

College of Natural Sciences  
**Twenty Reasons**  
to Major in Math or Science at Chico State:

1. Our class sizes for math and science majors are some of the **smallest out of the 23 campuses in the CSU system**, with an **average class size of 10 – 15 in upper-division courses**.
2. The College of Natural Sciences has one of the largest scholarship programs at Chico State, the Floyd L. English Scholarship Program, awarding **\$50,000 to our students each year**. The average scholarship amount is \$3,900.
3. **40% of our majors are directly involved in faculty research** and frequently present papers at professional society meetings, giving them an edge over other applicants when competing for job placements. Often, each department **covers the cost of attending** these meetings.
4. Our **4,000-acre Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve** provides **hands-on field research opportunities** for over 500 biology, geology, geosciences and environmental sciences majors, many through our Center for Ecosystem Research.
5. You will find our **graduates attending** a number of the **best medical schools** in the country including Stanford, UC San Francisco, USC, UCLA, UC, Davis, Georgetown, Albert Einstein, and Wake Forest.
6. **50% of chemistry/biochemistry majors are admitted to grad school** in chemistry or biochemistry and **over 90% obtain their PhD degree**, which is well above the rate at other CSU campuses.
7. **Our geology and environmental sciences majors have a placement rate of 90%** for grad school and jobs in top-growth industries, including petroleum, groundwater exploration and environmental consulting. We place many of our students in **internships leading to these jobs**.
8. **Major in math or science** and easily find a **job teaching high school**. Become a high school **math or science teacher** and **have your student loans forgiven, up to \$19,500** – your education is virtually **free!**
9. This year our **Putnam Math Team placed in the top 10%, 30<sup>th</sup> out of 400, including Harvard, Duke and MIT** – this is our best finish ever!
10. Graduates of our School of Nursing enjoy **multiple offers for nursing positions**. Our experienced, dedicated nursing faculty will get to know you on a first-name basis. **Nursing is the top occupation in terms of job growth** through the year 2012.
11. Last year, of nutrition grads who applied to post-baccalaureate Dietetic Internships (required for Registered Dietitians), 88% were accepted, **21% higher than the national average**.
12. Over **90% of our physics grads** are either accepted into **advanced degree programs** or **find immediate employment** in a technical field.

13. For future teachers, our Chemistry and Physics Departments have **the only approved subject-matter competency programs in the entire state of California** under the new standards for preparing science teachers to teach at the secondary level.
14. Annually, our Center for Math and Science Education gives **250 Chico State students a service learning opportunity at the Hands-On Science Lab**, visited by over 3,000 school children each year.
15. Chico State students **earned almost a quarter of a million dollars through internships** at the Center for Nutrition and Activity Promotion, promoting healthy eating and physical activity to school-age children and families throughout the North State.
16. Our Northern California Natural History Museum, slated for construction next year, will provide Chico State students with **unique opportunities to gain experience in science education**, working with visiting teachers and students from our service region, **equivalent to the state of Ohio**.
17. Our **themed housing in Konkow and Mechoopda residence halls for math and science majors** provides an environment which **supports academic success**.
18. Each department has at least one **student club** providing **tutoring and other types of academic support and important networking opportunities** for our students, not to mention a lot of **fun social events!**
19. Our college is committed to **a diverse student body**. Last year, **over half the growth of Chico State's increased number of students of color** was in the College of Natural Sciences.
20. If you live outside of California, **don't let the prospect of out-of-state tuition scare you away**. Chico State's participation in the **new Western Undergraduate Exchange** means you can come here for just 150% of regular resident tuition, **saving you thousands of dollars!** It may even cost you less than attending college or university in your home state.

Learn more information about the [College of Natural Sciences](#).

Check out our [College brochure](#).

Check out the [Center for Math and Science Education](#).

Get wrapped up in [Teaching Science](#).

For information about Chico State, go to [CSUChico.edu](#).

To apply to Chico State, go to [admissions](#).

For information about the Western Undergraduate Exchange, go to: [Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education](#) and [Western Undergraduate Exchange](#).

We hope to see you next fall!