

# A.S. in Biotechnology

## DESCRIPTION OF THE BIOTECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

The Biotechnology Associate of Science (A.S.) degree is designed for students who wish to gain career-oriented training for immediate employment in the biotechnology industry. After successfully graduating from this two-year program, students can secure a job immediately in the biotechnology field or transfer to our partner institution, Brooklyn College, earn a baccalaureate degree (either bachelor of arts (B.S.) or bachelor of arts (B.A.) in biology) and move into the biotech field at a higher level. According to the Biotech Institute ([www.biotechinstitute.org](http://www.biotechinstitute.org)), when most people think of opportunities for careers in biotechnology, they think of a scientist in a white coat in a laboratory developing drugs to improve the quality of life. However, biotechnology has a wide variety of career opportunities ranging from sales and marketing, to research and development, to manufacturing and quality control, and assurance and to computer work in the field of bioinformatics.

## SKILLS

**Communication skills.** Communication is critical, because medical scientists must be able to explain their conclusions. In addition, medical scientists write grant proposals, because grants often are required to fund their research.

**Data-analysis skills.** Medical scientists use statistical techniques, so that they can properly quantify and analyze health-research questions.

**Problem-solving skills.** Zoologists and wildlife biologists try to find the best possible solutions to threats that affect wildlife, such as disease and habitat loss.

## CAREER INFORMATION

Medical scientists conduct research aimed at improving overall human health. They often use clinical trials and other investigative methods to reach their findings.

Zoologists and wildlife biologists study animals and other wildlife and how they interact with their ecosystems. They study the physical characteristics of animals, animal behaviors, and the impacts humans have on wildlife and natural habitats.

## EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

Projected employment over the next 10 years: Employment of medical scientists is projected to grow 17 percent from 2020 to 2030, much faster than the average for all occupations.

Employment of zoologists and wildlife biologists is projected to grow 5 percent from 2020 to 2030, slower than the average for all occupations.

## CAREER PATH

The median annual wage for medical scientists was \$95,310 in May 2021. Most medical scientists work full time.

The median annual wage for zoologists and wildlife biologists was \$64,650 in May 2021. Most zoologists and wildlife biologists work full time. They may work long or irregular hours, especially when doing fieldwork.

## CAREER COACH – SEARCH CAREER INFORMATION & CURRENT LOCAL WAGE DATA

<https://kingsborough.emsicc.com/programs/biotechnology-as/190619?radius=&region>

**INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY: [www.cuny.edu/apply](http://www.cuny.edu/apply) or 718-368-4600**

08-2022

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