

Published based on [Science Needs Students - The World Needs Scientists!](#)

# **Science Needs Students - The World Needs Scientists!**

Usually, when one hears the word scientist, the image of a white-coated maniac with a perpetual bad hair day comes to mind. Whether he behaves like Jerry Lewis or Dr. Frankenstein is optional. The real truth is the strength of a country is in many ways based on the number of researchers they employ. The innovations they provide, from our general health and the food we eat to technological innovations such as the home computer to the iPod, would be impossible without them. More and more these days candidates are entering these fields via online schools.

Another fact is while the number of scientists is small (according to the BLS slightly over 750,000 out of 305 million Americans) their effect is nearly immeasurable. Entering the field is difficult. The dropout rate at the four-year programs at many of the top schools is considerable. This is causing the federal government and a number of prestigious institutions to do something about it. If you need more information about [technology degree online](#), look on the internet.

The first thing one must consider is where he or she wants to specialize in. Science is incredibly wide-ranging and not only populated by the archetypical rocket scientist. It includes agriculture, computers, social studies and veterinary medicine. Students must have a strong aptitude for mathematics and a basic grounding in chemistry, physics and biology. Scientists must also be able to sit alone and theorize, be able to stand in front of an audience in a presentation, and still be able to communicate effectively in a team.

From there, a good place to contact is the National Science Foundation. Google their website and you will find a treasure trove of information about the various specialties, including professional organizations, top schools (both on campus and online colleges), availability for financial aid, and even contact with pros in the field. Start doing research, a discipline you'll need for the rest of your life, about your interests then and there.

The second place to do more research is with your choice of schools. Make sure they know about any special projects or awards earned. Also see a financial aid officer along with the registrar. About a dozen schools is a good number to start with, with a goal of eventually narrowing it down to three. When the number gets that small, see who offers the best deal. There is an abundance of information about [online it degree](#) on the web.

If you do your homework, the payoff can be tremendous. For example, the BLS reports the average computer scientist, a truly high demand field, pulls an average salary of over \$80,000 a year. This package also usually also comes with incredible perks, such as insurance, expense accounts, incredibly advancement possibilities and financial and retirement plans.

They usually also have provisos regarding continuing education. The truth is the ratio of scientists with Masters or PhDs are higher than most professions, and institutions who hire them are more than willing to help pay for this continued education. Also, the need to keep abreast usually has these people maintaining regular accounts with one online school or another.

Students thinking of STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) careers can get the degrees they need from [colleges online](#). This enables most to work or take care of life responsibilities while they earn their bachelor or [degree in science](#), a great way to start.

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