The UW–Madison Department of Chemistry is approved by the American Chemical Society (ACS) to certify the degrees of graduating students who have completed the curriculum and professional training recommended by ACS for chemistry bachelor’s degree graduates. Certification indicates that the student has completed rigorous course work that provides them with the skills needed for a successful career in science.

Students graduating with the chemistry major from UW–Madison already meet most of the requirements for ACS certification. They can obtain the certification by electing to take specific courses that satisfy both the requirements of the major and the ACS guidelines. Additional requirements for certification are:

- A course in biochemistry, satisfied by BIOCHEM 501 Introduction to Biochemistry or BIOCHEM 507 General Biochemistry I (3 credits)
- At least 400 total laboratory hours, which can be satisfied by the combination of all the required core laboratory courses (in organic, inorganic, analytical and physical chemistry) plus two to three laboratory credits from any combination of CHEM 346 Intermediate Organic Chemistry Laboratory, CHEM 512 Advanced Synthesis and Laboratory Techniques, CHEM 524 Chemical Instrumentation (3 credit course, but only one credit is a lab credit), CHEM 681/CHEM 682 Senior Honors Thesis, or CHEM 691/ CHEM 692 Senior Thesis. The exact number of lab credits required from these courses depends on how the student has satisfied the core lab requirements. Please consult the Chemistry Major Advisor (https://www.chem.wisc.edu/content/undergraduate-advising/) for more details.

The biochemistry course satisfies three of the five credits of advanced non-laboratory work required for the chemistry major, while two credits from CHEM 524 also count towards the advanced work. CHEM 346, CHEM 512, 1 credit of CHEM 524, CHEM 681/CHEM 682, and CHEM 691/CHEM 692 all count towards the three additional lab credits required for the major.

Note that neither CHEM 299 Directed Study nor CHEM 699 Directed Study can be used to satisfy the lab hours needed for ACS certification. However, CHEM 699 can be used to satisfy additional lab credits needed for the chemistry major.

Professional Certification/Licensure Disclosure (NC-SARA)

The United States Department of Education requires institutions that provide distance education to disclose information for programs leading to professional certification or licensure about whether each program meets state educational requirements for initial licensure or certification. Following is this disclosure information for this program:

The requirements of this program meet Certification/Licensure in the following states:
Wisconsin