#### 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



#### **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

## 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/



## 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 and 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)



### Postgraduate Study

Gaining a postgraduate qualification brings with it many benefits.

For further information, go to the 'Further/Postgraduate Study' link on the Students page of our website: http://www.mycit.ie/careers. You can also use www.qualifax.ie

For information on Masters' programmes through English in universities across the EU: www. mastersportal.eu

For further details on biological sciences, see **www.cit**. **ie/biologicalsciences** 

This course is an excellent platform for further studies, both in terms of short add-on courses, and more structured postgraduate degrees such as Master of Science and PhD programmes.



### Want to go abroad?

For career opportunities in the UK see: www. targetjobs.co.uk; www.gradjobs.co.uk and www. graduate-jobs.com

Jobs across the EU can be seen on the EURES website and financial supports are available for relocating to another EU country, visit: https://ec.europa.eu/eures/eures-searchengine/page/main?lang=en#/search

If you wish to work in the USA, Canada or Australia, check out work visa requirements first. There are graduate work visas available to the USA, a great opportunity to gain global experience in your field.

Notes







Careers Service, 2nd Floor, Student Centre Cork Institute of Technology, Bishopstown, Cork

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