

Science with Water

After a hot day outside, at the pool, at the beach, or wherever you might be, the first thing you would want to do when you reach the comfort of your home is sit down and sip on a nice glass of water. That water that you are enjoying actually took a whole process to make sure that it is clean and pure.

Water is very important to us and the environment. Especially when we drink around 1-2 liters per day. So who exactly helps make sure that the water is and stays clean? That's a job for Lab Technicians in the Water Industry! These individuals collect, analyze, and monitor water samples from raw water sources, to make sure that the water is safe for us to drink.

They also operate laboratory equipment to assure that the tests are genuine. They record the data they found from the water to verify that the water we are using is up to standards and doing well.

This type of job typically requires vocational or technical school training. Training typically takes around 8 months to a year, diplomas take around a year to a year and a half, and associate degrees take about 2 years, though these numbers vary with the school you decide to go to. So, assuming you are 18 when you graduate, you could get an associate degree around 20 and begin working at 20 or 21.

Lab Technicians in the Georgia Water Industry make sure our water is safe to drink so we don't get sick. Dirty and/or contaminated water can hold dangerous illnesses such as Hepatitis A, Salmonella, E. coli, Norovirus, and even Legionnaires disease. Drinking chemical exposed water can cause skin discoloration, organ damage, and even cancer, so it is very important to make sure your water is clean and rid of chemicals. Drinking water with disease-causing microbes and getting extremely sick from it (such as getting typhoid fever or cholera) are mainly rare in the US, though there are more common illnesses you can get from it such as fever, headache, stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhea, and in worse cases, hepatitis.

So you see, there is a lot of work and science in making sure that our water is clean and drinkable. And we could never have clean water without Lab Technicians analyzing and tracking water cleanliness. But even though it is not as popular as other jobs, the job is very important to our environment and us.