



INTERNATIONAL EDUCATED BIOTECHNOLOGIST PURSUING A RELATED CAREER IN BC

OVERVIEW

In BC there are both biotechnologists and biotechnology technicians.

Entry-level biotechnologists can work as research technicians. They set up instruments and laboratory equipment used to conduct and monitor experiments such as centrifuges, flasks and spectrophotometers. They also record data and may prepare reports for a leading research scientist.

Senior biotechnologists design research studies, analyze data and develop procedures.

Biotechnologists provide technical support and services to scientists, engineers and other professionals working in the fields such as agriculture, resource management, environmental protection, plant and animal biology, microbiology, cell and molecular biology and health sciences.

Certification with Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC (ASTTBC) and College of Applied Biologists (CAB) is available to both career options.

Biotechnologists may work independently; be employed in laboratory and field settings by government, manufacturers of food products, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, biotechnology companies, health, research and educational institutions, environment consulting companies, resource and utilities companies.

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS

A master's or doctoral degree in biology or related discipline is usually required for employment as a biotechnology research scientist as compared to a technical diploma as the minimum education requirement to work as a biological technician/technologist.

Although it is not necessary to become certified in order to work as a biological technician or technologist, some practitioners choose to apply for Professional Biologist status or become certified technicians or technologists.



CERTIFICATION WITH ASTTBC

Professional certification is available for through the Applied Science Technologists and technicians of BC (ASTTBC).

Completion of a diploma of technology (or its equivalent) plus two years of relevant work experience is required for the Applied Science Technologist (AScT) designation.

Completion of a certificate of technology (or its equivalent) plus two years of relevant work experience is required for the Certified Technician designation (CTech)

THE COLLEGE OF APPLIED BIOLOGY (CAP-BC)

The College of Applied Biology regulates members of the College in the public interest. The *College of Applied Biology Act (2002)*, gave the right to self-governance to applied biology professionals. The college sets standards for entrance into the profession and for the conduct of members and their practice. Membership confers title and the status that the title affords. It is also an assurance of accountability to peers and the public for their actions. In addition to all other credentialing requirements for membership, applicants are required to complete the College's online course in ethics and stewardship. Registered Professional Biologist (RPBIO) is the highest membership qualification level. Information for Internationally Educated biologists on becoming a member can be found at <https://www.cab-bc.org/internationally-educated-applicants>.

Members of the College of Applied Biology are professionals who meet high standards for entry into the College and the right to the designation, RPBio, Registered Professional Biologist, RBTech, Registered Biology Technologist, RBTech or ABT, Applied Biology Technician. The College of Applied Biologists has several classifications of membership [CAB Classifications of membership](#)

College members who are Professional Biologists (RPBios) are involved in many areas of practice ranging from environmental assessments, aquaculture, wildlife and fisheries management, riparian area assessments, contaminated site assessments and the development of conservation plans in urban and rural environments.

CAP-BC also provides a job board of employment opportunities for registered members, publications, and advises on practice to assist members in meeting their obligations of membership.



RESOURCES

Association of Professional Biology (APB) - <https://professionalbiology.com/>

Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC (ASTTBC) – www.asttbc.com

BioTalent Canada – www.biotalent.ca

Canadian Council of Technicians and Technologists (CCTT) – www.cctt.ca

Canadian Medical and Biological Engineering Society (CMBES) – www.cmbes.ca

College of Applied Biologists - <https://www.cab-bc.org/>

College of Applied Biologists membership categories - <https://www.cab-bc.org/membership-categories>

Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Pacific Region – www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

LifeSciences British Columbia – www.lifescience.ca

WorkBC - <https://www.workbc.ca/careers/2221#career-paths-and-resources>

JOB BOARDS

College of Applied Biology of British Columbia, employment postings – www.cab-bc.org/job-postings

WorkBC BioTech jobs - <https://www.workbc.ca/careers/2221>

© 2018-2021 British Columbia's Prior Learning Action Network

This document is protected by applicable Canadian copyright laws and regulations. Except as otherwise provided for under Canadian copyright law, this document and its content may not be reproduced, published, distributed, or otherwise stored, transmitted or converted, in any form or by any means, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.