information
- Spend lots of time on your computer with sophisticated math software
- Make decisions and solve problems
- Gather the data you'll need to solve those problems
- Make full use of your creative thinking abilities
- Interpret the meaning of information for others
- Communicate your results and your recommendations, not only to your colleagues but to your supervisors, and maybe to the highest executives in your organization, as well.

* 2012, www.bls.gov/ooh/Math/Operations-research-analysts.htm

**www.onetonline.org/link/summary/15-2031.00