

# Top 10 Alternative Careers for STEM PhDs

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A PhD is the highest qualification that one can have and is essential for a career in academia. However, there are many challenges to getting academic jobs, and many PhDs have interest in non-academic careers. Therefore, early-stage researchers often wish to explore alternative careers. Moreover, this involves undertaking some effort and spending time in understanding one's desired sense of direction. In this infographic, we present the top 10 [career alternatives](#) for STEM PhDs.





## ALTERNATIVE CAREERS FOR STEM PHDS

- 1

**Science communication** is an emerging field that extends beyond traditional newspapers, videos, TV, radio, etc. Recommended for researchers with good communication skills
- 2

**Clinical research** in pharmaceutical companies and research institutes involves organizing/ conducting clinical trials. This is a good alternative to laboratory work
- 3

**Medical writing** involves compiling and editing clinical/statistical reports and studying the related protocols
- 4

**YouTube partnership** provides excellent opportunities to earn revenue from Google AdSense
- 5

**Career in sales** (e.g., Product Management/Sales Management) provides an opportunity to meet new people, travel, and communicate about company products or services
- 6

**Techno-legal consultation** involves reviewing and drafting patent applications for law firms
- 7

**Scientific editing** involves proofreading and formatting research data into a manuscript-ready format for journal submission
- 8

**Technical consultation** involves sharing highly specialized knowledge from various STEM areas
- 9

**Research-inspired entrepreneurship** is a relatively unexplored profession that encourages the commercialization of innovative products or services, thereby making an impact on society
- 10

**Career in regulatory affairs** involves challenging roles that require you to combine scientific, legal, and business knowledge to ensure that pharmaceutical products comply with standard legislation

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