



CAREER PATH

# Natural Resources Agriculture

CAREER CLUSTER

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

CAREER PATHWAY

Food Products and Processing Systems



## FOOD SCIENTIST / TECHNOLOGIST

Use chemistry, microbiology, engineering, and other sciences to study the principles underlying the processing and deterioration of foods; analyze food content to determine levels of vitamins, fat, sugar, and protein; discover new food sources; research ways to make processed foods safe, palatable, and healthful; and apply food science knowledge to determine best ways to process, package, preserve, store, and distribute food.

### Knowledge and Skills Needed

In addition to courses required for high school graduation, essential skills and knowledge needed for a career as a food scientist 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
Food scientists & technologists	0.0%	17.7%	82.0%
Life scientists	0.0%	8.6%	91.4%
Life, physical & social science	5.6%	12.7%	81.7%

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	2007		
		Entry*	Median	Experienced**
United States	Hourly	\$19.53	\$27.82	\$38.09
	Yearly	\$40,600	\$57,900	\$79,200
Missouri	Hourly	\$17.37	\$26.32	\$37.85
	Yearly	\$36,100	\$54,700	\$78,700

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

### National and State Employment Trends

Food Scientist	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings*
	2006	2016		
United States	11,800	13,000	+ 10%	480
Missouri	350	390	+ 12%	10

\*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)

#### Crowder College

Neosho, MO  
(417) 451-3223  
[www.crowder.edu](http://www.crowder.edu)

#### Hannibal Career and Technical Center

Hannibal, MO  
(573) 221-4430  
[www.hannibal.tec.mo.us](http://www.hannibal.tec.mo.us)

#### Lincoln University

Jefferson City, MO  
(573) 681-5000  
[www.lincolnu.edu](http://www.lincolnu.edu)

#### Missouri State University

Springfield, MO  
(417) 836-5000  
[www.missouristate.edu](http://www.missouristate.edu)

#### Missouri State University - West Plains

West Plains, MO  
(417) 255-7255  
[www.wp.missouristate.edu](http://www.wp.missouristate.edu)

#### North Central Missouri College

Trenton, MO  
(660) 359-3948  
[www.ncmissouri.edu](http://www.ncmissouri.edu)

#### Northwest Missouri State University

Maryville, MO  
(660) 562-1212  
[www.nwmissouri.edu](http://www.nwmissouri.edu)

(more-over)

**Southeast Missouri State University**  
Cape Girardeau, MO  
(573) 651-2000  
www.semo.edu

**Truman State University**  
Kirksville, MO  
(660) 785-4000  
www.truman.edu

**University of Central Missouri**  
Warrensburg, MO  
(660) 543-4111  
www.ucmo.edu

**University of Missouri - Columbia**  
Columbia, MO  
(573) 882-2121  
www.missouri.edu

**Waynesville Technical Academy**  
Waynesville, MO  
(573) 774-6106  
waynesville.k12.mo.us/Schools/WTA



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