

# Career Outlook: Chemistry

## Chemistry Programs Available at Bemidji State University:

**Major:** Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology (B.S.), Chemistry (B.A., B.S.), Science Education (Chemistry) Teacher Licensure (B.S.)

**Fields of Emphasis:** Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular, Chemistry, Biochemistry/Biotechnology, Environmental Chemistry, Criminalistics **Minor:** Chemistry

**Department Website:** <http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/departments/chemistry>

### EMPLOYMENT AREAS AND PROJECTED DEMAND:

The "Occupational Outlook Handbook" (OOH) reports that chemists and materials scientists held about 90,600 jobs in 2021. Chemists accounted for about 83,600 of these, and materials scientists accounted for about 7,000 jobs. Most of all chemists and material scientists were employed in chemical manufacturing and scientific research and development. Firms in this industry produce plastics and synthetic materials, drugs, soaps and cleaners, pesticides and fertilizers, paint, industrial organic chemicals, and other chemical products. About 33% of chemists worked in chemical manufacturing; 17% worked in research and development in the physical, engineering, and life sciences; 9% worked in testing labs; 7% in the federal government, excluding postal service and 4% in administrative and support/waste management/remediation services. Chemists and materials scientists are employed in all parts of the country, but they are mainly concentrated in large industrial areas. OOH reports that the nationwide demand for chemists is expected to grow 6%, (as fast as average), through 2031. The average salary for people established in their career is generally between \$48,100 and \$134,780. The median pay for 2021 was \$79,430 per year including some jobs with advanced degrees.

### PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR CHEMISTRY GRADUATES:

There are many career opportunities for Bemidji State University Chemistry graduates. Of the three 2020-2021 Chemistry graduates with a Bachelor of Arts degree, one reported continuing their education and the other two were status unknown. For the seven 2020-2021 Chemistry graduates with a Bachelor of Science degree, 80% reported obtaining related employment within one year of graduation and 2 graduates went on to continue their education. For the Science Education graduates, 100% reported obtaining related employment. This does not include students who were continuing their education, not seeking employment, unavailable, or had unknown status.

### PARTIAL LIST OF EMPLOYERS WHO HAVE REPORTED HIRING BSU CHEMISTRY GRADUATES\*:

(This list includes employment within one year of graduation).

Labcorp	MCT Technologist	New Brighton, MN
Mayo Clinic	Research Technologist	Rochester, MN
Polaris, Inc.	Associate Software Quality Analyst	Plymouth, MN
Veolia North America	Environmental Specialist	Blaine, MN

### COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES WHERE BSU CHEMISTRY GRADUATES HAVE CONTINUED THEIR EDUCATION:

- Des Moines University, Des Moines, IA
- University of Minnesota Duluth, Duluth, MN
- University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine, St. Paul, MN

\*Degrees alone do not get students jobs. Internships, summer jobs, volunteer work, part-time jobs, work-study positions, and active participation in student organizations on campus are all ways to become more competitive in a tight job market.

#### Bibliography:

Annual Graduate Follow-Up Study 2020-2021. Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2023)

Bemidji State University Undergraduate Catalog 2022-2023. Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2023)

Occupational Outlook Handbook. U.S. Dept. of Labor, JIST Publishing Inc., Indianapolis, IN (2022)

For more information, contact Career Services; Decker Hall/218-755-2038/career@bemidjistate.edu

For more job listings please visit:

## Handshake

<https://www.bemidjistate.edu/services/career/events-guides-resources/job-listings/>



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