

15 CAREER PATHS

FOR PhDs & POSTDOCS

What is the decision most PhDs and postdocs are worried about making?

What should I do after my PhD?

Will I have limited options to choose from?



Do not despair! Here are some career options you could explore after your PhD or postdoc.

1

TENURE TRACK

Continue research as well as teach, to move up the ladder to a full-time faculty teaching position at a university

2

ACADEMIC RESEARCH

Continue research without pursuing a faculty teaching position, e.g., in research labs or government research agencies

3

TEACHING

Choose a teaching-only portfolio, without research, at schools or other institutions and mentor younger students

4

ALTERNATIVE ACADEMIC

Take up a job in academia that is not related to your research, e.g., administration, fundraising, or research center management

5

INDUSTRIAL R&D

Work as a researcher for an IT, automobile, aerospace, banking, finance, defense, or FMCG manufacturing company

6

PHARMA R&D

Conduct research at a pharma and drug development company to help create drugs for commercial or medical use

7

MARKET RESEARCH

Help an IT or biotechnology company understand the commercialization opportunities for its products

8

PRODUCT MANAGEMENT

Work with a product-based company to oversee the development and management of its product

9

CONSULTANCY

Use your strong technical background, especially in one of the STEM fields, to help companies design unique strategies to solve specific problems

10

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Use your own original creative product/service idea to build a business around it

11

FINANCE OR BANKING

Apply your quantitative, statistical, and research skills at a global bank, investment banking firm, or private trading company

12

MEDICAL COMMUNICATION

Improve communication of medical and healthcare related topics by creating regulatory documents, patient brochures, physician articles, sales training material, etc.

13

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

Become a science journalist; join a scientific publisher in an editorial or workflow management role; or work as an academic editor

14

GOVERNMENT

Work with a government organization (e.g., funding agency, R&D board, planning committee) in an administrative, strategic, or decision-making role

15

CHARITY OR VOLUNTEER WORK

Apply your skills to a cause you support, e.g., healthcare, medicinal sector, wildlife conservation, natural resource management

Sources:

1. 11 alternative career paths for PhD students: <http://www.nextscientist.com/alternative-careers-for-phd-students/>

2. Top 10 List Of Alternative Careers For PhD Science Graduates: <http://cheekyscientist.com/top-10-list-of-alternative-careers-for-phd-science-graduates/>

3. 10 career paths for PhDs: <http://www.jobs.ac.uk/media/pdf/careers/resources/10-career-paths-for-phds.pdf>

For more useful tips and resources on career advancement in academia, visit

www.editage.co.kr/insights

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Resources for authors and journals