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). A course in chemical biology will also satisfy this requirement. For example, CHEM 575 Advanced Topics in Chemistry is often offered in the spring semesters with the topic "Chemical Biology" and will satisfy this requirement.
- At least 375 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 one laboratory credit from any of the following courses: 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 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 (via 34 CFR Part 668 (https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-34/subtitle-B/chapter-VI/part-668/?toc=1)) requires institutions that provide distance education to disclose information for programs leading to professional certification or licensure. The expectation is that institutions will determine whether each applicable academic program meets state professional licensure requirements and provide a general disclosure of such on an official university website.

Professional licensure requirements vary from state-to-state and can change year-to-year; they are established in a variety of state statutes, regulations, rules, and policies; and they center on a range of educational requirements, including degree type, specialized accreditation, total credits, specific courses, and examinations.

UW–Madison has taken reasonable efforts to determine whether this program satisfies the educational requirements for certification/licensure in states where prospective and enrolled students are located and is disclosing that information as follows.

Disclaimer: This information is based on the most recent annual review of state agency certification/licensure data and is subject to change. All students are strongly encouraged to consult with the individual/office listed in the Contact Information box on this page and with the applicable state agency for specific information.

The requirements of this program meet certification/licensure requirements in the following states:

Wisconsin

The requirements of this program do not meet certification/licensure requirements in the following states:

Not applicable

Updated: 1 June 2024