



CAREER PATH

# Natural Resources Agriculture

CAREER CLUSTER

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

CAREER PATHWAY

Natural Resources Systems



## BIOLOGICAL TECHNICIAN

Assist biological and medical scientists in laboratories. Set up, operate, and maintain laboratory instruments and equipment, monitor experiments, make observations, and calculate and record results. May analyze organic substances, such as blood, food, and drugs.

### Knowledge and Skills Needed

In addition to courses required for high school graduation, essential skills and knowledge needed for a career as a biological technician are reinforced by taking rigorous and relevant courses, as well as participating in work-based experiences and student organization activities.

*(See the Sample Personal Plan of Study for suggested coursework, activities, and knowledge and skills to pursue in preparation of an occupation in this Career Cluster.)*

### Education Requirements

Occupation	Percent of Missouri employees aged 25 to 44 in the occupation whose highest level of educational attainment is:		
	High School or Less	Some College	Bachelor Degree or More
Biological technicians	21.8%	28.1%	50.0%
Life, physical & social science technicians	24.2%	35.8%	40.0%
Life, physical & social science	6.7%	14.3%	78.9%

Most Common Educational Level: Bachelor's degree

Note: Be sure to learn whether your occupation has a specific requirement for education or licensing. Apprenticeships are available for more than 240 occupations. Visit [www.oa.doleta.gov/bat.cfm](http://www.oa.doleta.gov/bat.cfm)

### National and State Wage Information

Location	Pay Period	2008		
		Entry*	Median	Experienced**
United States	Hourly	\$14.49	\$18.46	\$23.71
	Yearly	\$30,100	\$38,400	\$49,300
Missouri	Hourly	\$12.29	\$15.85	\$19.53
	Yearly	\$25,600	\$33,000	\$40,600

Based on (\*) lower 25% and (\*\*) upper 25% percentile of wages

### National and State Employment Trends

Biological Technicians	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings*
	2008	2018		
United States	79,500	93,500	+18%	4,190
Missouri	1,780	2,140	+20%	100

\*The estimate for Job Openings includes both turnover that results from people who leave the occupation (e.g. quit, retire, death) and new jobs that are created.

### Educational Opportunities

*Note: This list may not be all inclusive. For more information about Missouri schools and programs, visit [www.dhe.mo.gov](http://www.dhe.mo.gov)*

#### Saint Louis Community College - Florissant Valley

Saint Louis, MO  
(314) 513-4200  
[www.stlcc.edu](http://www.stlcc.edu)



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