CHEMISTRY
What Can I Do With This Degree?

AREAS	*EMPLOYERS*	*STRATEGIES*
ANALYTICAL Research Development Analysis and Testing Consulting Industrial Quality Control Environmental Forensics	Federal, state and local government Federal agencies including NASA. Manufacturing firms including textile, petroleum, food, electronics, glass, paper, packaging, machinery, cosmetics, paint, drug and chemical industries. Industrial production and inspection Research laboratories and organizations Environmental protection organizations Colleges and universities	Learn federal, state and local government job application process. Develop excellent laboratory skills. Become proficient with high-tech scientific equipment. Take electives in area of interest.
BIOCHEMICAL Research Development Analysis and Testing Consulting Quality Control Medical Environmental	Research labs and organizations Pharmaceutical and medical research firms Biotechnology firms Plant and animal breeders and growers Food processors Industrial production and inspection Environmental protection organizations Federal, state and local government Colleges and universities	Take additional courses in biology, biochemistry, molecular biology, genetics, cytology and physiology. Learn federal, state and local government job application process.
ORGANIC Research Development Analysis and Testing Quality Control Consulting	Industries related to petroleum, coal, wood products, plastics, textiles and food Manufacturing firms developing new synthetic materials and new production processes Research organizations Federal and state government Colleges and universities	Gain additional laboratory and research experience. Take electrics in area of interest. Learn federal and state government job application process.
INORGANIC Research Analysis and Testing Quality Control Consulting	Research laboratories and organizations Industries involved in mining, electronics, and synthetic materials Federal and state government Colleges and universities	Choose appropriate coursework to specialize in an area. Develop additional laboratory skills and experience. Learn federal and state government job application process.

AREAS	*EMPLOYERS*	*STRATEGIES*
PHYSICAL Research Development Analysis and Testing Quality Control Consulting	Research laboratories and organizations Industries involving electrical, nuclear, gas, heat, or light energy Federal government Colleges and universities	Take related courses in social sciences and economics. Obtain strong mathematical background. Learn federal government job application process.
EDUCATION Teaching Research	Private and public secondary schools Colleges and universities	Obtain certification/licensing for teaching in public schools. Acquire master's degree for community college teaching and Ph.D. for colleges and universities. Take courses in public speaking. Develop excellent laboratory skills.
BUSINESS Technical Sales/Marketing Pharmaceutical Sales Management Banks/Financial Institutions Advertising/Public Relations Consulting	Manufacturing firms Drug stores Medical/Pharmaceutical supply companies Industries including textiles, petroleum, food, electronics, glass, paper, packaging, machinery, cosmetics, paint, drugs, and chemicals.	Obtain a minor in business. Develop strong verbal and written communication, interpersonal, and organizational skills. Hold leadership positions in campus organizations. Join related student organizations, e.g., American Marketing Association, Financial Management Association, Public Relations Student Society of America, etc.
TECHNICAL WRITING Proposals Specification Materials Writing Editing	Research product development departments and organizations Industries Publishing firms including books, scientific research journals, technical press, large newspapers and wire services	Take advanced technical writing courses. Become proficient with word processing.
LAW Patent Agents Patent Attorneys	Manufacturing firms Research and development firms Law firms Private practice	Obtain law degree for patent attorney.
INFORMATION SPECIALISTS/ TECHNICAL LIBRARIES	Special libraries Research organizations Colleges and universities Large manufacturing firms, especially chemicals and pharmaceuticals	Obtain master's degree in library and information science. Develop computer retrieval skills. Join Special Libraries Association, Chemistry Division.

AREAS

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Undergraduate degree sufficient for entry-level positions such alab coordinator, research assistant, product testing or analysis, technical sales or services.
- Master's degree sufficient for most applied research positions, industrial work, and some community college teaching.
- Ph.D. degree required for university teaching and advanced positions in management and research and development.
- Advanced degrees help speed career development.

EMPLOYERS

- Develop strong computer, mathematics and science skills/knowledge.
- Obtain part-time, volunteer, co-op, internship or summer experience
- Obtain practical experience using various laboratory equipment and high-tech scientific equipment and data.
- Maintain excellent grades.

STRATEGIES

- Postdoctoral experience is preferred for research positions in industry, universities and government.
- Consider electives in computer sciences, engineering, business, public speaking and writing.
- Join related student professional organizations.
- Read related professional magazines and literature.

Prepared by the Career Planning staff of Career Services at
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