

Bachelor of Science

Microbiology



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Microscopic organisms, including bacteria, yeast, mould and viruses, are the most abundant forms of life on earth. These organisms play vital roles in our ecosystems as well as within the human body. In the Microbiology program, you will come to learn about the complex interaction of these organisms such that some microorganisms cause disease while others produce antibiotics that remedy disease. At Guelph, an in-depth understanding of the role of microbiology in industrial processes, the production of food, environmental issues and in biological and medical research, provides students with a complete education and an option to specialize in an area of emphasis.

WHY CO-OP?

As a co-op student, you will gain relevant work experience, build professional networks, and develop essential interpersonal skills needed to succeed in the workplace, all while getting paid and earning your university degree. Guelph's co-op program is unique due to the exceptional level of support provided, including an online preparatory course, a personal connection with Co-op Co-ordinator to assist you during the employment process, and access to senior student mentors.

COURSE SEQUENCING

In the Microbiology Co-op program, you will participate in three or four co-op work terms in addition to eight academic semesters throughout your five years at the University of Guelph. This sequencing is viewable below:

YEAR	FALL	WINTER	SUMMER
ONE	Academic	Academic	Off
TWO	Academic	Academic	Work
THREE	Academic	Academic	Work
FOUR	Work	Work	Off
FIVE	Academic	Academic	



Microbiology

SAMPLE JOBS

There is a diverse selection of jobs made available to Microbiology Co-op students, in both the government and private sectors within the food, biomedical, environmental, and various other industries. You may conduct research, work in public health and may work in a laboratory, a hospital, and/or in an office setting. Below are some examples of past positions held by Microbiology co-op students.

Associate Analyst

In this role, you will assist with the testing of in-process and finished products by conducting sample analyses, maintaining up-to-date records of all work, carrying out special projects related to manufacturing, and maintaining the laboratory equipment.

Quality Assurance Technician

In this role, you will perform tasks to ensure that technical activities and production are in compliance with Organizational Quality Assurance Specifications and HACCP/Food Safety Standards. Some of these tasks include performing quality inspections, conducting specific testing, and inspecting work in process.

Co-op Student: Vaccines

While working in the Vaccine Preventable Bacterial Diseases Department, you will be involved in a laboratory investigation of phenotypic, genetic and immunochemical characterization of bacterial isolates. As part of this dynamic team, you will be required to assist in the testing and documentation of all lab tests.

Additional Sample Jobs: Production Support Analyst, Quality Control Assistant, Molecular Biology Researcher, Food Safety Inspector, and more.

SAMPLE EMPLOYERS*

- Public Health Agency of Canada
- Septodont
- Saputo Dairy Products
- Pioneer Hi-Bred

*This shows a sample of recent co-op employers, and employers will vary depending on employer recruitment needs. During a job search, students are encouraged to be actively engaged and are also supported in establishing and maintaining their own personal contacts.

SALARY INFORMATION Average Weekly Salary Range: \$525 - \$700*

*Salary ranges are shown as rates before deductions. Statistics are based on jobs held by co-op students in 2017/2018. These ranges may fluctuate on an annual basis in response to economic conditions.

ABILITIES & KNOWLEDGE ACQUIRED

- Strong knowledge of various areas of Microbiology including Industrial and Food, Environmental, Molecular and Pathogenic
- Excellent communication skills developed through oral presentations and report writing
- Ability to work well alongside a team
- Well-developed analytical expertise from the completion of extensive research projects

