



## What can I do with a major in... BIOCHEMISTRY

Biochemistry is the study of carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, nucleic acids and the processes of these molecules in the body. A rapidly developing and relatively new discipline within the sciences, biochemistry intersects with physiology, medicine, cell biology, genetics, etc. In recent years the pace of biochemical discovery has accelerated due to the profound transformation wrought by recombinant DNA technology. Biochemistry majors will be well prepared to enter the work force or pursue graduate degrees, medical school, or other professional training.

### What types of work are related to this degree?

Basic research	Medical school
Applied research	Dental school
Laboratory technician/ assistant	Chiropractic school
Pharmaceutical sales representative	Physical Therapy school
Drug manufacturing	Veterinary school
Technical writing for related publications	Public Health
Biomedical equipment technician	
Food science or manufacturing	
Testing or product control	

### Who employs people with this degree?

Healthcare providers  
 Biotechnology companies  
 College or university laboratories  
 Drug companies  
 Food processing or packaging companies  
 State/federal agencies such as the NIH, FDA, EPA, National Science Foundation, etc.  
 Public health departments  
 Hospital and commercial medical laboratories  
 Forensic testing facilities  
 Cosmetics manufacturing  
 Zoos

More information online at [ONETonline.org](http://ONETonline.org)

### Strategies for Success:

- Bachelor's degree in biochemistry, biology, or chemistry qualifies one for laboratory technician, research assistant, or other entry level positions
- Take a course in grant writing; researchers often need to apply for grants to fund their research.
- Gain competencies in computers and mathematics.
- Read scientific journals to stay current on relevant issues in the field, and join related professional organizations to network and build contacts.
- As an undergraduate, seek laboratory experiences such as research projects, volunteering with professors, summer jobs, or internships.
- Schedule informational interviews to learn about the profession and specific career paths.
- Participate in research programs sponsored by organizations like the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health.
- Become familiar with the specific entrance exam for graduate or professional schools in your area of interest.

### Select Professional Associations:

American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
 American Chemical Society  
 Biology Industry Organization

Council for the Advancement of Science Writing  
 American Institute of Biological Sciences  
 American Society for Microbiology

This information represents possible occupations and strategies for careers with this major. As with any job or career, there may be additional qualifications or experience needed. For more information and options, make an appointment with Career Development or check out our online resources on our website or on the ROCK, Career Development tab.