Careers in the Biological Sciences

You might be asking yourself what can I do with a major from the College of Biological Sciences? Career exploration or how one decides on a career choice is complex and may not always be a direct or linear path. Career journeys differ from student to student, we encourage current students to meet with our career team to develop a personalized career plan based on their interests, skills, abilities and values. Students will also learn how to manage their career by evaluating and adapting to career decisions throughout their lifetime.

Below is only a snapshot of what students have achieved with a major in CBS and does not represent a complete list of our alumni achievements or account for the various job titles that differ from company to company or new companies and opportunities that develop over time. Many CBS students prepared for these post-graduation opportunities by developing competencies/skills through experiential learning opportunities. Students can prepare for internships, jobs and further education by understanding how to translate their experiences onto a tailored resume/cover letter, personal statement and during practice interviews.

What do CBS Graduates do?

Based on the Class of 2016 CBS Career Outcomes Survey, 68% of CBS graduating seniors reported they are planning to obtain additional education, of these students two-thirds will attend immediately upon graduation. The interests of our graduates vary which is evident from the career outcomes breakdown below.

44.5% Enrolled in health professions or graduate school for the fall 2016
40.8% Employed full-time at a variety of companies
8.4% Employed part-time or volunteering
5.8% Seeking employment

Graduates accepted job offers at:

General Mills
John Hopkins University
Mayo Clinic
Minnesota Parks and Recreation
Smiths Medical
University of Minnesota
USDA,
Vascular Solutions
Zepto Life Technology
Anatomic Pathology Tech
Biochemist Engineer
Financial Associate
Junior Scientist
Lab Analyst
Lab Technician
MedDevice Associate
Microbiology Engineer
R&D Technician
Sales Executive
Water Quality Educator

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Biochemist Engineer
Financial Associate
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Graduate and Health Professional Schools of Acceptance:

Case Western University
Dartmouth
Georgia Tech
Medical College of Wisconsin
Michigan State
MIT
Ohio State University of
College of Medicine
Rosalind Franklin
Rush Medical College
Sarah Lawrence College
St. Kate’s
Tulane University
University of Minnesota
Vanderbilt University
Yale University

Graduate and Health Professional Programs of Study:

Allopathic medicine
Data science
Genetic counseling
Immunology
Jewish studies
M.D
M.D/PhD
Marine biology
Microbiology
Phar.D.
Physical therapy
Physician’s assistant
Public health (MPH)
Epidemiology-Bio-statistics
Teaching
Veterinary science
Women’s studies

Alumni also work for the following companies:

Cargill, DiaSorin Inc., 3M, Minnesota Department of Health, Como Park Zoo and Conservatory, Hormel Foods, Boston Scientific, State of Minnesota and Medtronic to name a few.

Other Job titles include:

Research Associate, Regulatory Affairs Associate, Clinical Coordinator, Botanist, Quality Assurance Specialist, Ecologist, Environmental Scientist, Science Teacher, Naturalist, Conservationist, Forester
Food Scientist, Animal Scientist, Zoologist, Medical Librarian, Medical Instrument Technician, Quarantine Officer, Toxicologist and more (Some of these positions may require an advanced degree).

Information was compiled from student-reported data on the CBS Class of 2016 Career Outcomes Survey, Class of 2016 Commencement Survey Responses and LinkedIn.


Useful websites for internship and job searching
GoldPASS www.goldpass.umn.edu
Biology Jobs www.biologyjobs.com
Idealist www.idealista.org
SciTechsperience www.scitechmn.org

Useful websites for specific professions
National Science Foundation www.nsf.gov
American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology www.asbmb.org
Ecology Society of America www.esa.org/
Animal Behavior Society www.animalbehaviorsociety.org
American Neurological Association www.anneuroa.org
American Society of Plant Biologists www.aspb.org/
American Institute of Biological Sciences www.aibs.org/home
American Zoo and Aquarium Association www.aza.org
Biotechnology Industry Organization www.bio.org
National Association of Biology Teachers www.nabt.org
Society of Experimental Biology and Medicine www.sebm.org
National Academy of Science www.nas.edu
National Science Teachers Association www.nsta.org
Association for Women in Science www.awis.org
Federation of American Scientists www.fas.org
Society for Developmental Biology www.sdbonline.org/
Genetics Society of America www.genetics-gsa.org/
American Society for Cell Biology www.ascb.org/

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