Life Sciences

Do you have a passion for finding a cure for cancer, helping dogs overcome diabetes or helping feed global populations through farming? These are all possible through a career in life sciences.

Life science jobs harness the building blocks of life to achieve greater human, animal and plant health. Several different career paths are available, which include biology, medicine, research and development, genetics and teaching.

Career Options

Careers in life sciences vary widely. Some jobs involve research, while other careers involve educating or caring for people. Life science jobs include food scientists, epidemiologists, zoologists, microbiologists, plant scientists and biologists. Other jobs include operations research analysts, market research analysts, information security analysts and computer systems managers.

Hiring Outlook

Kansas City has a competetive edge in life sciences in comparison to peer metros. Over the next 10 years, Kansas City companies will add over 6,000 net new jobs.

Learn More!

For more information about careers in life sciences, visit **KCWorkforce.org.**

Salary

Many jobs in the life sciences industry offer excellent salary and benefits packages. Below are the average wages for several high-demand professions.

CAREER	AVERAGE STARTING WAGE	AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGE
Biological Technicians	$29,000	$41,700
Chemists	$44,700	$74,900
Computer and Information Systems Managers	$87,000	$128,800
Computer Hardware Engineers	$60,200	$100,900
Information Security Analysts	$54,500	$83,900
Management Analysts	$55,700	$94,000
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	$36,300	$65,600
Medical Scientists, (except epidemiologists)	$45,200	$77,200
Operations Research Analysts	$52,400	$86,800
Radiologic Technologists	$43,300	$57,200

Source: JobsEQ®

KC SCHOLARS
Your Future, Our Future

Key Area Life Sciences Employers

- Bayer
- Boerhringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc.
- Catalent
- Cerner Corporation
- Ceva Animal Health, LLC
- MRI Global
- PRA Health Sciences
- Quest Diagnostics, Inc.
- Quintiles
- Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd.

Source: JobsEQ 2018 & Book of Lists 2016-2017

Education Requirements

While some entry level jobs require only a high school diploma or associate degree, most employers prefer to hire people with at least a bachelor's degree. Positions involving research or education may require a master's or doctoral degree.

Network of Colleges

KC Scholars works with a network of 17 higher education institutions where scholarship recipients may use their scholarships, match and incentive awards to earn a credit-bearing credential or degree. For more information, visit **KCScholars.org.**

KC Degrees
Reconnecting Adults to College

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Education Programs

There are many education opportunities for students seeking a career in life sciences. Below are some of the related degree programs offered by KC Scholars postsecondary institutions.

Avila University
- Biology, B.S., Minor
- Healthcare Informatics, B.S.
- Radiologic Science, B.S.

Baker University
- Biochemistry, B.S.
- Biology, B.A., B.S.
- Chemistry, B.A., B.S.
- Human Biology, B.S.

Johnson County Community College
- Biotechnology, A.S., A.A.S.
- Data Analytics, Certificate

Kansas City, Kansas, Community College
- Biology, A.G.S., A.S.
- Chemistry, A.S.

Kansas State University
- Biology, B.A., B.S., M.S.
- Chemistry, B.A., B.S.
- Data Analytics, Graduate Certificate
- Life Science, B.A., B.S.
- Qualitative Research, Graduate Certificate

Lincoln University
- Biology, B.S.
- Chemistry, B.S.

Metropolitan Community College
- Biology, A.S.
- Chemistry, A.S.
- Radiologic Technology, A.S.

Park University
- Biology, B.S.
- Chemistry, B.S.

Rockhurst University
- Analytics and Technology, B.S.
- Biochemistry, B.S.
- Biology, B.S.
- Chemistry, B.S.
- Data Science and Business Analytics, Graduate Certificate

University of Central Missouri
- Biochemistry, B.S.
- Biology, B.S., M.S.
- Chemistry, B.S.
- Radiologic Technologies, B.S.

University of Kansas
- Biology, B.A., B.S.
- Chemistry, B.A., B.S., M.S.
- Health Care Informatics, Graduate Certificate
- Information Systems, B.S.B.
- Radiology, B.S.

University of Missouri – Columbia
- Chemistry, B.A., B.S., M.S.
- Data Science and Analytics Program, M.S.
- Health Informatics, M.S.

University of Missouri-Kansas City
- Bioinformatics, M.S.
- Biology, B.A., B.S., M.A., Ph.D.
- Chemistry, B.A., B.S., M.S., Ph.D.

Western Governors University
- Data Management, B.S., M.S.

William Jewell College
- Biology, B.S.
- Chemistry, B.A.