



# STEM Careers

## Microbiologist

**Job Description:** Microbiologists study microorganisms (microbes) to solve a range of problems affecting the environment, food and agriculture, our health, and climate.

### What does a Microbiologist do?

- Develop new pharmaceutical products, vaccines, medicines and compounds such as antiseptics
- Provide laboratory services for health departments, for community environmental health programs, and for physicians needing information for diagnosis and treatment
- Collect samples from a variety of locations
- Write research papers, reports, and reviews
- Validate microbiological methods to meet client requirements, as appropriate
- Ensure data is recorded accurately in accordance with guidelines

### Your Interests:

- Are you interested in microscopic organisms?
- Do you enjoy working in a lab?
- Would you be interested in conducting research and discovering new information about microscopic organisms?

### Outlook:

Average Salary - \$40.58 hourly, \$84,400 annual  
Projected Job Growth - 5.0% growth by 2030.

### Education/Program of Study:

Entry level positions require at least a bachelor's degree with most research positions at colleges and universities requiring a Ph.D.

Possible degrees paths are microbiology, biology, and natural resources.

Sources:

<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/microbiologists.htm#tab-4>  
<https://www.glassdoor.com/Job-Descriptions/Microbiologist.htm>