A Career in ........ Chemistry

Career opportunities are diverse for Graduates in Chemistry and can be employed in many areas such as food, forensics, mining, nanotechnology and the environment, just to name a few.

Chemists can be involved in research in laboratories, development and education.

Good Chemistry students are very employable. the wide-ranging nature of the subject allows students to be adaptable and flexible, which are qualities that are in demand.
There are five major divisions of chemistry:

Physical, inorganic, organic, analytical and environmental.

A Chemist may specialise in:

- Research
- Forensic investigation
- Medical Research
- Design and development
- Health and medical
- Marketing
- Education
UOW GRADUATE QUALITIES

Each Quality has its own page – see links below

**Informed** Have a sound knowledge of an area of study...

**Independent Learner** Engage with new ideas and ways of thinking...

**Problem Solver** Take on challenges and opportunities...

**Effective Communicator** Articulate ideas and convey them effectively...

**Responsible** Understand how decisions can affect others...
LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION

According to Graduate Careers Australia the median salary across this occupation is around $53,000.

Experienced chemists working in research and development areas can earn in excess of $120,000.
EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS

A recent survey conducted by the Royal Australian Chemical Institute showed 50% of chemists in Australia to be employed in industry and 24% in government laboratories, 25% in universities or teaching.

According to the DEEWR Australian Job outlook (2010), job prospects for chemists are currently average, and unemployment is below average.

Future job prospects to 2011–12 are expected to remain relatively stable.

Graduate Careers Australia – 2013 Chemist Employment Data

In full-time employment: (%) 74.4
All fields of education: (%) 80.1
MAIN EMPLOYERS

Professional chemists are employed across both the private and public sectors in private industry, government labs and tertiary institutions.

Areas in which employers hire Chemists are –

- Petrochemicals
- Food and drink
- Fertilisers, paper, heavy chemicals, iron and steel
- Organic chemicals, pharmaceuticals
- Polymers, computing and scientific journalism.

Government laboratories include –

- Research institutions, forensic science
- Analytical laboratories and many statutory authorities.
Professional Associations can give you valuable industry specific information and professional development opportunities and open you up to a vast network of professionals in your chosen area of expertise.

Fully professional chemists are members of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute and are entitled to call themselves “Chartered Chemists” and put the letters “C.Chem.” after their name.

To achieve this level, you must have a university degree in Chemistry plus 4 years experience.
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

• Institute of Chemical Engineers
  http://www.icheme.org

• Royal Australian Chemical Institute
  http://www.raci.org.au

• National Institute of Forensic Science
  http://www.nifs.com.au

• Australian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Science
  http://www.asbmb.org.au

• Australian Academy of Science
  http://www.science.org.au
INDUSTRIES

• AGRICULTURE
• ENVIRONMENT
• MEDICAL
• RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
• TECHNICAL WRITING
• FOOD PROCESSING AND CONSUMPTION
• MINING AND RESOURCES
• WASTE MANAGEMENT
• MARKETING AND CONSULTING
• EDUCATION
OCCUPATIONS AND ROLES

- Biochemistry
- Chemical Engineering
- Forensic Chemistry & Analytical Chemistry
- Geochemistry
- Oil and Petroleum
- Materials Science
- Physical Chemistry
- Water Chemistry
- Inorganic Chemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- Biotechnology
- Technical Writing
- Food and Beverage Technology
- Environmental Chemistry
GRADUATE AND VACATION PROGRAMS

Graduate programs are available to final year students and recent graduates.

Applications can open as early as February/ March of each year.

Programs can be from one year to three years in duration.

Chevron  
http://ww.chevron.com
Boral Limited  
http://www.boral.com.au
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry  
http://www.affa.gov.au
Graduate Opportunities  
http://www.graduateopportunities.com.au
Unimail  
http://www.unimail.com.au
VACATION PROGRAMS

OZ Minerals
http://www.ozminerals.com/Careers.html

URS
http://www.ap.urscorp.com/careers

Alcoa World Alumina Australia
http://www.alcoa.com/australia

For a full list of programs see
http://www.graduateopportunities.com
JOB SEARCH ENGINES

General Sites
• http://www.seek.com.au
• http://www.careerone.com.au

Science Alert
• http://www.sciencealert.com.au

University Jobs
• http://www.unijobs.com.au
FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Further your career with Post Graduate study –

Postgraduate study can enhance your career opportunities by allowing you to develop more specialised expertise in a particular area.

If you are considering careers in academia, or industry-based research and development, you will almost certainly need to complete honours and undertake a postgraduate research Degree (Masters or PhD).

Some management roles also require postgraduate coursework or research experience.

UOW Postgraduate Chemistry -
Careers Advice

If you are having difficulty with outlining your skills or recording your achievements –

Attend a workshop at Careers Central
http://www.uow.edu.au/careers

or

Contact mardella@uow.edu.au to make an appointment to see your Faculty Careers Consultant.
REFERENCES