



Career Options in **CHEMISTRY**

Chemistry is the study of the composition, structure, and properties of matter as well as the reactions that transform one form of matter into another. Because it is an experimental science, students learn to design and perform the experiments that allow a better understanding of the physical world. All chemistry majors spend considerable time performing experiments in the laboratory. The laboratory experience teaches students to observe the world around them, to draw conclusions from these observations, and to challenge currently accepted beliefs.

Chemistry majors develop skills that may lead to a wide variety of occupational tracks. Trained to think both analytically and creatively, chemists solve practical as well as research problems—skills that are readily transferable to many careers. Many chemistry majors go on to law, medical, business, or graduate schools, but they are prepared for careers in such diverse settings as research, education and government, and industry.

SAMPLE OCCUPATIONS: Please note that this is not an exhaustive list of occupations related to this major. Specific requirements based on education level for each occupation may vary. For additional information and assistance, please speak with a Career Consultant.

Agricultural Scientist	Anesthesiologist	Biochemist
Chemical Engineer	Chemist	Crime Lab Analyst
Dentist	Environmental Health Specialist	Food Scientist/Technologist
Forensic Chemist	Geologist	Geophysicist
Medical Technologist	Narcotics Investigator	Petroleum Engineer
Pharmacist	Physician	Radiologist
Toxicologist	Veterinarian	

SAMPLE WORK SETTINGS:

Aerospace Firms	Agricultural Organizations	Biotechnical Firms
Chemical Companies	Engineering Firms	Government Agencies
Hospitals	Medical Laboratories	Petroleum and Coal Firms
Research Laboratories	Schools and Colleges	Pharmaceutical Companies

RELATED MAJOR SKILLS & CHARACTERISTICS:

Effective research and writing	In-depth analysis	Attention to detail
Teamwork	Communication	Ability to continuously learn
Strong mathematical background		

SAMPLE GW RESOURCES

GW CAREER CENTER RESOURCES: <http://gwired.gwu.edu/career>

GWork: <http://gwired.gwu.edu/career>

Career Search: <http://www.careersearch.net/gwu>

MyPlan: <http://gw.myplan.com>

GW DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION: <http://www.gwu.edu/~gwchem/>

Undergraduates: <http://www.gwu.edu/~gwchem/>

Graduates: <http://www.gwu.edu/~gwchem/>

SAMPLE WEBSITES:

Career Planning Resources:

Planning for a Career in Chemistry-

<http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acdisplay.html?DOC=education%5Ccpt%5C01open.html>

Chemistry Careers- http://www.jobweb.com/Resources/Library/Careers_In/Beyond_Bunsen_156_01.htm

Bureau of Labor Statistics- <http://www.bls.gov/k12/science01.htm>

Chemistry as a Career- <http://www.scs.uiuc.edu/chem/undergrad/career.html>

Careers in Science and Engineering- <http://www.nap.edu/readingroom/books/careers/contents.html>

Job Search Resources:

Job Openings in Science Careers- <http://aaas.sciencecareers.org/js.php>

Science Jobs- <http://www.sciencejobs.com/search.action>

Nature Jobs- <http://www.nature.com/naturejobs/>

Chemistry World Job Search- <http://www.rsc.org/chemistryworld/careers/jobsearch.cfm>

International Chemistry Job Search- http://www.careerframes.com/links_main_intl/chemistry_links.htm

Professional Organizations & Associations:

American Association for the Advancement of Science- <http://www.aaas.org>

American Chemical Society- <http://www.chemistry.org/>

American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology- <http://www.asbmb.org/ASBMB/site.nsf>

Chemical Abstracts Service- <http://www.cas.org/>

Chemical Heritage Foundation- <http://www.chemheritage.org/>

International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry- <http://www.chem.qmw.ac.uk/iupac/>

National Academy of Sciences- <http://www.nas.edu/>

Royal Society of Chemistry- <http://chemistry.rsc.org/rsc/>

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