

Biology

Which employers have hired Montana State University Billings Biology graduates and alumni?

Energy Laboratories	US Bureau of Land Management	Thermo Fisher Scientific
HDR	US Department of Agriculture	Billings Clinic
HydroSolutions	Idaho Biotechnologies	Intermountain Health
US Army Corps of Engineers	SK Geotechnical Corporation	Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

What are the average annual wages and potential lifetime earnings for professionals working in the Biology field?

Occupation	Annual Mean Wage in MT*	Potential Lifetime Earnings*
Wildlife Biologist	\$65,350 - \$72,790	\$70,600 x 39 yrs = \$2,753,400
Biological Laboratory Technician	\$40,570 - \$47,220	\$51,430 x 39 yrs = \$2,005,770
Environmental Specialist	\$78,670 - \$87,120	\$78,980 x 39 yrs = \$3,080,220
Forensic Science Technician	\$63,700 - \$75,470	\$64,940 x 39 yrs = \$2,532,660

* Based on the 2023 state mean and national median wage of occupation per the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Lifetime earnings are based on the national median wage.

What percentage of Biology graduates report having a job after graduating?

Out of the 27% of 2024 Biology graduates that we received graduate data on, **100% reported being employed* after graduation.**

* Employment includes employment in major, employment not in major, continuing education, and military service.

Employment opportunities with advanced degrees:

- Physician, Medical Doctor (MD) or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO)
- Veterinarian, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM)
- Medical Research Scientist, PhD in Biology
- Biology Professor, MS or PhD in Biology

Not sure if Biology is for you?

1. Take an introductory class in the program, such as Principles of Living Systems. Keep mental notes or a journal to track what you like and dislike!

2. Get a part-time job in the field. Check out CareerLink by scanning the QR Code for the latest job openings!



BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Overview of the Biological and Physical Science majors:

We are an interdisciplinary department in which biologists, chemists, physicists, and earth scientists all work together to design and administer the best possible academic programs for our students. That is part of our commitment to providing you with an excellent training within your major that is complemented with exposures to other science disciplines as well. Because of that, our graduates are experts within their major, but are also well-rounded thinkers who can approach and solve problems with broad knowledge and skills.

- Biology, B.A. or B.S.
- Biology Medical Laboratory Science, B.S.
- Broadfield Science, B.S.
- Broadfield Science Education, B.S.
- Chemistry, B.S.

What makes your programs unique?

- Personalized instruction in class and teaching labs
- Hands-on research opportunities in a variety of science disciplines
- Exposure to state-of-the-art scientific instrumentation
- Stipends for summer and academic year research
- Preparation for Medical School, Dental School, Veterinary School, Physician Assistant programs and Ph.D. graduate programs in science

What students like most about the Biological and Physical Science programs:

Some students value personal interactions with their instructors. They want to be known by name and be able to sit down with faculty members and learn from them in person. For other students, it is more important to learn from faculty who are actively engaged in research and have an up-to-date understanding of science. At MSU Billings, we offer the best of both worlds. Small class sizes allow us to focus on our students as individuals and make their learning experience more personal than at larger universities. The faculty at MSU Billings are excellent teachers who are also active researchers. Because of this, students are exposed to science on a first-hand basis.

Our students are highly successful at reaching their goals following graduation. Many pursue health-related professions where our placement success is close to 100%. Other students choose to further their education by attending graduate school. Our students are also highly successful at moving directly into science and teaching-related jobs immediately after graduation. Regardless of your goals, we can help you reach them.



Department Webpage:

<https://www.msubillings.edu/chps/sciences/index.htm>

