

EXPLORE SCIENTIFIC R&D

WHAT IS SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT?

You may be working in a lab, individually or as a part of a team. You might be out in the field or in an office setting utilizing analytical, critical thinking, and complex problem solving skills. Your work could span any number of paths that include positions in: scientific research & development; biotechnology; bioinformatics; research related to behavioral sciences, biological, chemical, physics, pharmaceutical, environmental, or patents; forensic science, and scientific consulting.

FREQUENT JOB TITLES

- R&D Lab Technician
- R&D Scientific Intern
- Research Associate
- Research Scientist I, II
- Quality Assurance
- Regulatory Affairs
- Scientific Writing
- Clinical Research

COMMON EMPLOYERS

- Thermo Fisher Scientific
- Covance
- Promega
- Illumina
- PPD
- Medtronic
- Eli Lilly and Company

RELATED STUDENT ORGS

- Alpha Chapter of Alpha Chi Sigma
- Biocore Outreach Ambassadors
- Journal of Undergraduate Science and Technology
- ESO @ UW-Madison
- Physics Club

IDEAL QUALIFICATIONS

- Undergraduate research experience
- Bachelor's and master's
- A master's degree is often needed for higher-level investigative or scientific work

HIRING OUTLOOK

- Employment is projected to grow 7-11 percent from 2016 to 2026
- Scientists with an advanced degree, particularly those with a Ph.D., are expected to have better opportunities

KEY SKILLS

- Oral communication
- Critical thinking
- Writing
- Active listening
- Lab instrument techniques
- Complex problem solving