

## Sample Jobs for Chemists

*Cosmetic Chemist*

Medical Researcher

**Quality Control Chemist**

Medical Doctor & Dentist

*Teacher*

**Pharmacist**

**Chemical safety officer**

Drug Discovery

**Textile Chemist**

**Materials Scientist**

Chemical Engineer

*Patent Lawyer*

**Technical Writer**

**Biochemist**

*Forensic Chemist*

Chemical Information Specialist

**Environmental Scientist**

*Drug or Chemical Sales*

**Food & Drug Analyst**

Public Health Expert

A chemistry career offers rewards and excitement. You could be the first to synthesize a new life-saving drug, discover the cause of a type of cancer, or formulate a compound that can solve our energy storage needs. You may even find a way to clean up our environment.

**For more information about chemistry careers, visit [www.acs.org](http://www.acs.org)**

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*Xavier's Chemistry Department offers degrees certified by the American Chemical Society*

XAVIER UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA

**Q. What Can You Do With a Degree in Chemistry?**

**Chemistry: The Central Science**



The study of Chemistry, the science of matter and the changes it undergoes, is central to any understanding of the universe in which we live. A major in Chemistry, combined with the Xavier core curriculum, provides a superb liberal and professional education.

**A. A whole lot! Keep reading!**

## What is a Chemist?

Chemists are scientists who study the material world around them from the tiniest molecule to the largest objects in the universe. They study the basic structure of matter and how it acts and interacts. Chemistry is a very exciting area and can be divided into subdisciplines:

- Analytical is concerned with determining chemical composition or developing new methods of analysis (eg. quality control or environmental science)
- Organic is concerned with synthesis, reactivity, and analysis of carbon-based molecules (eg. drug design and petrochemical industry)
- Biochemistry is concerned with biomolecules and how biological function is determined and regulated (eg. medical research and forensics)
- Physical is concerned with physical reasons for understanding chemical phenomena (eg. drug discovery and chemical engineering)
- Inorganic is concerned with synthesis, reactivity, and analysis of materials in which elements other than carbon play a key role (eg. materials science and nanotechnology)

## Facts About Careers in Chemistry

- Chemical research led to the discovery of cosmetics, electronic components, lubricants, plastics, and thousands of products that are commonly used everyday.
- African American scientists made important contributions to chemistry: Patricia Bath (Cataract Laser Probe), Mae Jamison (aerospace research), Percy Julian (glaucoma drug), Joe Francisco (President, ACS)
- Graduate schools in chemistry waive tuition and fees and pay stipends (or provide scholarships) for graduate students while enrolled. Graduate students in chemistry graduate debt free.
- Many chemistry careers are in interdisciplinary fields including materials, bioinorganic, bioanalytical, nanomaterials, polymer chemistry, nuclear chemistry, catalysis, and molecular structure.

## Where Do Chemists Work?

- Quality control labs
- Chemical Industry
- Hospital research labs
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Environmental consulting firms
- Universities
- Consulting firms
- Food and beverage companies
- Cosmetics companies
- Industrial labs
- Agricultural companies
- Government
- Science museums
- Petroleum refineries
- Crime labs
- Newspapers and magazines
- Law firms
- National labs