Career Outlook: Biology

Biology Programs Available at Bemidji State University:

**Majors:** Biology (B.S., B.A.), Wildlife Biology (B.S.), Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology, (B.S.), Science Education (B.S.) – Life Science Specialty (Teacher Licensure), Aquatic Biology (B.S.) – see separate Career Outlook

**Minors:** Biology, Wetlands Ecology

**Emphases:** Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular, Medical Sciences

**Related Program:** Medical Laboratory Science (B.S.) – see separate Career Outlook

**Department Website:** [http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/departments/biology](http://www.bemidjistate.edu/academics/departments/biology)

**Employment Areas and Projected Demand:**

The "Occupational Outlook Handbook" (OOH) reports that biological technicians held about 85,000 jobs in 2018. About 29% of all biological technicians were employed in colleges, universities, and professional schools, state and private; and 29% were employed by research and development in the physical, engineering, and life sciences. 11% of biology technicians worked for the federal government, excluding postal service; 6% worked in the pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturing and the healthcare field; and another 10% worked in hospitals, state, local, and private. OOH reports the nationwide demand for biological technicians is expected to grow 7% (faster than average) through 2028. People established in their career generally earn between $29,330 to $71,440 per year, with a median salary of $44,500 per year in 2018. A bachelor’s degree is adequate for many non-research positions in biology. However, a master’s degree is often required for applied research and jobs in management and a Ph.D. for college teaching.

**Placement Information for Biology Graduates:**

Of the 12 Bemidji State University 2017-2018 Biology graduates holding a B.A., 50% reported related employment. Of the 33 Bemidji State University 2017-2018 Biology graduates holding a B.S., 70% reported obtaining related employment within one year of graduation, with 16 students continuing their education. 76.5% of the 27 Wildlife Biology B.S. graduates and 83.3% of the Science teachers in 2017-2018 reported related employment within one year of graduation. This does not include students who were not seeking employment, continuing their education, unavailable, or had unknown status.

**Partial List of Employers Who Have Reported Hiring BSU Biology Graduates:**

(This list only includes employment within one year of graduation.)

- U.S. Forest Service
- Becker SWCD
- AmeriCorps/Conservation Corps MN & IA
- Lowry Nature Center
- Reeds Sporting Goods
- Nobles County SWCD
- USGS
- State of ND
- CEMMC
- Grand Portage
- Prairie Restorations, Inc.
- Bio-Technne
- PhysAssist Scribes, Inc.
- ScribeAmerica
- The Tru Shrimp Company
- Forestry Technician
- Shoreland Restoration Tech Crew
- Naturalist
- Sales Associate
- Farmbill Technician
- Breeding Bird Survey Technician
- Seasonal Tech.
- Karner Blue Butterfly Tech.
- Conservation Technician
- Solar Management Specialist
- Manufacturing Technician
- Chief Scribe (Emergency Medicine)
- Lab Technician
- Gladstone, MI
- Detroit Lakes, MN
- Fergus Falls, MN
- Victoria, MN
- Walker, MN
- Worthington, MN
- Hinsdale, MT
- Lake Ilo, ND
- Fort McCoy, WI
- Grand Portage, MN
- Watertown, MN
- Minneapolis, MN
- Bemidji, MN
- New Brighton, MN
- Balatin, MN

**Colleges and Universities Where BSU Biology Graduates Have Gone to Continue Their Education:**

- Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN
- Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA
- Midwestern University, Downers Grove, IL
- St. Catherine University, St. Paul MN
- St. Jude School of Biomedical Sciences, Memphis, TN
- University of Minnesota Duluth, Duluth, MN
- University of Minnesota Medical School, Duluth, MN
- University of Minnesota Twin Cities, Minneapolis, MN
- University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND
- University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SA

*Degrees alone do not get students jobs. Internships, summer jobs, volunteer work, part-time jobs, work-study positions, and active participation in student organizations on campus are all ways to become more competitive in a tight job market.

**Bibliography:**

Annual Graduate Follow-Up Study 2017-2018, Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2020)

Bemidji State University Undergraduate Catalog 2019-2020, Bemidji State University, Bemidji, MN (2020)


For more information, contact Career Services; Decker Hall/218-755-2038/career@bemidjistate.edu

For more job listings please visit: [http://www.bemidjistate.edu/students/services/career/job_search/jobs/](http://www.bemidjistate.edu/students/services/career/job_search/jobs/)

Bemidji State University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity educator and employer. This document is available in alternate formats to individuals by: 800.475.2001 | 218.755.3683 | accessibilityservices@bemidjistate.edu