

Biomedical Sciences

Your Careers Adviser

Dave Kilmartin

T +353 1 402 3084

E dave.kilmartin@tudublin.ie

www.tudublin.ie/careers



Skills developed in college

You have developed a range of skills through your education, work experience and personal interests and achievements. Understanding what skills you have to offer and like to use can help you understand what you want in a career, as well as providing key information for job or further study applications.

In terms of securing a job, academic qualifications alone will not guarantee success. Evidence-based skills sections on your CV can demonstrate the broad range of qualities you have to offer employers. Here are some of the main skills you may have developed while in college:

- **Communication skills, both verbal and written**
Expressing ideas effectively and conveying information appropriately and accurately. Influencing others by expressing yourself in a group and in one to one situations. Showing a range of verbal and nonverbal signals to demonstrate that the information being received is understood. You have negotiated your way through complex communications on various projects you've participated in, from initial briefing, through to report writing and presenting to varied audiences.
 - **Teamwork / Working with Others**
Working effectively and confidently within a group to achieve a common goal or task. This means that you understand your role within the team, as well as listen and support the other team members. Teamwork skills are developed in group projects in college as well in sporting clubs and college societies
 - **Problem-solving ability**
Identifying, prioritising and solving problems, individually or in groups; possessing the ability to ask the right questions, sort out the many facets of a problem, and contribute ideas, as well as answers. Having an eye for detail as well as the ability to adopt a common sense approach to solving problems under pressure has been something you've learned during your work.
 - **Time-management skills / ability to meet deadlines**
Managing several tasks at once; being able to set priorities and to allocate time efficiently in order to meet deadlines. You have juggled course deadlines and assignments with part-time work or involvement in extra-curricular activities. This demonstrates that you are organised and can manage your time. Complex construction projects require effective organisation and time management if they are to be delivered to budget and on time.
 - **Planning and Organising**
Establishing a course of action for self and/or others to accomplish a specific goal. Allocating resources appropriately.
 - **Leadership skills**
Motivating and taking responsibility to lead other people, in order to achieve set goals and objectives.
 - **Initiative & self-management**
Identifying opportunities and being proactive in putting forward ideas and potential solutions.
Self-disciplined and self-motivated in the pursuit of studies and professional practice.
 - **Ability to make quick decisions / work under pressure (flexibility)**
Making decisions and taking action. Maintaining performance under pressure and / or opposition.
- You will also have developed a wide range of technical / specific course related skills which you should include in your CV – these will include specific lab methodologies and processes; use of equipment and experience with health and safety protocols

Types of employers/industry sectors

Some of the main types of employers / industry sectors in which Biomedical Sciences graduates work include:

- Health Careers - HSE
- Medical Research Council (MRC)
- Irish Blood Transfusion Service
- Health and Safety Authority
- Food Safety Authority
- academic departments at universities;
- forensic, charity or government-funded laboratories;
- veterinary services;
- private pathology laboratories.

The food and drink, biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries employ graduates in areas such as research and development, quality assurance and sales. Publishing companies and the specialist press may also employ biomedical sciences graduates as writers or editors.(taken from prospects uk)

There are also opportunities to work on healthcare projects worldwide with international non-governmental and voluntary organisations such as the:

- Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO)
- World Health Organisation (WHO)

For sector information see:

- www.gradireland.com
- www.careersportal.ie
- www.prospects.ac.uk
- www.targetjobs.co.uk

Career options with your course

Some of main occupations related to your degree include:

- Medical scientist
- Forensic scientist
- Healthcare scientist, clinical biochemistry
- Healthcare scientist, genomics
- Healthcare scientist, haematology
- Healthcare scientist, immunology
- Microbiologist
- Physician associate
- Research scientist (medical)
- Toxicologist

For occupational information see

- www.gradireland.com
- www.careersportal.ie
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Employers who have recruited in your area

Some of the companies who have recruited Biomedical Sciences graduates include:

- Beaumont Hospital
- Mater Hospital
- Tallaght Hospital
- Irish Blood Transfusion Service
- St Luke's Hospital
- National Maternity Hospital
- Rotunda
- Temple St Hospital
- Vincent's Hospital
- Pathology Medical Lab
- Blackrock Clinic
- Our Lady's Crumlin
- St James Hospital
- Cork University Hospital
- University Hospital Galway
- Waterford Regional Hospital
- University Hospital Limerick
- Charlemont Clinic

Voluntary Sector/Charities

www.activelink.ie

Voluntary Sector/Charity/NGO vacancies in voluntary sector

www.volunteeringireland.com

www.dochas.ie

Association of non-governmental development organisations

www.comhlamh.org

Volunteering opportunities

www.wheel.ie/directory

Directory of voluntary and community organisations

Job Hunting

It is important that you access both the advertised and hidden jobs market and use any and every means available to you to job hunt effectively.

Advertised Jobs

WEBSITES

- www.iicms.ie/careers
- www.jackiebrowmedical.ie
- www.healthcarejobs.ie
- www.hse.ie/eng/staff/Jobs/Job_Search/
- Recruitment Agencies/On-line recruitment sites, e.g. www.irishjobs.ie/agencies – complete list of agencies

Unadvertised Jobs

NETWORKING

- Job Shadow/Informational Interviewing/work experience
- Networking – who is in your network?
- Professional Bodies,
- Social networking sites (facebook, twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Blogs, discussion boards)
- Attend events,
- Businessandleadership.com (events)
- Get in touch with guest speakers
- Thesis / College projects/Placement/Site visits/guest speakers
- TU Dublin Societies
- First Destination Reports
- Join Alumni Association/Linked-in TU Dublin Alumni group

CONTACT HOSPITAL DEPARTMENTS DIRECTLY

- Send in CV into the Head of the Department that you are interested in working in. They may have not succeeded in filling a basic grade position / locum and may still be looking for someone. Make sure to get the name of this person in advance of sending in your CV, and tailor it to that lab.
- Get a foot in the door

TIPS FROM 5 OF THE MAIN IRISH HOSPITALS

- Vital to show a keen interest in the area throughout your college years. If you have worked in the area during your summers, it is important to promote this fact.
- If you can get extra experience in your holiday times – do.
- Show your interest through asking right and bright questions.
- Recommended to visit laboratories prior to going to interviews, to show that you have an understanding of the area
- Make sure you know about the discipline that you are applying for, and that you show you have a keen interest in this area.
- Know what tests are involved in the lab you are applying for
- Be able to describe your final year project and elaborate on how you structured the project and carried out your literature review and got up to date information.
- If given the option to come into the Laboratory prior to the interview – make sure to accept this offer and turn up. This helps to show your interest and also gives you a chance to chat informally prior to the interview.
- Expect to be asked how you got on in the lab during your training. Elaborate on what areas you particularly liked / disliked.
- May be asked around how good you think your course has prepared you for this job – and whether there are any alterations you would make to the course.
- Remember that your work placements are an informal interview. Perform well, have respect for your supervisor and be enthusiastic.

- When going for interview know your final year project, its aim and the outcome, also sell your work placements and what you've learnt
- Attend meetings or training specific to your chosen discipline
- Shadow or volunteer in a department (if possible).
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For more information on how to go about finding a job and job-hunting sites, [See www.tudublin.ie/careers](http://www.tudublin.ie/careers)

Interviews

For more information on how to perform in interviews, [See www.tudublin.ie/careers](http://www.tudublin.ie/careers)

CVs/Cover letters and applications

For information on how to put together a great CV/Cover Letter or Application, [See www.tudublin.ie/careers](http://www.tudublin.ie/careers)

Useful links (e.g. Company Databases, Professional Bodies, LinkedIn Groups)

This list contains links to some of the most useful websites for your course including professional bodies and associations, employer directories, information sources and LinkedIn groups.

General websites — useful links

- CORU - Regulating body for Health and Social Care professionals - www.coru.ie
- Academy of Clinical Science and Laboratory Medicine <https://www.acslm.ie>
- Institute of Biomedical Science - www.ibms.org
- Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute www.tcd.ie/biosciences/
- Academy of Medical Sciences - <https://acmedsci.ac.uk>
- Public Hospitals: www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/3/acutehospitals/hospitals/
- Private Hospitals: <http://privatehospitals.ie/members/>
- GPs: www.hse.ie/eng/services/maps/

Other Relevant links

- <http://www.getreskilled.com/> - comprehensive list of Pharma and Biotech companies; jobs; links to recruitment agencies; linkedin groups
- <http://www.getreskilled.com/definitive-irish-pharma-job-website-directory>
- <http://www.idaireland.com/business-in-ireland/company-listing/>
- <https://www.enterprise-ireland.com/en/Source-a-Product-or-Service-from-Ireland/Sector-and-Company-Directories/Pharmaceutical-Sector-Profile.pdf>
- <http://www.pharmachemicalireland.ie/Sectors/PCI/PCI.nsf/vPages/Home?OpenDocument>

Careers open to all disciplines (Including 'Paths Into...' Series)

Many graduate vacancies don't require specific degree subjects as possession of a degree is taken as evidence of intellectual ability. What is more important to the potential employer is the range of transferable skills and experience you can demonstrate.

Many graduate training programmes take final year students from a wide range of disciplines, register with the [Career Development Centre's Jobsence](#) for a full list of programmes. Here is a range of career areas that are potentially open to graduates of all disciplines. It's important to note that some of these options may require further study either on the job or beforehand.

If you are considering diversifying or changing career direction a postgraduate conversion course may be a viable option.

Some examples of career areas open to students of all disciplines:

- Teaching & Education
- Financial Services & Accounting
- Marketing, Advertising and PR
- Retail, Sales and Customer Service
- Banking, insurance and financial services

- Charities and voluntary sector
- Fund management / administration and investment banking
- Human resources, recruitment and training
- Management consulting
- Management, business and administration
- Media and publishing
- Public sector and civil service
- Social, community and youth

For further information see: www.gradireland.com/career-sectors

Further Study

Are you considering further study or training? See www.tudublin.ie/careers for comprehensive information

Here are some examples of postgraduate courses pursued by Biomedical Sciences Graduates :

- Masters Taught - Microbiology
- Masters Research – Diabetes
- PhD – Obesity Research

Conversion courses

Some graduates find that their primary degree did not meet their expectations, either vocationally, academically or personally, and seek change career direction. Conversion courses offer the opportunity to diversify into another chosen career area while meeting the necessary entry requirements for that discipline. However, it should be noted that this is not the case for all disciplines e.g. disciplines such as science and engineering will require an undergraduate degree in that discipline.

Self Employment

Ever thought of being your own boss? Think you have an innovative product or service idea that could have commercial value? Want to commercialise your research? See www.tudublin.ie/careers

Other Options (e.g. Time out, travel etc.)

Volunteering and working with communities with is a great way to gain valuable real world experience, to develop new skills, to meet new people, to do something worthwhile and to improve your employability. For more details, see www.tudublin.ie/careers.

Labour Market Information

For information on the latest labour market trends see www.tudublin.ie/careers.

Additional Information / Advice

For any query you might have, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.