Students may declare the chemistry major after they have completed General Chemistry (CHEM 104, CHEM 109, or CHEM 116). Transfer students may declare in their first semester at UW-Madison, if they have transfer credit for one of these courses. Students should schedule an appointment with the undergraduate chemistry advisor to declare and develop a course plan toward graduation. To better inform their decision, undecided students who are exploring chemistry along with other majors are encouraged to take an additional chemistry course or two beyond General Chemistry before declaring. Any student interested in chemistry is welcome to schedule an appointment (https://www.chem.wisc.edu/content/undergraduate-advising/) with the advisor to further explore the major.

Students are advised to declare the major no later than the end of their sophomore year. There are many advantages to declaring the chemistry major early, including access to chemistry advising, access to scholarships only available to chemistry majors, and access to announcements for chemistry majors. Students who have declared the major become a part of our chemistry community, enabling them to better connect with faculty, staff, and other chemistry majors.