

CHEMISTRY, B.S. (BEHREND)

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Erie

Career Paths

Chemistry is called “the central science” for good reason—it is an incredibly versatile field of study that directly impacts other scientific fields. To help you tailor your degree to your career interests, Penn State Behrend offers four options for study with the degree program: General Chemistry, Biochemistry, Business, and Education. Penn State Behrend has a comprehensive support system to help you identify and achieve your goals for college and beyond. Meet with your academic adviser often and take advantage of the services offered by the Academic and Career Planning Center beginning in your first semester.

Careers

Chemistry offers a wealth of career options in medicine, energy, industry, consumer goods, materials, academia, and government service. Penn State Behrend’s B.S. in Chemistry graduates currently work as research scientists, product development scientists, field scientists, physicians, pharmacists, consultants, university professors, technical managers, and quality engineers. They are employed at organizations that include NASA, LORD Corporation, PPG, Hero BX, Associated Clinical Laboratories, and Pyramid Laboratories.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE CHEMISTRY PROGRAM (<https://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-science/academic-programs/chemistry>)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

Chemistry is a foundational major for graduate study in specialized sub-disciplines such as biochemistry, toxicology, forensic chemistry, environmental chemistry, materials science, nanotechnology, pharmaceutical synthesis, polymer science, and chemical engineering. Chemistry also is a useful undergraduate major for future doctors, veterinarians, physician assistants, and other health care professionals. Penn State Behrend’s B.S. in Chemistry graduates have pursued advanced degrees at universities and colleges across the nation, including University of Michigan, Princeton University, Case Western Reserve University, University of California Irvine, North Carolina State University, University of Maryland, University of Kansas, and Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, among others.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (<https://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-science/academic-programs/chemistry>)

Professional Resources

- American Chemical Society (<https://www.acs.org>)
- The Royal Society of Chemistry (<https://www.rsc.org>)
- American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (<https://www.asbmb.org>)
- World Association of Theoretical and Computational Chemists (<https://watoc.net>)