

Through my year in industry I have gained valuable experience and learnt new skills.  
*Student quote*

### Food

Food and flavour chemists develop and improve foods and drinks. They also test samples to make sure foods and drinks meet law and labelling requirements, and experiment with new foods, additives and preservatives.

### Management

A single research and development project can employ hundreds of people directly and even more indirectly in jobs ranging from developing and testing samples to manufacturing the product. All this needs to be coordinated. A project manager also needs to ensure consistency in the quality of work at each stage.

### Analytical

Analytical chemists are employed in all aspects of chemical research in industry, academia and government. They undertake laboratory research, develop processes and products, design instruments used in analytical analysis, teach, and work in marketing and law.

The group work used in workshops has helped me work on my teambuilding skills, which I feel will be essential for whatever I decide to do in the future.  
*Student quote*

### Consultancy

Consulting involves pulling information together from various sources and is attractive to chemists who want to combine their analytical business capabilities with knowledge of science and technology.

# Careers for chemists

### Information

Research scientists are often unable to keep up with the periodicals and patent literature in their own fields. Chemical information specialists organise this information and make it easily accessible.

### Medicinal

Medicinal chemistry is the application of chemical research techniques to the synthesis of pharmaceuticals, i.e. the creation of new synthetic drug compounds.

### Writing

Science writers usually work in one of four career areas:

- science journalism
- public communications
- technical writing in industry
- editing

Science journalists write articles for general circulation magazines geared towards the general public, magazines for scientists and engineers, and newspapers. They can also work for television and radio networks.

A report from the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) noted that one in every five pounds in the UK economy is dependent on developments in chemistry research. Industries reliant on chemistry contributed £258 billion to the UK economy in 2007, supporting 6 million jobs and accounting for at least 15% of the UK's exported goods.

Money is not everything, but independent research by PricewaterhouseCoopers shows that the average chemistry graduate earns substantially more over a lifetime than graduates of many other disciplines.

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