

Getting a Degree/Certificate in...

APPLIED BIOTECHNOLOGY

Applied Biotechnology is the science of using and modifying biological materials to develop products and organisms for specific uses. Biotechnicians are employed as laboratory aides, technicians, and assistants in biotechnology and pharmaceutical company research and development departments. Employment opportunities are also available as manufacturing associates in biotechnology and life science related production facilities.

What type of career can I have with this major?

Since this major is so comprehensive, you will have a variety of excellent employment opportunities.

- Biomedical Equipment Technician
- Biomedical Instrumentation Technician
- Clinical Laboratory Technician
- Forensic Technician
- Laboratory Aide
- Laboratory Technician
- Medical Appliance Technician
- Manufacturing Representative
- Medical Technologist
- Ophthalmic Laboratory Technician
- Pharmaceutical Technician
- Pharmacy Aide
- Product Promoter
- Quality Control Inspector
- Radiological Technician
- Research Manager

Where can I work?

This profession provides you with a choice of various work environments including government agencies, non-profit organizations, for-profit agencies, public and private companies, and firms.

- Biology Firms
- Biotechnology Companies
- Biotechnology Production Facilities
- Biotechnology Sales
- Clinics
- Federal Government Agencies
- Hospitals
- Laboratories
- Manufacturing Firms
- Medical Industry
- Microbiology Firms
- Pharmaceutical Companies
- Product Development Firms
- Research Firms
- State and Local Government Agencies

What type of professional organizations and resources are available in this industry?

There are many professional organizations that offer resources, articles, job opportunities, training and conference information. We suggest you visit each organization's website to gather more information and contacts in your field.

- American College of Clinical Engineering
- American Medical Association
- American Society for Healthcare Engineering
- Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation
- BioCommunications Association
- Biomedical Engineering Society
- Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society

What type of Applied Biotechnology program does San Diego Mesa College offer?

The Applied Biotechnology program at San Diego Mesa College prepares students for entry-level laboratory positions that involve conducting basic experiments, collecting data, keeping laboratory records, and product manufacturing.

- Certificate of Performance: Applied Biotechnology

See college catalog for program descriptions, course titles, and areas of emphasis.

APPLIED BIOTECHNOLOGY

Associates Degrees/Certificates

Getting Started

- Step 1:** [Application](#) - Start by completing the online application for admission
- Step 2:** [Orientation](#) - Complete the online New Student Orientation (Flash player required)
- Step 3:** [Assessment](#) - Visit the Assessment office to learn about English and math testing
- Step 4:** [Advisement](#) - Complete the online First Semester Planning Workshop
- Step 5:** [Registration](#) - Register for classes

While You're Taking Classes

- | | | |
|--|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Update your resume and craft a cover letter | Attend job fairs | Conduct industry research |
| Look into volunteer/internship opportunities | Perform job searches | Think about transfer options |
- See the Transfer or Career Center for assistance*

Transfer Options

Getting Started

- Join a professional biotechnology association as a student member
- Decide if you will major in biotechnology for transfer
- Map out where you want to transfer for your biotechnology Bachelor's degree

Education Planning

Fall semester 1st year (1-15 units):

- 1) Attend transfer workshops
- 2) Review articulation agreements
- 3) Map general education (GE) requirements
- 4) Identify 4-year institutions to apply
- 5) Attend a Transfer Fair
- 6) Meet with a counselor

Spring semester 1st year (16-30 units):

- 1) Continue to attend transfer workshops
- 2) Check-in with a counselor to make sure your educational plan is on track
- 3) Seeking tutoring assistance in the academic skills center to keep your grades competitive

Fall semester 2nd year (31-45 units):

- 1) Submit admissions applications to 4-year institutions: Fall for CSU/UC; Early spring for private and out-of-state institutions
- 2) Identify deadlines and due dates for admissions transcripts and other documents

Spring semester 2nd year (46-60 units):

- 1) Identify deadlines and due dates for admissions transcripts and other documents
- 2) Submit your FAFSA between January 1st-March 1st.
- 3) Turn in your deposit and registration forms to the institution you decide to attend.
- 4) Attend the transfer orientation event(s) at your new campus
- 5) Complete academic coursework and transfer!

While You're Taking Classes

- Update your resume
- Prepare a cover letter
- Complete an internship in biotechnology
- Build your network
- Maintain a strong GPA
- Hold a leadership position in a biotechnology club/society
- Find a mentor
- Conduct informational interviews with individuals in your desired position(s)
- Visit your Career Center as much as possible!