



# STEM Careers

## NASA Life Scientist

**Job Description:** Research how space environments affect living things, how to support life in space, and how life began and changed over time.

### What does a NASA Life Scientist do?

- Study immune changes during spaceflight and the effect of radiation and altered gravity on living systems.
- Research how living things respond to the space environment.
- Discover ways to make the environment suitable for astronauts who are in space for a long period of time.
- Write proposals to ask for funding for research.
- Develop experiments to be sent into space with astronauts for them to perform.

### Your Interests:

- Do you enjoy doing experiments?
- Are you interested in how living things function?
- Do you work well with a team?
- Do you enjoy investigating mysteries or problems?

### Outlook:

Average Salary - \$31.98 hourly, \$66,510 annual (information for Biologist)

### Education/Program of Study:

- Minimum Bachelor's Degree in Biology, Astronomy, Chemistry or related field.
- To do research, a Ph.D. is needed.

Sources:

[http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/people/cfs/generic/astrobiologist\\_102.pdf](http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/people/cfs/generic/astrobiologist_102.pdf)

<http://women.nasa.gov/sharmila-bhattacharya-2/>