



# Research & Development Technician

A Research & Development Technician is responsible for assisting a researcher or research team with product development projects.



Inspiring Minds to Grow

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# career profile

Name: Albert Rayes  
Job Title: R & D Technician

Employer: Baker Food Lab

Education: AAS, Cuyahoga Community College District,  
Cleveland, Ohio

 I participated in a cooperative education program in high school where I was given early dismissal so I could work at a food testing laboratory. It was a good experience, and I got paid for my work. I did well, and the manager of the facility encouraged me to get an associate's degree in food science and come back and work for her.

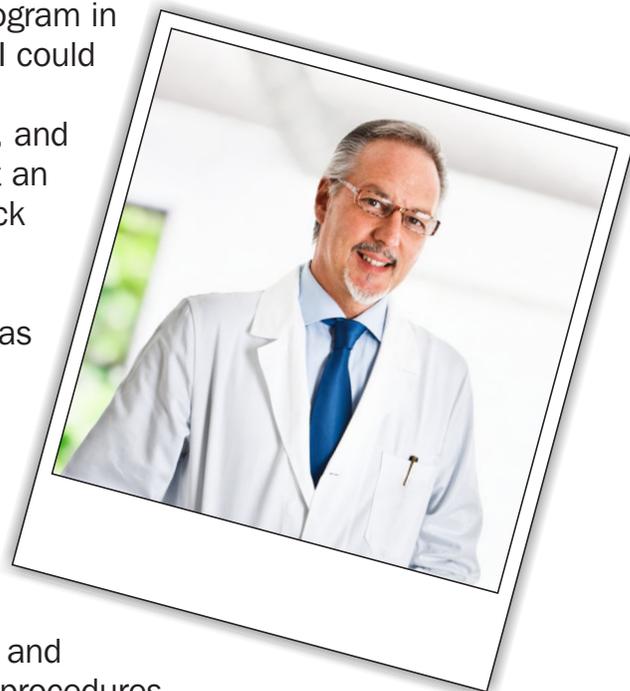
 Everything worked out, and after college I was hired full-time. I'm responsible for accurate weighing and measuring of samples and keeping precise records. I operate, maintain, and calibrate a variety of lab and plant equipment. I perform wet chemistry analysis of products. I am involved in computing formulas, percentages, and production-specific factors

using chemical and mathematical procedures.

I provide assistance with microbiological testing of raw materials and finished products.

 I contribute to the company in a variety of other ways. I assist with scale-up processes from prototype products into full production. I contribute to product development and the establishment and implementation of processing activities in the areas of safety, aeration, depositing, and freeze drying. I support commercialization of products by working with the marketing and sales department.

 I like what I do and would recommend this career to people interested in science and working in a laboratory.



# R & D Technician

## overview



An **R & D technician** is responsible for assisting a researcher or research team with product development projects.

## suggested high school courses



[agriculture science](#), biology, chemistry, and mathematics

## experience needed



Participate on campus in labs and research trials when possible. Seek job placement opportunities while attending school. Plan and implement a related Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Program.

## degree(s) required



An associate's degree in food science, food technology, chemistry, or biology is required. A bachelor's degree in a related field may be necessary for some positions.

## potential employers



food chemical supply companies,  
food production companies,  
government inspection agencies

## salary range



\$37,029 to \$39,020

## employment outlook and trends



The future employment opportunities for R & D technicians are expected to be **good to excellent**.

## professional organizations



American Council for Food Safety and Quality [agfoodsafety.org/](http://agfoodsafety.org/)  
Food Processing Suppliers Association [www.fpsa.org/](http://www.fpsa.org/)  
Institute of Food Technologists [www.ift.org/](http://www.ift.org/)  
National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research [www.ncfar.org/](http://www.ncfar.org/)  
Research Chefs Association [www.culinology.com/](http://www.culinology.com/)



## Want to Learn More?

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