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 among organizations or new organizations 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 2017 CBS Career Outcomes Survey, 53.50% of CBS graduating seniors reported they are planning to obtain additional education, of these students 60% will attend immediately upon graduation. The interests of our graduates vary which is evident from the career outcomes breakdown below.

- 32.53% Enrolled in health professions or graduate school for the fall 2018
- 33.25% Employed full-time at a variety of companies
- 8.67% Employed part-time or volunteering
- 4.34% Seeking employment
- 0.24% Enrolled in Military Service

Graduates accepted job offers at:

University of Minnesota
Mayo Clinic
Abbott Laboratories
Beckman Coulter
General Probiotics
Masonic Cancer Center
National Institutes of Health
American Academy of Neurology
EcoLab Inc.
United Health Group
USFDA

Job titles include:

Research Associates
Environmental Educators
Editorial Assistants
Histology Technicians
Human Resource Business Partner
Quality Control Chemists
Senior Business Analysts
Post-Market Surveillance Analysts

Graduate and Health Professional

Schools of Acceptance:

University of Minnesota
University of North Dakota
Yale University
University of Illinois at Chicago
Concordia University Wisconsin
University of Michigan
Northwestern University
Cornell University
California Institute of Technology
University of Colorado
Medical College of Wisconsin
Columbia University

Graduate and Health Professional

Programs of Study:

Allopathic medicine
Clinical Psychology
Data science
Genetic counseling
Patent Law
Anthropology
M.D
M.D/PhD
Microbiology
Phar.D.
Physical therapy
Physician’s assistant
Public health (MPH)
Epidemiology-Bio-statistics
Veterinary science
Alumni also work for the following companies:

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, Anatomic Pathology Tech, Biochemist Engineer, Financial Associate, Junior Scientist, Lab Analyst, MedDevice Associate, Microbiology Engineer, Sales Executive, Water Quality Educator and more (Some of these positions may require an advanced degree).

Alumni also attended the following graduate and health professional schools:
Case Western University, Dartmouth, Georgia Tech, Medical College of Wisconsin, Michigan State, MIT, Ohio State University, College of Medicine, Rosalind Franklin, Rush Medical College, Sarah Lawrence College, St. Kate’s, Tulane University, Vanderbilt University and others.

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.idealistor.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.animalbehavior.org
American Neurological Association www.anerhoa.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 Experiential 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