



## Looking for a Job in Biology?

Are you interested in biology and are looking forward to a job in biology? You may be motivated because it was your favorite subject in school, or you know someone who has a very interesting job in biology. Whatever brings you to the point of a job hunt in biology; it is a very interesting field. In the biology niche, scientists learn to ask questions, observe, and evaluate evidence. Biologists are curious about living things, how cells relate to other cells, and how cells evolve. The work of biologists helps science understand more about the natural world in the respect to things like:

- the rain forest.
- insects in the rain forest.
- human viruses.
- plants in a warehouse.
- lions in an African Jungle.

This kind of understanding helps biologists look carefully at worldwide concerns like environmental changes, potential health threats, and basic food availability to people around the world.

### Jobs in Biology

**Research:** Research biologists study the world and all that is natural in it including plant life or any living system outdoors and they use scientific tools and means in the laboratory. They also study the same in natural environments. Biologists and bio-technologists contribute to a better life by enhancing products, tools, and inventing technological advances in agriculture, medicine, and pharmacology.

**Healthcare:** Biologists work in public health and take on campaigns to eliminate diseases like AIDS and cancer. Still others work to prevent the spread of disease—nurses, doctors, lab technicians, [bio-tech pharmaceutical sales](#), [bio-tech sales](#), veterinarians, and animal science specialists, to name a few. All of these healthcare workers are working in biology sciences in the field of human health and animal healthcare.

**Environmental management and conservation:** Biologists working in conservation careers help in finding answers to solve environmental problems. Environmental management is a science concerned with the natural world; how we preserve it and leave it to the future generations. Park rangers oversee parks and help preserve their natural resources. Zoo biologists institute programs for endangered species.

### What Are the Salaries for Biologists?

A 2003 survey by AIBS in conjunction with the Abbot and Langer Company (1) found:

- Biologists with less than one-year experience have a starting salary of around \$33,000.
- Data from a 2005 US Bureau of Labor Statistics (2) shows the field of life sciences has a mean annual salary close to \$60,000.
- As biologists gain more experience and education in private industry they may earn salaries of over \$80,000.
- Biologists in government, academia, and the non-profit sector earn around \$60,000 to \$70,000.
- Those with over 30 years of experience have a median salary of around \$103,000.

Private research companies and government agencies pay higher salaries. Jobs in non-profit groups or academic institutions may pay lower salaries, but some biologists find great satisfaction in working for an organization that is effecting change for a better world.

### How Do You Prepare for a Job in the Field of Biology or [Opportunities in Bio-Technology?](#)

Some positions require a high school diploma to get started while others will require four-year degrees or graduate degrees. Others require a state certification in specialized fields. The number of jobs to be found in biology is in abundance. The titles of biology job positions are sorted and may not indicate that they are jobs in the field of biology. Look carefully at the duties and responsibilities of any job descriptions. [Bio-tech job opportunities](#) are very popular and combine biology with chemistry to provide solutions in pharmaceuticals and medicine.

To summarize, the field of biology can provide an exciting career in many different aspects from the insect world to



## Biotech Career Feature

the laboratory. If you want to impact world changes, biology careers are at the top with environmental solutions and treatments for diseases. It is a noble area to work in and the future of biology careers is looking good over the next five to six years and beyond. It is a career path that offers careers with as little or as much education as you want to obtain. Salary and benefits are good to excellent, depending

on the amount of education and experience required in the biology career you choose. Spend some time looking at all the opportunities in biology and bio-technology.

(1) 2003 survey by AIBS in conjunction with the Abbot and Langer Company.

(2) 2005 US Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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