

# What Can I Do With a Joint Major in Chemistry and Biology?



Harvey Mudd College chemistry and biology alumni went on to the following organizations and universities between 2021 and 2025.

## Job Titles

Postbaccalaureate Scholar      Research Assistant      Research Technician      Wireless Systems Application Engineer

## Employers

Brigham and Women's Hospital      Harvey Mudd College      Litepoint      Weill Cornell Medicine

## Graduate Schools

Cambridge University      Johns Hopkins University      Scripps Institute of Oceanography      UC Berkeley      UC Riverside  
Case Western Reserve University                UCLA

## Summer Employers

Aralez Bio      Northeastern University REU\*      University of Chicago REU      Weill Cornell Medicine  
Bristol Myers Squibb      TDA Research      University of Massachusetts Medical School REU  
Cleveland Clinic\*      UC Davis REU\*           *\*companies that hired first-year students*  
Cytokinetics      UCLA REU      University of Michigan REU

Here are a few areas that may interest a chemistry and biology joint major.

## Area

## Employers

### ANALYTICAL

Research and development  
Analysis and testing  
Consulting  
Environmental  
Forensics

Federal, state and local government  
Federal agencies (e.g., NASA)  
Manufacturing firms (e.g., textile, petroleum, food, electronics, machinery, cosmetics, paint, drug and chemical industries)  
Industrial production and inspection agencies  
Research laboratories and organizations  
Environmental protection organizations  
Colleges and universities

### BIOCHEMICAL

Research and development  
Analysis and testing  
Consulting  
Quality control  
Medical  
Environmental  
Industrial health and safety  
Hospital administration

Federal, state and local government (e.g., Centers for Disease Control)  
Research laboratories  
Pharmaceutical and medical research firms  
Biotechnology firms  
Agricultural companies  
Plant growers and animal breeders  
Food processors  
Industrial production and inspection agencies  
Environmental protection organizations  
Colleges and universities

## Areas of interest for a chemistry and biology joint major (CONTINUED)

### Area

### Employers

#### BIOTECHNOLOGY

Research and development  
Laboratory testing  
Education

Biotechnology firms  
Pharmaceutical companies  
Federal and state government laboratories and agencies  
Agricultural industry  
Colleges and universities

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### What You Can Do Now

- Learn laboratory procedures and become familiar with equipment.
- Obtain part-time, volunteer or internship experience to test the fields of interest and gain valuable experience.
- Develop strong skills in computers and mathematics as well as verbal and written communications.
- Become familiar with the specific entrance exam for graduate or professional schools in your area of interest.
- Complete an undergraduate lab research project with a professor.
- Join related student professional organizations and attend conferences.

### What You Can Do After Graduation

- An undergraduate degree is sufficient for entry-level positions such as lab coordinator, research assistant, product tester, analysis technician, technical sales representative or service representative.
- A master's degree is sufficient for most applied research positions, industrial work and some community college teaching.
- Advanced degrees help speed career advancement.
- A PhD is 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.

