



CHEMICAL OPERATOR (Technicians)

Duties: Chemical technicians typically do the following:

- Monitor chemical processes and test the quality of products to make sure that they meet standards and specifications
- Set up and maintain laboratory instruments and equipment
- Troubleshoot production problems or malfunctioning instruments
- Prepare chemical solutions
- Conduct chemical and physical experiments, tests, and analyses for a variety of purposes, including research and development
- Compile and interpret results of tests and analyses

(See reverse for more information.)

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Most chemical technicians work on teams. Typically, they are led by chemists or chemical engineers who direct their work and evaluate their results. For example, some chemical technicians help chemical engineers develop more efficient production processes.

Chemical technicians' duties and titles often depend on where they work. Following are examples of what a chemical processing technician may do in one the local manufacturing facilities. Processing technicians monitor the quality of products and processes at chemical manufacturing facilities. For example, they adjust processing equipment to improve production efficiency and output. They also collect samples from production batches, which then are tested for impurities and other defects. In addition, processing technicians test product packaging to make sure that it is well designed, will hold up well, and will have a limited impact on the environment.

Quick Facts: Chemical Technicians

2017 Median Pay	\$47,280 per year \$22.73 per hour
On-the-job Training	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Job Outlook, 2014-24	Increase of 4%

Data obtained from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, published: April 2018
www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/chemical-technicians.htm