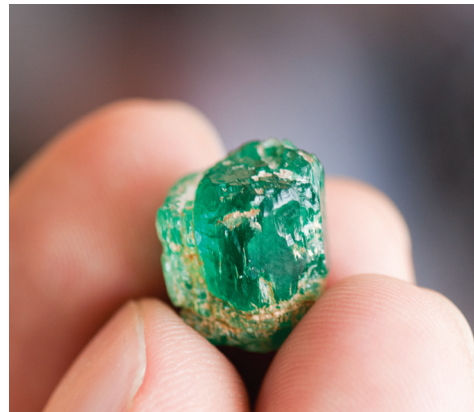




CAREERS IN GEMS AND JEWELRY

Careers in gems and jewelry enable you to work with some of the earth's rarest and most valuable natural resources, create beautiful objects of your own design, and help bring joy to others as they celebrate life's important milestones. A GIA education can provide the knowledge, hands-on skills and professional network that will help you succeed in whatever path you choose in this exciting industry.



GEM DISCOVERY AND ROUGH SALES

Gems are discovered and mined or harvested all over the world. These uncut gems (known as "rough") are bought by brokers, dealers and cutters who process the gems by shaping and polishing them before selling to wholesalers.

Trained gemologists are vital to this process by helping to determine the quality and profitability of new gem deposits. They also help buyers and sellers evaluate the characteristics of rough gemstones which will influence their value as they move down the supply chain.

CAREERS

- Gemologist
- Lab or Research Professional
- Diamond, Colored Stone or Pearl Buyer
- Wholesaler
- Inventory Control Specialist



GEM IDENTIFICATION AND GRADING

A gem's value may be based on many factors including its rarity, size, shape, color, clarity and any enhancement treatments it may have received. Gemologists trained in the global standards of gem grading and identification provide reports used by wholesalers, retailers and customers to confidently compare the features of gems and assess quality and value.

These skills are employed in a variety of settings from large grading laboratories to your local jewelry retailer, pawnshop, auction houses and independent appraisers.

CAREERS

- Lab or Research Professional
- Diamonds, Colored Stone or Pearl Sorter/Grader



JEWELRY DESIGN & CRAFTSMANSHIP

Jewelry designers and bench jewelers blend artistic ability, craftsmanship and engineering knowledge, old world techniques, and the latest technology to create the jewelry we love.

Designers start with hand- or digitally-rendered sketches that are then developed further using computer-aided design (CAD) software. Bench jewelers at large manufacturers often specialize in gemstone setting or finishing, while those in smaller shops may take a piece from casting to the finished polish.

Independent jewelers may combine all these skills to produce custom pieces for their clients.

CAREERS

- Bench Jeweler
- Custom Order Jeweler
- Jewelry Repair Technician
- Stone Setter
- CAD Designer
- Jewelry Designer
- Product Developer
- Quality Assurance Specialist



GEM AND JEWELRY SALES

Jewelry helps mark many joyful and significant events, such as weddings, anniversaries, graduations and birthdays. For each of these occasions, gem and jewelry sales professionals have the rewarding task of helping clients select the perfect piece based on factors such as value, functionality and aesthetics.

Sales professionals work in nearly every sector of the gem and jewelry industry from your local jewelry store, online sales support, auction houses as well as countless vital support services.

CAREERS

- Inventory Control Specialist
- Diamonds, Colored Stone and Pearl Retail Sales Associate
- Gem and Jewelry Buyer
- Pawnbroker
- Estate Jewelry Dealer
- Appraiser
- Auction House Specialist



STARTING YOUR OWN BUSINESS

New businesses can start in any of these career sectors. Possibilities include opening an online store, design house or appraisal business, to becoming a gem wholesaler or independent bench jeweler.

A successful entrepreneur embodies many skills beyond their core passion, whether it is gemology, design or hand-crafting jewelry. You'll need to have an understanding of sales and other important aspects of business including marketing and finance. Opportunities are only limited by your resources and imagination.

CAREERS

- Jewelry Business Owner
- Custom Order Jeweler
- Custom Jewelry Designer
- Retailer
- Wholesaler
- Appraiser
- Estate Jewelry Dealer

RELATED GIA PROGRAMS

Graduate Gemologist®	●
Graduate Diamonds	●
Graduate Colored Stones	●
Graduate Pearls	●
Applied Jewelry Professional™	●
Graduate Jeweler	●
Jewelry Design & Technology	●
Jewelry Design	●
Comprehensive CAD/CAM for Jewelry	●

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