Share your love of science with others. Science educators are needed to break down complicated scientific concepts into simple ideas for the broader community. Work as a K-12 teacher to inspire future scientists, or take the nontraditional route by working for a museum, camp or enrichment program. Other organizations and nonprofits need outreach coordinators and event planners to raise awareness and make science relevant to the public.

Alumni Spotlight

Andy Loria
PhD in Cell and Molecular Biology, University of Chicago
Teacher, Northside College Prep

What did you do as a trainee to prepare for your current career?
My undergraduate and graduate education has provided a strong foundation of content knowledge in biological and chemical science. Following completion of my PhD at the University of Chicago, I received substantial pedagogy training and experience through the School of Education and Social Policy at Northwestern University.

What are the typical things your job entails each day?
Teaching requires careful development and continuous modifications to the syllabus for each content area. Developing, implementing, and assessing the success of meaningful lessons are aspects of the daily activities of teaching.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?
Unquestionably, the most rewarding aspect of my job is seeing young students' eyes light up as they comprehend science concepts. In secondary education, Biology and Chemistry (and Physics) are required courses, so many students are initially reluctant or apprehensive about tackling some of the challenging concepts. You see the student(s) struggle, often get frustrated, and finally the glow of pride when they grasp the given topic. There is rapid and observable cognitive growth at this level.

Interview courtesy of the University of Chicago.
Sample Job Titles

- Teacher/educator/instructor/lecturer
- Curriculum developer
- Community relations manager/director
- Education specialist
- Outreach coordinator/director
- Event coordinator
- Museum educator/exhibit developer

Professional Organizations

National Science Teachers Association (NSTA)
http://www.nsta.org

Association of Science - Technology Centers (ASTC)
http://www.astc.org