



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHEMISTRY MAJORS

SKILLS & ABILITIES OF THE CHEMISTRY MAJOR

Investigation

- Remaining objective
- Reviewing relevant data
- Applying concepts
- Utilizing formulas
- Gathering information
- Observing carefully
- Asking questions
- Designing experiments
- Applying knowledge creatively

Technical

- Maintaining precision and accuracy
- Solving quantitative problems
- Calculating
- Tabulating data
- Sampling for surveys
- Using laboratory equipment
- Processing data

Communication

- Organizing and reporting data
- Writing for technical and non-technical audiences
- Informing and explaining
- Designing charts/graphs
- Reporting results and conclusions orally and in writing

Analysis

- Summarizing research findings
- Attending to details
- Analyzing data
- Testing hypotheses
- Clarifying problems
- Identifying relationships between problems/solutions
- Reasoning by analogy
- Perceiving patterns/structures
- Applying logic to problems
- Evaluating data and results

POTENTIAL CAREERS

Government

- Regulatory Chemist*
- Safety Inspector
- Agronomist*
- County Health Department Inspector
- Superfund Quality Assurance Manager
- Federal Drug Administration Inspector
- Wastewater Treatment System Supervisor
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration Enforcement Agent

Industry

- Certified Hazardous Materials Manager*

- Pharmaceutical Research Chemist*
- Application Chemist
- Industrial Hygienist
- Patent Lawyer*
- Chemical Information Specialist*
- Market Research Analyst
- Sales Manager
- Textile Dyes Analyst
- Environmental Compliance Officer
- Research Scientist*
- Polymer Chemist*
- Analytical Chemist

- Chemical Salesperson
- Chemical Engineer*

- Pharmacist*
- Food Scientist/Technologist
- Life Scientist*

Medicine and Health

- Primary Care Physician*
- Toxicologist*
- Environmental Risk Assessor
- Radiation Health Specialist
- Nurse Anesthetist*
- Pathologist*
- Medical Examiner*
- Serologist*
- Dentist*

Education and Training

- Professor*
- Science Teacher
- Scientific Editor
- Program Director, Professional Society
- Museum Education Programs Coordinator
- Laboratory Manager
- Technical Writer

* Additional graduate study is generally expected for those occupations marked with an * on the above list.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [Xavier University Chemistry Department](#)
- [National Science Foundation](#)
- [American Chemical Society](#)
- [O*NET OnLine](#) has detailed descriptions of the world of work

Sources: University of Kansas University Career Center, *The College Majors Handbook* (Fogg, Harrington, & Harrington, 2012)