What Can I Do With a Major in BIOLOGY?

Below is a list of job titles, employers and graduate schools that Harvey Mudd College biology alumni have selected in the past few years.

Job Titles

Clinical Technician
Junior Anesthesia Specialist
Lab Assistant
Physician's Assistant
Research Assistant
Teacher

Employers

Arrowhead Health
City of Hope
Colorado State University, Boulder
Intellectual Ventures
University of California,
Irvine Medical Center
University of California, Los Angeles
Larry Hillblom Islet Research Center

Graduate Schools

Baylor College of Medicine
California Institute of Technology
Colorado State University
Columbia University
Harvard University
Louisiana State University Health
Sciences Center
Tufts University-Sackler School of
Graduate Biomedical Sciences
University of California, Davis
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara

Starting Salary Summary

High Salary Range
$70,000 – 74,999
Low Salary Range
$55,000 – 59,999
Median Salary Range
$62,500 – 67,500

Summer Employers

Brandeis University (Biology REU)
Harvard University (Stem Cell Internship Program)
New York State Psychiatric Institute*
St. Jude Children's Hospital (Pediatric Oncology
Education Program)
UC Berkeley*
UC San Francisco (Biology REU)
Ulsan National Institute of Science and Tech (Korea)
University of Illinois (Chemistry REU)
**companies that hired for first-year students*

Average Summer Wages

First-year
$3,620 stipend
Sophomore
$4,509 stipend
Junior
$4,758 stipend

HARVEY MUDD COLLEGE
Student Affairs
Office of Career Services

Here are just a few areas that could be of interest to a major in biology.

Area	Employers
BIOTECHNOLOGY	Biotechnology firms
Research and development	Pharmaceutical companies
Laboratory testing	Federal and state government laboratories and agencies
Education	Agricultural industry
	Colleges and universities
GENETICS	
Research and Development related to animals, plants and humans	Biotechnology firms
	Pharmaceutical companies
Genetic counseling	Government laboratories (e.g., U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Institutes of Health)
Education	Hospitals and medical centers
	Colleges and universities
MICROBIOLOGY	Government research laboratories and service agencies
Research and development	Private research foundations
Education	Hospitals and public health facilities
Quality control	Food, chemical, pharmaceutical and cosmetics companies
	Environmental and pollution control agencies
	Museums
	National and state parks
	Research and development firms
	Zoological/botanical gardens
	Colleges and universities

What You Can Do Now

- Learn laboratory procedures and become familiar with equipment.
- Obtain part-time, volunteer or internship experience to test the fields of interest and gain valuable experience.
- Develop strong computer, mathematics, as well as verbal and written communications skills.
- Take additional courses in chemistry, physics and mathematics.
- Complete an undergraduate lab research project with a professor.
- Become familiar with the specific entrance exam for graduate or professional schools in your area of interest.
- Learn federal, state and local government job application process. The federal government is the largest employer of biologists.

What You Can Do After Graduation

- An undergraduate degree will qualify you for work as a laboratory assistant, technician, technologist or researcher.
- An undergraduate degree can also be used for nontechnical work in writing, illustration, sales, photography and legislation.
- A master's degree allows for more opportunities in research and administration. Some community colleges will hire master's level teachers.
- A PhD provides the opportunity to specialize under the different areas of the biological sciences.