Professional development goes beyond what students do in the classroom and at the bench. It includes an array of skills and knowledge that are not often taught yet are vitally important to furthering one’s career.

All students are required to complete the AAAS Individual Development Plan (http://myidp.sciencecareers.org/) following their first semester to identify strengths in their background, as well as areas where further professional development are recommended. In addition, the program encourages students to make use of the Graduate School’s DiscoverPD resource (https://my.grad.wisc.edu/DiscoverPD/). Finally, students are able to track progress through annual committee meetings, at which time students and advisors are asked to complete an evaluation of progress and have a frank discussion about areas for improvement.

The Molecular & Environmental Toxicology Program currently recommends that students complete three units (hours/activities) per semester from the professional development areas of:

- Discipline-Specific Conceptual Knowledge
- Research Skill Development
- Communication Skills
- Professionalism
- Leadership & Management Skills
- Responsible Conduct of Research (Ethics)

The program is developing a database of resources that will be available on the program website.

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Take advantage of the Graduate School’s professional development resources (https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.