

## What's Next?

# Pharmaceutical Biotechnology

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in  
Pharmaceutical Biotechnology

Many of the world's top biotechnology companies have a strong presence in Southern Ireland. In general, the industry is moving towards a more 'bio-based' approach to pharmaceutical manufacture. This course is very broad and is specifically designed to train students in all aspects of modern biotechnology. Graduates from this course are qualified to work in a number of areas within the biotechnology industry with many attaining employment immediately after graduating. It includes traditional processes like brewing and cheesemaking to modern developments such as genetic engineering which can lead to new drugs against cancer and other diseases.



### Transferable Skills

- Communication
- Foresight & initiative
- Judgement & decision making
- Presentation
- Organisational & planning skills
- Ability to work to deadlines
- Attention to detail
- Time management

## Core Skills



### Degree-specific Skills

- Knowledge of the theory & techniques of biotechnology in relation to bio-pharmaceutical sciences
- Communication: written & oral
- Research
- Critical thinking
- Report writing
- Complex problem solving
- Knowledge of the factors affecting human health & well being

## Career Options



Within the pharma industry there are a range of scientific and non-scientific jobs available, while in the biotech industry the majority of vacancies for graduates are in scientific research. Research & Development roles overall have the largest demand for graduates.

You may work in such areas as new product development, quality control, quality assurance, production, ingredients or testing.

You could look for work in:

- Pharmaceutical Companies
- Research Institutions
- Commercial Organisations – Distilleries, Food Processing & Chemical Manufacturers

Check out the jobs page and follow the Careers Service on social media for the heads-up on full-time and part-time jobs: <http://www.mycit.ie/careers>.

Typical roles include:

- QC Analyst/QA Technician
- Microbiologist
- Bio-assay Specialist
- Research & Development
- Bio Chemist
- Analytical Chemist
- Process Engineer

## Employers



### Employers include:

PFIZER Biotechnology, Janssen Biologics, Novartis, Stryker, Boston Scientific, Eli Lilly, GSK, Abbott, McKesson, Guinness, Kerry Foods, ABP Food Group.



## Where are CIT graduates working?

### Job Role

QC Analyst  
 Laboratory Technician  
 Analytical Lab Analyst  
 Quality Technician  
 Quality Assurance Specialist  
 Quality Operational Engineer  
 Microbiologist  
 Process Technical Specialist

### Company

Janssen Sciences  
 Teagasc  
 Merck Millipore  
 Boston Scientific  
 MSD  
 Wright Medical  
 BVP  
 MSD



## Starting Your Job Search

Job searching takes focus, effort and commitment. It's essential that you create a strong online presence. You need to have a LinkedIn profile and work at building your network. If you blog or have a website, be sure to include links on LinkedIn and on your CV. LinkedIn is about where you want to go, not just about what you are doing now. An ideal starting point is to look for Alumni (former graduates of your college/course). You should also look up companies/industries you want to target. Aim to find the name of the HR Manager and employees in roles you are aiming for yourself, take a look back at their career journey. Follow people who are where you want to go! Make connections! Don't wait for jobs to be advertised, actively look for roles that interest you.

Refer to [www.enterprise-ireland.com](http://www.enterprise-ireland.com) and [www.idaireland.com](http://www.idaireland.com) for further information on companies in Ireland that operate in this area.

Graduate programmes are a great career starting point as extra training is provided. A Level 8 degree is the minimum for entry to most programmes. Register with GradIreland:  
<https://gradireland.com/user>

**Some Recruitment Agencies in the Life Sciences area:**  
<http://www.claran.ie> (Cork Based)  
<https://www.fastnettalentgroup.com> (Cork based)  
<http://lifescience.ie> (Dublin based, Nationwide jobs)  
<http://www.sigmarrecruitment.com> (Dublin based, Nationwide jobs)

## Professional Groups & Associations



Membership of a professional association is a useful way to meet new people in your field and will look good on your CV. Many professional bodies have jobs boards and these roles may not be advertised elsewhere. Relevant professional bodies include:

- **BioConnect Ireland** is an informal, open and independent networking organisation for individuals in the biotechnology, life science and medical device sectors in Ireland, North and South. It was founded in 2001 to promote interaction and exchange between all of those working in this broad field. They have a discussion page on LinkedIn and can also be found on <https://www.enterprise-ireland.com/en/events/associated-events/bioconnect-ireland.html>
- **The Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland** — PSI — <http://www.thepsi.ie/>

