Biochemistry, BA

Explore the secret chemical processes of living organisms at a molecular level as you gain biological problem-solving skills. You'll prepare for exciting careers that require scientific thinking, such as medicine, pharmacy and veterinary science.

Program Description

The BA program in biochemistry provides students with a course of study in the chemical processes of living organisms. Among the endeavors that depend upon a thorough grounding in this area are discoveries of new drugs, the recognition and control of new pathogens, development of new catalysts for energy transformations, and the production of new materials and solutions to problems such as food production and environmental remediation.

This program is a flexible option for students interested in a liberal arts degree with a strong grounding in physical science. It is ideal for students seeking to complete two degrees. Students wishing to pursue a scientific graduate degree should consider the BS in biochemistry.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** Tempe campus
- **Additional Program Fee:** Yes
- **Second Language Requirement:** Yes
- **First Required Math Course:** MAT 251 - Calculus for Life Sciences Students may complete MAT 270 Calculus with Analytic Geometry I (4) in lieu of MAT 251 Calculus for Life Sciences
- **Math Intensity:** Moderate

Required Courses (Major Map)
Admission Requirements

General University Admission Requirements:

All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.

Change of Major Requirements

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should refer to https://changingmajors.asu.edu/request for information about how to change a major to this program.

Transfer Options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use the Transfer Map search to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and help students save time and money in their college journey. Students may learn more about these programs by visiting the admission site: https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/pathway-programs.

Global Opportunities

Global Experience

With over 250 programs in more than 65 countries (ranging from one week to one year), study abroad is possible for all ASU students wishing to gain global skills and knowledge in preparation for a 21st-century career. Students earn ASU credit for completed courses, while staying on track for graduation, and may apply financial aid and scholarships toward program costs. https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/
Career Opportunities

A solid undergraduate education in biochemistry provides the necessary background for career paths in areas such as:

- chemical industries
- government
- health care
- research
- teaching

Students often study biochemistry with supporting work in biology and chemistry as the route for preprofessional training for careers in these fields:

- dentistry
- medicine
- pharmacy
- veterinary

Career examples include but are not limited to those shown in the following list. Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chemical Technician</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>$47,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentist</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>$151,440</td>
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<tr>
<td>High School Teacher</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>$59,170</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Doctor (MD)</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>$192,930</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Scientist</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>$82,090</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pharmacist</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>$124,170</td>
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<td>Physician Assistant (PA)</td>
<td>37.3%</td>
<td>$104,860</td>
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<td>Scientist/Biochemist</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>$91,190</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technical Writer</td>
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<td>$70,930</td>
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<tr>
<td>Veterinarian (Vet)</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
<td>$90,420</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Contact Information

Schedule an advisor appointment
School of Molecular Sciences | PSD 104
SMSadvising@asu.edu | 480-965-7667