

SCIENCE, B.S. (ALTOONA)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Altoona

Program Description

Not all options are available at every campus. Contact the campus you are interested in attending to determine which options are offered.

The Science major is an interdisciplinary degree that aims to provide a broad, general education in science. The bachelor of science (B.S.) curriculum is designed specifically for students who have education goals relating to scientific theory and practice and who require a high degree of flexibility to obtain their educational objectives. After completing foundation courses in calculus, chemistry, physics, and the life sciences, students will select additional science courses from designated areas. A large number of supporting credits permit students to readily include significant breadth or specialization into their undergraduate curriculum. Some examples include minors in business, computer and information science, education, kinesiology, or other fields. The degree allows students throughout the Commonwealth to become familiar with both the theory and the practice of science. It can help prepare students for various careers in pharmaceutical, biotechnical, chemical, medical, and agricultural industries. The degree can also be tailored to meet the specific requirements of professional programs such as medical, dental, or pharmacy schools.

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General Science Option

Available at the following campuses: Abington, Altoona, Berks, Harrisburg, Scranton, University Park, York

The General Science option of the B.S. Science degree allows for the most flexibility.

Achievement in a more specialized set of goals can be met by selecting one of the other B.S. options offered:

Biological Sciences and Health Professions Option

Available at the following campuses: University Park

Legal Studies, Government Service, Public Policy Option

Available at the following campuses: University Park

Life Sciences Option

Available at the following campuses: Abington, Altoona, Berks, Harrisburg, Scranton, University Park, York

Mathematical Sciences Option

Available at the following campuses: Abington, Altoona

Physical Sciences Option

Available at the following campuses: Altoona

Not all of these options are available at all locations, and there are minor distinctions of the core curriculum at some locations, so see the Science program director at your College for further details.

Two-Year Preprofessional Preparation

The first two years of the Science major (62 credits) can meet the pre professional needs of those interested in admission to some schools of pharmacy, physical therapy, optometry, nursing, and physician assistant training. Successful students can then transfer after two years of undergraduate study to the professional school to which they are admitted. Note, however, that no Penn State degree can be awarded after only two years (62 credits) of study in the Science major. Also, note that the abbreviated two-year curriculum alone does not prepare students for admission to professional schools of general medicine, veterinary medicine, or dental medicine. Consult with your college's health sciences professional adviser for additional information.

What is Science?

The Science major provides a broad and interdisciplinary foundation in the natural sciences. The Science BS program uses the principles of chemistry, physics, and life sciences to understand how these integrate over general areas including biological sciences and health professions, public policy, and science research and development.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You like learning by doing hands-on experiments.
- You are curious about the natural world and how science disciplines come together to explore and understand it.
- You are intrigued by science and desire a career in current and emerging interdisciplinary science disciplines, health professions, or melding science with law, policy or business.