

Career Choices for Chemistry Students

A chemistry degree provides students with an extremely versatile educational background that allows them to pursue careers in a wide-array of career fields. Graduates from the UWF chemistry department have many opportunities for both employment and advanced education. The examples given below are schools, careers, or specific employers where our graduates have either been enrolled or have been employed.

Preparation for Professional Schools

A Chemistry degree provides excellent preparation for a wide variety of professional schools, such as Medical, Veterinary, Pharmacy, Dental, Law, and Physician's Assistant Schools.

In addition, the Chemistry curriculum has some built-in non-degree elective courses which allow students the flexibility to take courses that will prepare them for the required entrance examinations (MCAT, PCAT, OAT, etc) and allow for a smooth transition into the professional program of their choosing.

Examples

Medical School:

University of Florida; University of South Alabama; University of South Florida; Vanderbilt University; University of Miami; Nova Southeastern University

Pharmacy:

University of Florida; Florida A & M University; Auburn University

Veterinary School:

University of Florida

Physician's Assistant School

Western University of Health Science
University of South Alabama

Preparation for the Chemical Industry

Our graduates have been extremely successful in gaining employment with local and national chemical companies.

Examples

Solutia, Inc	Pall Corporation
Pfizer	EPA Labs
USDA Labs	Ciba-Geigy
Tennessee Eastman	Proctor & Gamble

Preparation for Science Teachers

Many of our graduates use their chemistry education to help fill the massive shortage for qualified science teachers.

Examples

Milton H.S.; Pensacola H.S.; Pace H.S.;

Additional Career Opportunities with a Bachelors Degree in Chemistry

A bachelor's degree in chemistry allows for many employment opportunities in a myriad of areas where a strong background chemistry is needed. There is a wealth of information available on the internet about careers in chemistry, which includes discussion of job functions, salaries, etc. Some useful links are provided on the Chemistry Careers page.

The national average salary for an "entry-level" Bachelor's chemist is currently ~\$34,000 per year, and the average salary for a bachelor's chemist with 15 years experience is ~\$76,000.

Examples

forensics chemistry
analytical labs
biotechnology
environmental chemistry
pharmaceutical sales
scientific instrument sales
chemical sales
consumer product chemistry
Science/technical writers
water chemistry
materials science
hazardous waste management
geochemistry
plus many more

Preparation for Graduate School

Our students have a track record of attending into quality graduate programs at both the Masters and Ph.D levels. In fact, many of the regional graduate schools send recruiters to UWF to lure our graduates to their schools. Here is a list of Graduate Schools that our students have attended to further their education.

Graduate schools in chemistry typically pay students a stipend and provide them with a tuition waiver while they are studying for their advanced degree. This stipend usually requires the students to work as either a teaching assistant or a research assistant, but either way it sure beats paying thousands of dollars for medical school! Currently, the stipends are \$19,000-\$29,000 per year depending on the school and area of study.

Examples

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Florida State University
University of Florida
University of North Carolina
University of California, Irvine
University of Nevada, Reno
Vanderbilt University
University of Virginia
Georgia Institute of Technology
Emory University
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
University of Illinois
University of California, Davis
Oxford University (England)
University of Southern Mississippi
University of New Orleans
University of South Florida
