

Chemistry & Biochemistry

How can I succeed with this major?



RIDER
UNIVERSITY

ADVANCED DEGREES

What can I do with this major?

- (M.S. & Ph. D.)
- Basic Research
- Applied Research
- Graduate/Professional School
- Academics

Where do I want to work?

- University laboratories
- Federal government laboratories/agencies
- State and local government laboratories/agencies
- Public health departments
- Hospital laboratories

How to get there...

- Bachelor's degree in biochemistry, biology, or chemistry qualifies one for laboratory technician or research assistant positions.
- Choose courses with laboratory components to build experimental and instrumentation skills.

CHEMICAL & PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

What can I do with this major?

- Research
- Development
- Analysis and Testing
- Quality Control
- Consulting

Where do I want to work?

- Industries related to medical product development
- Industries related to petroleum, coal, wood products, plastics, textiles, and food
- Industries involving electrical, nuclear, gas, heat or light energy
- Manufacturing firms
- Federal and state government
- Colleges and universities

How to get there...

- Get involved with undergraduate research with professors.
 - Gain additional laboratory and research experience through internships and summer jobs.
 - Develop strong mathematical background.
 - Take related course in social sciences and economics.
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ANALYTICAL RESEARCH AND TESTING AND DEVELOPMENT

What can I do with this major?

- Research
- Analysis and Testing
- Consulting
- Environmental Testing
- Forensic Science

Where do I want to work?

- Federal, state, and local government
- Federal agencies including National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- Manufacturing firms
- Research laboratories and organizations
- Environmental protection organizations

How to get there...

- Familiarize yourself with federal, state, and local government job application processes.
- Develop proficiency with high-tech scientific equipment.
- Industries related to medical product development.
- Industries related to petroleum, coal, wood products, plastics, textiles, and food.
- Industries involving electrical, nuclear, gas, heat or light energy.

EDUCATION/TEACHING

What can I do with this major?

- Elementary
- Secondary
- Post-secondary
- Non-classroom settings
- Administration

Where do I want to work?

- Public and private schools, K-12
- Two-year community colleges/technical institutes
- Four-year institutions
- Professional schools including colleges of pharmacy, dentistry, medicine, veterinary medicine, and agriculture

How to get there...

- Develop excellent communication skills and take courses in public speaking.
 - Complete an accredited education program for certification/licensure in science field.
 - Earn a master's degree for community college teaching and a Ph.D. for colleges and universities.
 - Obtain certification/licensing for teaching in
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PATENT LAW

What can I do with this major?

- Patent Attorney
- Patent Agent
- Patent Analyst

Where do I want to work?

- Product research and development organizations
- Government offices
- Academic settings
- Private Sector Jobs
- Law Offices and Major Corporations

How to get there...

- Obtain B.S. degree in physical science program
- Take and pass the patent agent exam.
- Do a patent search to identify attorneys and firms that work in the field of your interest.
- Attend networking events.
- Attend law school and pass bar exam to become patent attorney.

HEALTHCARE

What can I do with this major?

- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Optometry
- Podiatry
- Pharmacy

Where do I want to work?

- Hospitals
- Colleges or universities
- Medical centers and clinics
- Private and group practice
- Health networks

How to get there...

- Meet with a pre-health advisor periodically.
- Plan on attending medical school or other related graduate program.
- Maintain an outstanding grade point average, particularly in the sciences.

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OTHER AREAS

What can I do with this major?

- Sales/Marketing
- Technical Writing
- Scientific Journalism
- Scientific Illustration
- Grant Writing
- Administration

Where do I want to work?

- Biotechnology industry
- Pharmaceutical and chemical companies
- Publishers: Textbook, magazine, newspaper, book
- Software firms

How to get there...

- Supplement degree coursework in chosen field with a minor or second major.
- Gain experience through internships, part-time work, or summer jobs in second discipline.
- Take business and/or computer classes.

Tips: FYI for Chemistry

- Undergraduate degree sufficient for entry-level positions such as lab coordinator, research assistant, product testing or analysis, technical sales, or service representative.
- 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. Postdoctoral experience is preferred for research positions in industry, universities, and government.

Tips: FYI for Biochemistry

- Biochemists are typically curious and creative with strong observational skills and the ability to persevere.
- Biochemists often interact with scientists from other disciplines.
- Develop the ability to communicate clearly to compile and share results in oral and written forms.
- Gain competencies in computers and mathematics.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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