



## WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN ...

## BIOLOGY

### OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW:

Research and study of principles of plant and animal life including but not limited to origin, relationship, development, anatomy, and functions.

### EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

**[Extensive Job Preparation Needed]**

A bachelor's degree is the minimum formal education required. However, many employers also require graduate school. For example, they may require a master's degree, and some require a Ph.D., M.D., or J.D. (law degree).

### EMPLOYERS & SUGGESTED STRATEGY:

*Please ask your Career Advisor (CDF) for identifying employers or additional resources for your occupation of choice.*

**Botany:** Botanical gardens and arboreta - Colleges and universities - Industries and laboratories involved in production of food, textiles, chemical, and forestry products - Medical and private research laboratories - Pharmaceutical industry - State and federal government: Departments of Agriculture, Interior, and Health

**Suggested Strategy:** Conduct undergraduate research with professors. Join related professional organizations. Take courses in organic chemistry, biochemistry, and physics. Obtain a Ph.D. for teaching and advanced positions in research and management. Complete a related internship with an organization in the area of your interest.

**Bioinformatics:** Biotechnology industry - Government research laboratories - Pharmaceutical companies - Universities/colleges

**Suggested Strategy:** Double major or minor in computer science. Develop in-depth programming and relational database skills. Learn molecular biology packages, web design, and programming skills. Complete an internship in your area of interest.

**Microbiology:** Agricultural experiment stations - Colleges and universities - Environmental and pollution control agencies - Food, chemical, pharmaceutical, and cosmetic companies - Government research laboratories and service agencies - Hospitals and public health facilities - Private research foundations

**Suggested Strategy:** Obtain a Ph.D. for teaching and advanced research and management positions. Develop additional competencies in chemistry, mathematics, and physics. Take courses related to your field of interest or consider an advanced degree to specialize. Find a related internship with an organization in the area of your interest. Complete an undergraduate research project with a professor. Develop strong skills using laboratory equipment and computers.

**Systematic Biology:** Botanical gardens and arboreta - Colleges, universities, and agricultural colleges - Federal agencies - Hospitals - Museums - Private research foundations - Public health laboratories - Zoos and aquariums

**Suggested Strategy:** Earn a Ph.D. for college and university teaching and advanced research and management positions. Get involved with undergraduate research with professors. Complete an internship with an organization in the area of your interest.

**Zoology:** Clinics and hospitals - Colleges and universities - Museums - Pharmaceutical, agricultural service industries - Research organizations - Veterinary hospitals - Wildlife preserves and parks - Zoos, aquariums, and other collections of animals

**Suggested Strategy:** Obtain experience working with animals and various related laboratory equipment. Develop a broad background in biology and other related subjects such as chemistry, physics, mathematics, and statistics. Complete a related internship with an organization in the area of your interest. A zoological background is good preparation for a career in veterinary science or medicine, but an advanced degree is also required to practice.

### STATE & NATIONAL WAGES:

	10 %	25 %	Median	75 %	90 %
<b>New Mexico</b>	\$ 30,800	\$ 37,300	\$ 47,600	\$ 58,600	\$ 71,000
<b>United States</b>	\$ 31,100	\$ 38,600	\$ 49,300	\$ 61,700	\$ 76,600

### INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:



<http://online.onetcenter.org>



<http://www.bls.gov/oco/>