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# The Department of Chemistry's Information Session

- We will cover:
  - *Why you might want to be a (Bio)Chemistry major/minor*
  - *Related career options*
  - *Our degree programs*
  - *How to get involved in research*
  - *Chem Club!*
  - *Scholarships! (Free money!)*
  - *Graduate programs and when to plan!*





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# What you can do as a (Bio)Chem major



## 1. Take awesome classes

-  Learn how and why (Bio)Chem works!
-  Discover why Science is awesome!


## 2. Join Chem club

-  Hang around with like-minded people
-  Do some awesome demos
-  Get help/advice with classes, homework, etc.
-  Free food!
-  Inspire youngsters with chemistry knowledge
-  Get to know faculty

## 3. Can apply to ...

-  Graduate schools: Chemistry, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Microbiology
-  Professional schools: Medical, Veterinary, Dental, Nursing, PA,

## 4. Or get a job

-  Government labs: INL, Pocatello crime lab, USDA
-  Industrial jobs: Simplot, Amy's Kitchen, Melaleuca
-  Biotechnology companies: ARUP Industries, BioFire/Biomerieux, Cytozyme Laboratories

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# Chemistry Degrees at ISU

- **BS in Chemistry**
- **BS in Biochemistry**
- **BA in Chemistry**
- **BS/MS in Chemistry\***
  - **Apply by April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for funding consideration**
  - **2-3 years in BS + 2-3 years in BS/MS**
- **MS in Chemistry\***
- **Minor in Chemistry**
- \* Conduct research in any sub-areas of Chemistry, including Biochemistry**

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# Finding Research Opportunities



Fall is good time to start looking for summer research opportunities!

Where to look:

Labs at ISU:

Research Showcase (**Sept 14, right here!**). Also, look at faculty webpages and talk to instructors to find research that interests you.

Internships/Jobs:

Job fairs and company websites.

Other Schools:

Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) programs.

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# Summer Research Fellowships @ ISU

- Chemistry - Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships (C-SURF)

The Department of Chemistry awards several Chemistry C-SURF for students to conduct research. Deadline is on second Monday in February. (5 C-SURF were awarded at up to \$4000 in 2023.)

- **IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE)**  
ISU awards summer paid fellowships (\$7200 for 10 weeks) for students pursuing biomedical research career. You can participate in research activities at all Idaho universities and colleges. (Application deadline Nov. 2, 2023 for summer 2024)

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# ChemClub – Be a part of the Solution!

Opportunity to try new & exciting RXNS!

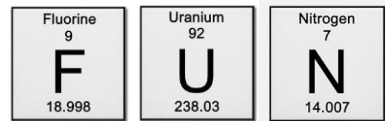
Amaze yourself and K-12 students with demos.

Gain service and leadership experience.

Socialize with classmates and professors outside classroom.

Compete in ACS events like ChemVention.

Chemistry is



Eat **free lunch** at meetings:

**Fridays 12:00-12:50 pm in  
Chemistry Study Room- PSC 246**



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# Scholarships @ ISU CHEM

[www.isu.edu/chem/student-resources/scholarships/](http://www.isu.edu/chem/student-resources/scholarships/)

- **Chemistry/Biochemistry Scholarships at ISU (Deadlines in Spring)**
  - Chemistry Endowment Fund
  - Pattie Family Scholarship
  - Kasiska Health Science Scholarship
- More ISU scholarship information at [www.isu.edu/scholar/list\\_scienceandengineering.shtml](http://www.isu.edu/scholar/list_scienceandengineering.shtml)  
[www.isu.edu/scholarships](http://www.isu.edu/scholarships)
- You may also qualify for external scholarships based on your identify, career interests, or achievements. Tools like Fastweb allow you to search broadly.

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# Graduate School

- Ph.D. programs take 4-7 years, and research-centered with some coursework and teaching.
- Graduate schools pay tuition/fees and a stipend (~\$20k to ~\$40k).
- Additional fellowships are available to exceptional students (more \$\$).
- Once accepted, you are invited for a paid visit.
- **Application Deadlines are usually Dec. – Jan.**
- Some programs accept applications as late as April (especially Canadian Schools).
- All require personal statement, research statement, 3 letters of recommendation, transcript.
- A few require general and/or Chemistry GRE (take your first GRE in Nov – Dec).

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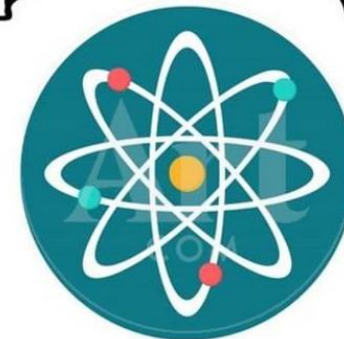


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# What can I do now?

- **Know the deadlines!**
- Gain research and/or teaching experiences
- Get involved in leadership roles and community service (such as **ChemClub & STEMClub**)
- Get to know faculty members in your department/critical courses = strong recommendations.
- Write clear essays that:
  - Link your teaching and research experiences
  - Highlight any challenges and achievements
  - Display your passion and motivation for your field study
- **Get Advised!**

THINK LIKE A  
PROTON



STAY  
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# If graduate school is not for you... what are other options?

After BS/BA or MS degree in Chemistry or Biochemistry:

**Jobs in local or national industries.** Check out job opportunity or career opportunity boards on company websites.

*Websites:* [www.acs.org/content/acs/en/careers.html](http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/careers.html)  
(American Chemical Society Jobs site)

[www.simbhq.org/careers/career-information](http://www.simbhq.org/careers/career-information)  
(Society for Industrial Microbiology and Biotechnology)

**Jobs in government labs.** Usually require a green card or citizenship. Sometimes need security clearance.

*Website:* [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov) (US government online job site)

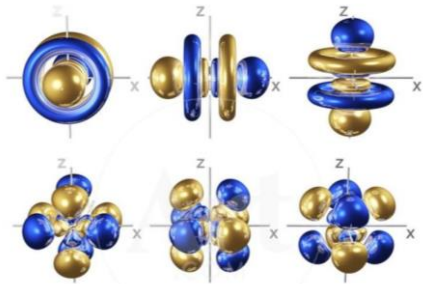
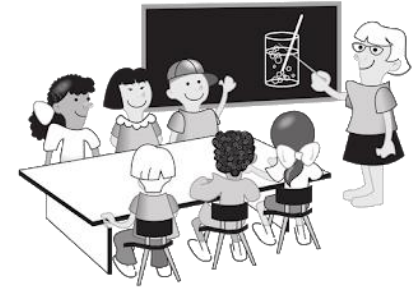
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# What if you have other talents...

Teaching: [www.nsta.org](http://www.nsta.org) (National Science Teachers Association), [www.astc.org](http://www.astc.org) (Association of Science-Technology Centers).



Art: [gnsi.org](http://gnsi.org) (Guild of Natural Science Illustrators),  
[www.ami.org](http://www.ami.org) (Association of Medical Illustrators)

Law: [www.autm.net](http://www.autm.net) (Association of University Technology Managers), [www.aipla.org](http://www.aipla.org) (American Intellectual Property Law Association)



Writing or communications: [www.nasw.org](http://www.nasw.org) (National Association of Science Writers), [www.amwa.org](http://www.amwa.org) (American Medical Writers Association)

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