

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN: CHEMISTRY

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What Activities Could Chemistry Majors Do?

Many chemists and materials scientists work in research and development (R&D). In basic research, they investigate properties, composition, and structure of matter and the laws that govern the combination of elements and reactions of substances. In applied R&D, they create new products and processes or improve existing ones, often using knowledge gained from basic research. R&D chemists and materials scientists use computers and a wide variety of sophisticated laboratory instrumentation for modeling and simulation in their work. . Chemical research has led to the discovery and development of new and improved synthetic fibers, paints, adhesives, drugs, cosmetics, electronic components, lubricants, and thousands of other products. Chemists and materials scientists also develop processes that save energy and reduce pollution, such as improved oil refining and petrochemical processing methods. Research on the chemistry of living things spurs advances in medicine, agriculture, food processing, and other fields.

Chemists also work in production and quality control in chemical manufacturing plants. They prepare instructions for plant workers that specify ingredients, mixing times, and temperatures for each stage in the process. They also monitor automated processes to ensure proper product yield, and test samples of raw materials or finished products to make certain that they meet industry and government standards, including the regulations governing pollution. Chemists report and document test results and analyze those results in hopes of further improving existing theories or developing new test methods.

What Industries Could Chemistry Majors Explore?

Pharmaceuticals	Petroleum	Manufacturing	Higher Education
Federal Government	Healthcare	Water Treatment	Food Production
Consulting	Packaging	Industrial Products	Chemical Manufacturing

What Employers Hire Chemistry Majors?

3M	Beckman Coulter	Cargill	Bristol Meyers Squibb	Arco Chemical
Dow Chemical	Boston Scientific	Donaldson Co.	Donatelle Plastics	Buckman Labs
Praxair	USDA	Kodak	General Mills	HB Fuller Co.
Honeywell	Lucent	Merck & Co.	Xcel Energy	General Electric
Xerox	IBM Co.	Ecolab	Dupont	ExxonMobil
Atofina	Nalco Chemical	Schlumberger	Advance Circuits	Abbott Labs.
Hutchinson Technology	Cummins Engines	Anresco	Cypress Semiconductor	Shell Oil Co.
US Military	Quaker Chemical	Tech Power	Tuesdail Labs	

What Are Some Full-Time Job Titles For Chemistry Majors?

Chemist	Lab Supervisor	Toxicologist	Perfumer	Colorist
Consultant	Packaging Engineer	Process Engineer	Entomologist	Health Officer
Biochemist	Reactor Examiner	Pharmacologist	Technologist	Teacher

What Are Some Websites For Chemistry Majors?

Chemistry Jobs	www.chemjobs.org
Chemistry & Industry Magazine	www.chemind.org
Organic Chemistry Research Jobs Worldwide	organicworldwide.net/jobs

Information on this page was compiled from the Occupational Outlook Handbook, the Encyclopedia of Careers and Vocational Guidance, University of Minnesota departmental websites, and student-reported data.