

Dr. David Dawson holds a B.S. in Chemistry from Brandeis University, where his undergraduate thesis work focused on topotactic rearrangements of small organic molecules in crystals. After his undergraduate studies, he received his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the University of California, Irvine. His thesis focused on nickel-catalyzed Kumada-type cross-coupling reactions of aryltetrahydropyrans and aryltetrahydrofurans. Upon completing his doctoral program in 2017, he joined the team at CW Analytical, one of California's oldest and most distinguished cannabis testing laboratories. In his role as Research Principal, he has overseen the California cannabis market evolve from a partially underground industry to the fully legal business it is today. In addition to developing precise and accurate analytical methods that meet California's rigorous testing standards, he has directly interfaced with cannabis producers to help them with product formulation, the testing of complex matrices, and best scientific practices. Additionally, he has conducted independent scientific research on potency testing of cannabis-infused chocolate products, which he has presented at national scientific conferences, including Pittcon and the American Chemistry Society. He is a passionate advocate for incorporating the scientific method in the cannabis industry, and believes that enhanced scientific rigor will help the industry grow for decades to come.