

Membership

- Nearly 6,000 members in more than 35 countries around the globe
- 19 chapters throughout North America
- Categories of membership: General, Affiliate, Junior, Student, Educator, International

Benefits

- Large Professional Network & Access to Chapter events held nationwide
- Media Library & Resource Center (online)
- Education Courses & Webinars with discounted rates
- Annual Scientific Meeting & Technology Showcase discounted rates
- Access to Journal of Cosmetic Science (issues dating back to 1947)
- Complimentary IFSCC membership & benefits (www.ifsc.org)

NextGen Program

- Created to help young professionals and students further their education to attain successful and rewarding careers
- Education programs
- Networking opportunities
- Mentoring opportunities
- **Free membership** in SCC for the first year!

What Your Peers are Saying



"I have met so many amazing people, and everyone is willing to educate me about new things! There are endless resources provided to members to further their education. I love attending meetings and the symposiums, learning about new topics."

SOPHIE LAMSARGIS, *Formulation Technician, Vi-Jon*

Contact Us

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Careers in Cosmetic Chemistry



SOCIETY OF COSMETIC CHEMISTS
SERVING GREATER NORTH AMERICA SINCE 1945

About Cosmetic Science as a Career

Graduates with a background in science have skills and expertise that are marketable in many areas of the cosmetics and personal care industry. Career opportunities are both varied and numerous.

The industry can be divided into five basic categories: **finished goods manufacturers, raw material suppliers, consultants and testing laboratories, government,** and **academia**. In each of these areas, a bachelor's degree is important, but advanced degrees can open more career opportunities and potential for advancement.

Careers in the cosmetic sciences present exciting, challenging opportunities for people with diversified areas of interest and training to contribute to the development of new and improved personal care products.

In the cosmetic industry, scientists actively design and create finished products and their ingredients and engineer the processes that supply consumers with all of their daily personal care needs. People from diverse disciplines involved in basic and applied research continuously strive to change and improve the products consumers depend on for their increasingly higher quality of life.

Common Types of Positions

DEVELOPMENT CHEMIST

is responsible for formulating a stable product which meets marketing expectations. These expectations include product form, color, fragrance, claims, advantages, consumer wants and needs, delivery systems and cost restraints. With over 6000 cosmetic ingredients available, the development chemist must select and combine the proper ingredients at just the right proportion and specify the order of addition, and mixing conditions, in order to create the final product. Product development is a complex process which generates a strong feeling of personal accomplishment. A team effort is required to bring to fruition the vision of any unique concept and the development chemist has a key position on this team.

MICROBIOLOGIST

plays a significant and varied role throughout the development, manufacture, and marketing of cosmetics and toiletries. Recognized as a service specialist, the microbiologist is first responsible to the formulation chemists, who will need microbiological stability, product preservation, or claim support information; initiate applied research projects, such as methods development, market surveys, or spoilage profiles; and implementing Quality Control programs. The microbiologist must be able to interact easily with people, and know how to generate information needed, wanted, or of interest to the company. It all adds up to a rewarding career, where every day is different and challenging.

Common Types of Positions (cont'd)

REGULATORY CHEMIST

is responsible for ensuring that all products are in compliance with federal, state, and internal regulations. Cosmetic products are required to be labeled correctly with appropriate warnings and all advertising claims must be adequately substantiated. The regulatory chemist must monitor the various manufacturing processes and procedures to assure safety compliance with all employee health and safety requirements. If the cosmetic company has international responsibilities, the duties of the regulatory chemists are greatly increased, as foreign countries require specific labeling, packaging and formula registration. Regulatory Affairs in the cosmetic industry is a dynamic discipline involving established regulations, active self-regulations, and ever evolving new legislation.

RESEARCH CHEMIST

is responsible for investigating new processes, procedures and raw materials leading to the new products of the future. In addition, the Research Chemist provides technical support to the development chemist. By conducting long range studies, the Research Chemist establishes new uses for existing chemicals and creates new materials for improved product performance. The Research Chemist also investigates the chemistry of the skin, hair and nails to increase the awareness of these systems as well as to create new concepts in consumer products. The disciplines involved in cosmetic research are varied. They include chemistry, biology, physics, pharmacy, genetics and bioengineering. Thus, a career in research can offer a wide variety of rewards and experience.

TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVE

for a company supplying raw materials to cosmetic and toiletry manufacturers provide their customers not only with quality materials, but also with technical information and formulation assistance; these "Technical Reps" usually have an academic background in chemistry or engineering. The Technical Representative must have a thorough knowledge of the performance, function, chemical and physical characteristics, safety, and quality of any raw material being offered to the customer. In essence, they act as the scientific liaison between the supplier and the finished goods manufacturer - a partnership which benefits both. A career in Technical Service can be very rewarding, for someone who enjoys being involved in many different aspects of the cosmetic industry, working with people, and solving diverse problems.

TOXICOLOGIST

is responsible for evaluating the overall safety of cosmetic products, which includes a review of both the finished product and the individual raw materials. Assesses the potential hazards associated with the individual ingredients and the final formulation and assure that any exposure to the product does not present unacceptable risk. Every parameter associated with the chemistry and handling of these materials must be considered in making this assessment. The range of activities involves development of testing data, review of pertinent literature, assembly of informational dossiers for internal and international filing, compliance with regulations and more. To meet the needs of an ever-demanding regulatory environment, the toxicologist is essential to the efforts of bringing a product to the marketplace.

