SCIENCE & MEDICAL WRITERS

WHAT IS TECHNICAL & SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATIONS?

"Science and medical writers translate technical medical and scientific information so it can be disseminated to the general public and professionals in the field. Science and medical writers research, interpret, write, and edit scientific and medical information. Their work often appears in books, technical studies and reports, magazine and trade journal articles, newspapers, company newsletters, and on Web sites, and may be used for radio and television broadcasts. Science and medical writers may also be known as science and medical authors or medical and science communicators." – Vault

FREQUENT JOB TITLES

- Technical Writer Intern
- Science & Technology Writing Intern
- Technical Writer I, II,
- Science Writer & Social Media Specialist
- Clinical Medical Writer
- Permit Writer

KEY SKILLS

- Oral & Written Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Microsoft Office applications
- Web content management systems
- Adobe Creative Suit
- Darwin Information Typing Architecture

RELATED STUDENT ORGS

- The Badger Herald, The Daily Cardinal
- The Journal of Undergraduate Science and Technology (JUST)
- WUD Publications Comittee
- Science Forward

HIRING OUTLOOK

- 2016-2026: 11% (Faster than average)
- High competition, especially in freelance

TYPES OF EMPLOYERS

- Pharma and Drug Companies
- Medical Research Institutions
- Government Organizations
- Insurance Companies
- Health Care Facilities
- Medical Publishers and Associations
- Scientific Research Companies

IDEAL QUALIFICATIONS

- Undergraduate research experience
- Writing and publication experience
- Communications related internship
- Bachelor's and Master's or a Ph.D. is often needed for higher-level positions

ASSOCIATIONS

- American Medical Writers Association
- National Association of Science Writers
- Society for Technical Communication