



# Required in-person labs for ASU Online programs

While our online degree programs offer most lecture-style and lab courses in a flexible online format, some courses require students to complete in-person lab sessions. These hands-on experiences are designed to provide essential practical skills that cannot be fully replicated in a virtual environment. For most lab courses, the in-person commitment lasts less than two weeks, though some may require additional time. These sessions equip you with valuable lab skills while also adding critical legitimacy to your degree.



## Degrees with In-Person Labs

Applied Biological Sciences (Pre-Veterinary Medicine), BS

Applied Biological Sciences (Pre-Dental), BS

Applied Nutrition and Health, BS (Pre-Dietetics focus area only)

Biochemistry, BA

Biochemistry, BS

Biochemistry (Medicinal Chemistry), BS

Biological Sciences, BS

Biological Sciences (Biology and Society), BS

Biological Sciences (Biomedical Sciences), BS

Biological Sciences (Conservation Biology and Ecology), BS

Biological Sciences (Genetics, Cell and Developmental Biology), BS

Biological Sciences (Neurobiology, Physiology and Behavior), BS

Chemistry, BA

Forensic Science, BS

Forensic Science (Death Investigations), BS

Integrative Health, BS (Pre-health professional graduate school)

Medical Studies, BS

Pharmacology and Toxicology, BS

## In-Person Lab Courses

**BCH 367:** Elementary Biochemistry Laboratory

**BCH 372:** Modern Concepts in Biochemistry Laboratory

**BCH 467:** Analytical Biochemistry Laboratory

**CHM 235:** Elementary Organic Chemistry Laboratory

**CHM 237:** General Organic Chemistry Laboratory I

**CHM 238:** General Organic Chemistry Laboratory II

**CHM 326:** Analytical Chemistry Laboratory

**FOR 494:** Fundamental Skills in Forensic Science

**FOR 494:** Fundamental Skills in Death Investigations

# Degree-Specific Information

X = Designated lab assignment for the degree | PH = Designated lab for Pre-Health track | O = Optional but not required

Degree Name	BCH 367	BCH 372*	BCH 467	CHM 235	CHM 237	CHM 238	CHM 326	FOR 494	Attendance Requirement
Applied Biological Sciences (Pre-Veterinary Medicine), BS					X	X			1 Summer
Applied Biological Sciences (Pre-Dental), BS					X	X			1 Summer
Applied Nutrition and Health, BS (Pre-Dietetics focus area only)				X					1 Summer
Biochemistry, BA			X		X	X			<b>2 Terms Recommended</b> Summer 1: CHM 237/238 Term 2: BCH 467
Biochemistry, BS			X		X	X			<b>2 Terms Recommended</b> Summer 1: CHM 237/238 Term 2: BCH 467
Biochemistry (Medicinal Chemistry), BS			X		X	X			<b>2 Terms Recommended</b> Summer 1: CHM 237/238 Term 2: BCH 467
Biological Sciences, BS				X	PH	PH			1 Summer
Biological Sciences (Biology and Society), BS					O	O			1 Summer
Biological Sciences (Biomedical Sciences), BS	X			X	PH	PH			<b>2 Summers Recommended (Pre-Health)</b> Summer 1: CHM 237/238 Summer 2: BCH 367
Biological Sciences (Conservation Biology and Ecology), BS					O	O			1 Summer
Biological Sciences (Genetics, Cell and Developmental Biology), BS				X	PH	PH			1 Summer
Biological Sciences (Neurobiology, Physiology and Behavior), BS				X					1 Summer
Chemistry, BA					X	X	X		<b>2 Summers Recommended</b> Summer 1: CHM 237/238 Summer 2: CHM 326
Forensic Science, BS		O			X	X		X	<b>2 Summers Recommended</b> Summer 1: CHM 237/238 and BCH 372* Summer 2: FOR 494
Forensic Science (Death Investigations), BS		O			X	X		X	<b>2 Summers Recommended</b> Summer 1: CHM 237/238 and BCH 372* Summer 2: FOR 494
Integrative Health, BS (Pre-Health Grad School track)					X				1 Summer
Medical Studies, BS					X	X			1 Summer
Pharmacology and Toxicology, BS		O			X	X			1 Summer

\*Students in the **Pharmacology and Toxicology, BS, Forensic Science, BS** or **Forensic Science (Death Investigations), BS** have the option of completing either BCH 372 in-person at the ASU West Valley campus or PTX 372 Modern Biochemical Methods, which is a fully virtual alternative to BCH 372.

# Course- and Lab-Specific Information

Course Name	Credit Hours	Length of Lab	Campus	Term Completion	Additional Work Outside of In-Person Experience
<b>BCH 367:</b> Elementary Biochemistry Laboratory	1	3.5 days	Tempe	Summer only	About 4–5 weeks
<b>BCH 372*:</b> Modern Concepts in Biochemistry Laboratory	1	3.5 days	West Valley	Summer only	About 3 weeks
<b>BCH 467:</b> Analytical Biochemistry Laboratory	3	5 days	Tempe	Any term	About 4–5 weeks
<b>CHM 235:</b> Elementary Organic Chemistry Laboratory	1	3.5 days	Tempe	Summer only	About 1–2 weeks
<b>CHM 237:</b> General Organic Chemistry Laboratory I	1	3.5 days	Tempe	Summer only	About 1–2 weeks
<b>CHM 238:</b> General Organic Chemistry Laboratory II	1	3.5 days	Tempe	Summer only	About 1–2 weeks
<b>CHM 326:</b> Analytical Chemistry Lab	1	3.5 days	Tempe	Summer only	About 2–3 weeks
<b>FOR 494:</b> Fundamental Skills in Forensic Science	3	8 days	West Valley	Summer only	About 3 weeks
<b>FOR 494:</b> Fundamental Skills in Death Investigations	3	8 days	West Valley	Summer only	About 3 weeks

\*Students in the *Pharmacology and Toxicology, BS, Forensic Science, BS* or *Forensic Science (Death Investigations), BS* have the option of completing either BCH 372 in-person at the ASU West Valley campus or PTX 372 Modern Biochemical Methods, which is a fully virtual alternative to BCH 372.

## Lab schedule

The lecture portions of the courses take place online during regular fall and spring sessions and the in-person labs take place the following summer. The analytical biochemistry (BCH 467) lab will now also be offered in fall and spring terms. If you enroll in one of these fall or spring courses, the in-person lab will take place in the same A or B session.

## Additional coursework after in-person labs

After completing the physical lab portion on campus, you'll have to complete any outstanding lab reports or assignments by their set deadlines. The additional time will vary by course, with the organic chemistry classes taking about 1–2 weeks. Whereas, the biochemistry classes take about 4–5 weeks of additional time commitment beyond the physical lab portion.

## Completing in-person labs outside of ASU

Additionally, you can complete in-person labs at a local institution that meets all of the [ASU transfer credit requirements](#). These requirements will vary by program, please consult with your academic advisor for more information about transfer opportunities.

# Accommodations



## PPE requirements

Students are required to arrive to the first day of class with the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). For BCH 372 and FOR 494, required PPE includes:

- Long sleeve lab coat
- Splash proof goggles
- Closed-toed shoes
- Pants



## Transportation

If you plan to drive or rent a car, you'll need to consider parking arrangements. Temporary parking permits are available for purchase through the [parking portal](#). Please keep in mind, rates will vary based on the selected lot and the duration of the permit. ASU also encourages the use of sustainable transportation through discounts and services, such as [bike](#), [campus shuttles](#) and [public transit](#) on light rail and Valley Metro buses.



## Campus locations

There is about a 25-mile difference in distance between the ASU Tempe campus and the ASU West Valley campus. During certain times of day this can be about a one-hour drive in traffic. Students engaging in laboratory coursework at both campuses during the same summer should plan lodging and transportation accordingly.



## Local activities

While focusing on your labs is important, take some time to explore the local area. Arizona offers a variety of activities, such as early morning hikes and local eateries. Download the ASU Mobile App to discover more about nearby attractions and how to navigate ASU's campus.



## Lodging

ASU has partnered with local hotels to secure room blocks and discounted rates for students coming to campus for in-person labs. Please visit the [travel information page](#) for more information. Additional discounts may be available with direct booking links released annually.



## Hydration

Arizona is known for its intense heat with high temperatures in the summer usually exceeding 100°F (38°C), so it's essential to stay hydrated throughout your stay. Make sure to drink plenty of water and take breaks as needed to avoid dehydration.

# International Students Attending In-Person Labs, J-1 Visa FAQ

## 1 — 2 — 3 Pre-Application

### Do I need a J-1 visa to come for in-person lab sessions at ASU?

Yes, international students enrolled in an online program who wish to participate in specific academic activities, such as in-person labs, typically require a J-1 visa. This visa facilitates participation in cultural and academic exchange programs. Please visit more information at: [J-1 Student Non-Degree | ISSC | ASU](#)

### What are the basic requirements for a J-1 visa application for in-person labs at ASU?

Your host college/school will work with you on what is required before they can submit a request to the International Students and Scholars Center (ISSC) to facilitate your DS-2019 request. Information can be found at: [J-1 Student Non-Degree | ISSC | ASU](#)

### Where can I find information about scheduling my in-person labs and related academic requirements?

Contact your Academic Advisor in the department for your degree program at ASU. They can provide details on lab schedules, course prerequisites, and academic expectations.

If you are enrolling in multiple labs they may need to be arranged in a particular order. Connect with your Academic Advising team to confirm you are registering for your labs in the correct order.

### How do I prove financial sufficiency for my J-1 visa application?

Prospective scholars are required to certify the availability of sufficient funds prior to issuance of a form DS-2019.

**Minimum required funding per month is \$2,500 for the scholar and \$1,000 per dependent.**

**Funding documentation:** Documentation that shows the ability to cover current estimates of monthly living expenses.

### Can I visit my family or travel back to my home country during breaks?

Yes, you can travel back to your home country during breaks. However, ensure your J-1 visa and DS-2019 form are valid for re-entry into the U.S. Always consult with ISSC before planning international travel to ensure there are no issues with your re-entry. Read more about [travel and re-entry](#).

# 1 — 2 — 3 Ready to Apply

## What documents are required for the J-1 visa application?

Necessary documents include a DS-2019 form issued by ASU, a valid passport, proof of financial support, a CV or resume, and English proficiency test results.

## How do I apply for the DS-2019 form?

First, reach out to the departmental contact in your academic unit. This department will act as your host and must request a DS-2019 Form request to the International Students and Scholars Center (ISSC), along with your academic and financial documentation. **Typically, this process should begin 2-6 months prior to your planned start date.** You may also provide this [Canvas course](#) to your host department for further details.

## How long will it take to receive a DS-2019?

Once the ISSC receives a **complete** request, it can take up to 7 business days for a DS-2019 to be issued.

## Can a J-1 Scholar's visa application process be expedited under administrative processing?

Unfortunately, nothing can be done to expedite administrative processing or security clearances. Please contact your academic unit and the ISSC in case of a delay, so the DS-2019 start date can be amended if necessary.

## I have my DS-2019 but need to delay my arrival. What should I do now?

If the J-1 scholar will be arriving more than 15 days after their program start date as shown on the DS-2019 Form, please notify the ISSC.

## What happens if my J-1 visa application is denied?

If your visa application is denied, you should receive an explanation for the denial from the consulate. You can address the issue and reapply or contact ISSC for guidance on proceeding.

## Can I have my dependents come with me?

Yes. Only a scholar's spouse and unmarried children under the age of 21 are eligible to be J-2 dependents. All other family members and friends may be eligible to visit scholars for a short time in B-2 (Visitor for Tourism) status. B-2 visa holders are not eligible to work or study during their time in the U.S.. Scholars should visit the website of the consulate where their visitors will apply for their visas for information about the application process and requirements.

Please contact [InternationalScholars@asu.edu](mailto:InternationalScholars@asu.edu) for more information about bringing any dependents.

## What health insurance requirements do I need to meet?

Please visit ISSC website for more information about insurance requirements.

[J-1 Medical Insurance | ISSC | ASU](#)

# 1 — 2 — 3 Post-Application

## What should I do once I receive my J-1 visa and DS-2019?

Pay the SEVIS I-901 fee, schedule your visa interview, and once approved, arrange your travel to the U.S. Ensure your health insurance meets the J-1 visa requirements.

[Pay the SEVIS I-901 fee here.](#)

## I've arrived at ASU. What should I do? How do I confirm my lab schedule and get started?

Schedule a mandatory [SEVIS check-in/orientation](#) with the ISSC as soon as you arrive to maintain your visa status.

You may also schedule the appointment by email with the ISSC at [InternationalScholars@asu.edu](mailto:InternationalScholars@asu.edu) or call

**(480) 727-7125** to schedule.

Confirm your lab schedule with your Academic Advisor to ensure everything is in order before your labs begin.

## What if I need to change my lab schedule or have visa issues after arriving?

Immediately contact the ISSC for any changes to your visa status or academic schedule. For lab schedule adjustments, speak directly with your Academic Advisor.

## What are my options if I need to extend my stay for my labs?

Discuss extending your J-1 status with the ISSC, providing proof of continued financial support and valid academic reasons for the extension. Click [here](#) to learn more.

## Can I travel outside the U.S. during my program?

Yes, but for trips longer than 30 days, inform the ISSC to adjust your SEVIS record to "Out of Country" status. Confirm with ISSC for shorter trips before making your travel plans.