

# Careers by Major - Biology



This document serves as a starting point for your career research. Each Careers by Major page provides lots of ideas on various career areas, as well as how to gain related skills and experience. Useful resources and job samples are also provided. Visit us in the Career Centre to find out more about career areas that interest you.

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## Sample Careers / Jobs

Below is a sample of the many types of careers and jobs pursued by graduates of this program.

### Sample Career Titles

Note: This is not an exhaustive list. Detailed career profiles are available in the Career Centre. Some positions require further education and experience.

Biological Technician*	Biochemist*
Health Records Professional*	Radiation Therapist*
Technical Sales Rep.*	Technical Writer*
Toxicologist*	Doctor*
Hydrometric Technologist	Quality Controller*
Veterinary Technician*	Food Scientist*
Teacher/Professor*	Health Policy Analyst
Compliance Promotion Spec.	Medical Illustrator*
Paramedic*	Aquaculture Technician
Entomologist	Occupational Therapist*
Chiropractor*	Public Relations Specialist*
Optometrist*	Patient Services Coordinator
Pharmacologist*	Botanist*
Massage Therapist*	Biostatistician
Science Magazine Editor	Speech-language pathologist*
Entrepreneur*	Genetic Counsellor*
Clinical Research Coordinator	Intellectual Property Lawyer
Curator*	Environmental Lawyer
Wildlife Biologist	Medical Librarian
Zoologist*	Dietician*
Community Health Worker	Biotechnologist*
Medical Transcriptionist*	Ecologist*
Biomedical Engineer*	Facilities Manager/Supervisor
Marine Biologist*	Validation Specialist
Physiotherapist*	Epidemiologist*
Ornithologist	Geneticist*
Diagnostic Medical Sonographer*	Biologist*
Recreation Director*	Pharmaceutical Financial Analyst
Audiologist*	Product Marketing Manager
Cytotechnologist*	Health Care Administrator*
Bacteriologist	Business Dev't Research Analyst
Forensic Laboratory Analyst	Operations Research Analyst*
Microbiologist*	Bioinformatics Specialist*
Environmental Health Officer*	Logistics Specialist*
Conservation Officer*	Web Developer*
Business Systems Analyst*	Agronomist*

\* View these titles at Career Cruising, available on CLN (cln.utoronto.ca) under the Resources tab.

### Sample Job Listings

Below is a sample of positions that have been promoted within the Career Centre. To access current postings, login to CLN at [www.cln.utoronto.ca](http://www.cln.utoronto.ca) and click on Jobs.

- Medical Editor, Kendle INC Research
- Pharmaceutical Sales Representative, Impres Pharma Inc.
- Animal Care Attendant/Custodian, St. Clair Veterinary Facilities
- Ambulatory Care Clinics Volunt., St. Joseph's Health Centre Toronto
- Public Relations Manager, The Healing Cycle Foundation
- Bioinformatics/Genome Research, Department of Biology, UTM
- Health Records Technician, Toronto Central Community Care Access Centre
- Aquaculture Research Technician, Aquabiotech
- Coordinator, Planning Ecology, Toronto & Region Conserv. Authority
- Research Technologist, SickKids
- Lab Technician in Neurology, Toronto General Hospital
- Invasive Species Community Outreach Liaison, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority
- Sleep Technician Trainee, Sleep Disorders Clinic Centre for Sleep and Chronobiology
- Clinical Assistant, Unionville Family Wellness Centre
- Data Analyst, Acumed Medical Ltd.

### Sample Areas of Employment

- Manufacturing and processing companies
- Government agencies and non-profit agencies
- Engineering firms
- Industrial inspection firms
- Scientific research and development companies
- Conservation authorities, zoos, national/provincial parks, aquariums
- Law firms
- Hospitals and medical centres
- Environment and pollution control
- Self-employed/freelance
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Academic medical centres/laboratories
- Consumer health libraries
- Consulting firms
- Universities and colleges, boards of education
- Magazines and newspapers, publishing companies

## Program-Related Skills

Academic courses in this program provide opportunities to develop the following types of skills. Make a career counselling or an employment strategy appointment to discuss how you can demonstrate these skills to employers.

- **Communication & interpersonal:** write scientific reports; present research findings; interact professionally with a multidisciplinary team of researchers, technicians, students and professors; and literacy writing.
- **Research:** collect and preserve field organisms; dissect preserved or euthanized specimen; inspect specimens; and analyze and evaluate information.
- **Technical:** use specialized computer programs; perform laboratory procedures; maintain laboratory equipment and instrumentation; and comply with quality control procedures.
- **Quantitative:** analyze data for trends and apply statistical tests to data.
- **Critical thinking & problem-solving:** analyze and logically interpret trends and results.

## Explore Careers & Build Networks

### Career Exploration 101

Take our 15 minute online module available at [utm.utoronto.ca/careers/career-planning/career-exploration](http://utm.utoronto.ca/careers/career-planning/career-exploration) and attend the Career Exploration Part 2 in-person workshop read about how you can gain access to UTM's three career exploration programs:

- Extern Job Shadowing
- In The Field
- Informational Interviews

### Alumni Profiles

Check out our Alumni Profiles page with submissions from UTM grads to find out how their experiences have affected their career direction.

### Events

Attending networking events, employer info sessions, and career fairs is a great way to meet professionals and learn more about careers, companies, and industries. Login to CLN and click on Events & Workshops to see what's coming up.

### Talk to Professors

Connecting with your professors can be a great way to explore the different paths a major can lead you to, as well as learn about possible opportunities for research, volunteering, or becoming a TA. Drop by during their office hours or request an appointment.

### Student Organizations

Join a student club or an academic society at UTM to meet like-minded people, explore your interests, and gain valuable skills. To view a list of current clubs and societies, visit the Centre for Student Engagement online. Some organizations you may consider are:

- Erindale Biology Society
- Biotech Investment Club
- Pre-Medical Club
- Health Out Loud at UTM
- Global Brigades
- World Wildlife Foundation at UTM

### LinkedIn

Create a LinkedIn profile to connect with professionals in the fields, explore the career paths of UTM alumni, research employers, apply for specific positions, and more. Need help? Come into the Career Centre to book a LinkedIn profile critique.

### Professional Associations

There are many benefits of becoming a member of association(s), such as developing a network of contacts, learning about industry trends, accessing industry-related job postings, and stating your affiliation on your resume. Some associations related to this major are:

- Canadian Society for Molecular Biosciences (CMB)
- Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science (CSMLS)
- BIOTECANADA

## Get Experience

Get some experience and exposure to the industry while being a student. This will increase your chances of finding a job after graduation, while helping you decide what area might be most suitable for you.

### Crack the Hidden Job Market

Networking is an essential element of job search today, as most jobs are not advertised. While you should still apply for positions you find online, building relationships with professionals is a proven way to access the "hidden job market" with some of the most desirable opportunities.

Attend the "Learn to Network" workshop to discover proven techniques to effectively introduce yourself and make contacts.

### On-Campus

#### Experience 101 Handout

Check out the Experience 101 handout on [www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/on-campus-opportunities](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/on-campus-opportunities) to view a list of some of the ways you can get valuable experience on campus.

#### Work Study Positions

The work study program provides eligible students with an opportunity to work on campus during the academic year and gain experience. Many departments use this program to hire UTM students during the Fall/Winter and Summer terms.

#### Research Opportunity Program (ROP)

UTM's Research Opportunity Program (ROP) allows undergraduate students to gain valuable research experience and earn a course credit by participating in a faculty member's research project. Courses are held during Summer and Fall/Winter terms.

#### Part Time and Volunteer Positions

- Attend the annual Get Experience Fair
- Check out our binder with detailed information on volunteer opportunities; available in the Career Centre
- Learn about the Co-Curricular Record (CCR), which can help you find opportunities beyond the classroom and have your skills and experiences captured on an official document; go to [www.ccr.utoronto.ca](http://www.ccr.utoronto.ca) to find out how you can get involved

#### Student Organizations

Join a student club or an academic society at UTM to meet like-minded people, explore your interests, and gain valuable skills. To view a list of current clubs and societies, visit the Centre for Student Engagement at [www.utm.utoronto.ca/student-life/student-organizations](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/student-life/student-organizations).

### Off-Campus

#### Internships, Summer, Part Time and Volunteer Positions

- Check out our binders with detailed information on internships and volunteer opportunities; available in the Career Centre
- Login to Career Learning Network (CLN) and click on Jobs to access current postings advertised to UofT students
- Attend the annual Get Hired: Summer and Full-Time Jobs Fair
- Consider taking an academic internship course through your department
- Check out Government of Ontario - Job Programs for Youth Summer Employment Programs' web page
- Review our Internships, Summer Employment Programs, and Summer Job Search tip sheets at [utm.utoronto.ca/careers/tip-sheets](http://utm.utoronto.ca/careers/tip-sheets)

#### Full Time

- Login to CLN and click on Jobs to access current postings advertised to graduating students and recent UofT grads. Note: You must attend the "Now That I'm Graduating, What's Next?" workshop to gain access to these postings.
- Attend the annual Get Hired: Summer and Full-Time Jobs Fair
- Check out our list of industry-specific job boards on [www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/jobs/jobs-resources-links](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/jobs/jobs-resources-links)

## Useful Resources & Next Steps

### Appointments

- Attend a one-on-one appointment with a career counsellor or an employment strategist to discuss what career options might work for you and determine a job search plan. Contact the Career Centre for more information.
- Meet with an academic or departmental advisor, who can guide you in achieving academic success. Contact the Office of the Registrar or your department for more information.

### Additional Web Resources

- BioTalent Canada – Career Tools
- TalentEgg – Health Care Career Guide
- Jobpostings.ca – Career Guides in Health Care, Pharmacy, & Biotech
- American Institute of Biological Sciences – About Careers in Biology
- The Scientist magazine for life science professionals
- Canada's Top 100 Employers for Young Workers

### Career Centre Library Resources

The Career Centre resource library contains information about a wide range of occupations in all industries, resume and cover letter resources, effective work search methods, graduate/professional school preparation guides, and more. Located in DV 3094.

### Career Planning by Year

Look for our Career Planning by Year web page on [www.utoronto.ca/careers/career-planning](http://www.utoronto.ca/careers/career-planning) for ideas of important career related activities for each year.

### Questions?

Visit the UTM Career Centre located in DV 3094, call 905-828-5451, or visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers).

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