

Career Fields for PhDs by Skill Set

CAREER FIELD/SKILLS	Business	Media	Academia	Nonprofit	Government
Research And Analysis	R&D (biotech, pharma), business development, tech transfer, consulting	Science journalism, market research	PI (research intensive Univ), staff scientist, director of core facility	Organizations with research efforts, think tanks, research centers, foundations	National labs, EPA, NSF, NIH, Census, Int'l. science agencies, forensics
Teaching	Technical sales, training and development	Sales, advertising, radio/TV, journalism	Teaching at liberal arts/primarily undergrad college	Science museum education, public outreach, curriculum development	Politics, fundraising,
Writing and Communication	Corporate communications, advertising, medical science liaison, PR	Journalism, writing, editing, publishing, advertising	curriculum development, reporting, writing, PR	PR, newsletter editing for nonprofit or professional publications	Speech and report writing for government agencies or interest groups
Administration and Management	Clinical trials management, senior scientists in biotech/pharma	Editing, publishing, corporate communication, management	Academic administration (e.g., college dean, grad student or postdoc office)	Administration, management, development (event planning), foundation management	Administration of various public agencies, program management, grants management
Problem Solving	R&D, Regulatory affairs, consulting, marketing, management	Investigative reporting, PR, management, scientific consulting	Principal investigator, educational consulting	Science policy management, nonprofit consulting, think tanks	Most high-level govt. positions, political/policy research, political consulting
People Skills	Consulting, human resources, technical sales, training & development, management	Sales/ marketing in publishing, interviewing	Student services, academic administration, educational consulting	Development, management, advocacy, genetic counseling	Politics (as candidate or staff), fundraising, lobbying
Technical and Scientific Skills	R&D (biotech/pharma), consulting on sci./tech. matters, patent law	Specialty publishing, professional journals	technology transfer, curriculum development	R&D, biostatistics, environmental groups	Patent agent, technology transfer,
International Expertise (Languages, Int'l Experience)	Cultural consulting, int'l business, country risk analysis in financial institutions	Specialty publishing, foreign desk of various media	International education, curriculum development, educational tours, conferences	Nonprofit orgs. (county or region specific), consulting on international health & welfare	International orgs., federal agencies, congressional staff, policy think tanks
Arts and Other Creative Skills	Scientific illustration, advertising	Specialty publishing, criticism, writing, art, illustration, photography	Arts education in various settings	Community arts orgs., specialty museums, therapy	Administration of arts agencies & organizations (e.g., NEA, state arts councils)

adapted from M. Newhouse - Outside the Ivory Tower