Skills Developed In College

You have developed a range of skills through your education, work experience and personal interests and achievements. Understanding what skills you have to offer and like to use can help you understand what you want in a career, as well as providing key information for job or further study applications.

In terms of securing a job, academic qualifications alone will not guarantee success. Evidence – based skills sections on your CV can demonstrate the broad range of qualities you have to offer employers. Here are some of the main skills you may have developed while in college:

- **Communication skills, both verbal and written**
  Expressing ideas effectively and conveying information appropriately and accurately. Influencing others by expressing self effectively in a group and in one to one situations. Showing a range of verbal and nonverbal signals that the information being received is understood.

- **Teamwork / Working with Others**
  Working effectively and confidently within a group to achieve a common goal or task. Including understanding your role within the team, and listening and supporting other team members.

- **Problem-solving ability**
  Identifying, prioritising and solving problems, individually or in groups; possessing the ability to ask the right questions, sort out the many facets of a problem, and contribute ideas as well as answers regarding the problem.

- **Time-management skills / ability to meet deadlines**
  Managing several tasks at once; being able to set priorities and to allocate time efficiently in order to meet deadlines.

- **Planning and Organising**
  Establishing a course of action for self and/or others to accomplish a specific goal. Planning proper assignments of personnel and appropriate allocation of resources.

- **Leadership skills**
  Motivating and taking responsibility to lead other people, in order to achieve set goals and objectives.

- **Initiative & self-management**
  Identifying opportunities and being proactive in putting forward ideas and potential solutions. Self-disciplined and self-motivated, in the pursuit of studies and professional practice.
• Ability to make quick decisions / work under pressure
  Making decisions and taking action. Maintaining performance under pressure and / or opposition.

You may also have developed a wide range of technical / specific course related skills

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<th>Types of Employers / Industry Sectors</th>
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<td>Some of the main types of employers / industry sectors in which Biomedical Science graduates work in a range of roles include:</td>
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Common employers of biomedical sciences graduates include the:
- Health Careers - HSE
- Medical Research Council (MRC)
- Irish Blood Transfusion Service
- Health and Safety Authority
- Food Safety Authority
- academic departments at universities;
- forensic, charity or government-funded laboratories;
- veterinary services;
- private pathology laboratories.

The food and drink, biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries employ graduates in areas such as research and development, quality assurance and sales. Publishing companies and the specialist press may also employ biomedical sciences graduates as writers or editors.(taken from prospects uk)

There are also opportunities to work on healthcare projects worldwide with international non-governmental and voluntary organisations such as the:
- Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO)
- World Health Organisation (WHO)

For sector information see GradIreland, Careers Portal, Prospects (UK) & Target Jobs (UK).

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<th>Career Options With Your Course</th>
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<td>Some of main occupations secured by Biomedical Science graduates include:</td>
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Jobs related to your degree include:
- Medical scientist
- Forensic scientist
- Healthcare scientist, clinical biochemistry
- Healthcare scientist, genomics
- Healthcare scientist, haematology
- Healthcare scientist, immunology
- Microbiologist
- Physician associate
- Research scientist (medical)
- Toxicologist

For more occupational information see GradIreland, Careers Portal, Prospects (UK) Target Jobs (UK)
### Employers Who Have Recruited in Your Area

Some of the organisations who have recruited Biomedical Science graduates include:

- Beaumont Hospital
- Mater Hospital
- Tallaght Hospital
- Irish Blood Transfusion Service
- St Luke’s Hospital
- National Maternity Hospital
- Rotunda
- Temple St Hospital
- Vincent’s Hospital
- Pathology Medical Lab
- Blackrock Clinic
- Our Lady’s Crumlin
- St James Hospital
- Cork University Hospital
- University Hospital Galway
- Waterford Regional Hospital
- University Hospital Limerick
- Charlemont Clinic

### Further Study

**Masters Taught - Microbiology**

**Masters Research – Diabetes**

**PhD – Obesity Research**

### Job Hunting

It is important that you access both the advertised and hidden jobs market and use any and every means available to you to job hunt effectively.

**Advertised Jobs**

**WEBSITES**

- www.iicms.ie/careers
- www.jackiebrownmedical.ie
- www.healthcarejobs.ie
- www.hse.ie/eng/staff/Jobs/Job_Search/

Recruitment Agencies/On-line recruitment sites, e.g. www.irishjobs.ie/agencies – complete list of agencies

**Unadvertised Jobs**

**NETWORKING**

- Job Shadow/Informational Interviewing/work experience
- Use help from anyone in you Network – friends, family, neighbours, colleagues, friends from clubs & societies...
- Get in touch with your work clinical placement supervisor
- Get in touch with past guest speakers
• Utilise First Destination Reports – shows where past graduates have secured work
• Professional Bodies
• Join Alumni Association/Linked-in DIT Alumni group
• Find a mentor/keep a job hunting record
• Keep in touch with past lecturers – often hear of jobs through the grape-vine

CONTACT HOSPITAL DEPARTMENTS DIRECTLY
• Send in CV into the Head of the Department that you are interested in working in. They may have not succeeded in filling a basic grade position / locum and may still be looking for someone. Make sure to get the name of this person in advance of sending in your CV, and tailor it to that lab.
• Get a foot in the door

TIPS FROM 5 OF THE MAIN IRISH HOSPITALS
• Vital to show a keen interest in the area throughout your college years. If you have worked in the area during your summers, it is important to promote this fact.
• If you can get extra experience in your holiday times – do.
• Show your interest through asking right and bright questions.
• Recommended to visit laboratories prior to going to interviews, to show that you have an understanding of the area
• Make sure you know about the discipline that you are applying for, and that you show you have a keen interest in this area.
• Know what tests are involved in the lab you are applying for
• Be able to describe your final year project and elaborate on how you structured the project and carried out your literature review and got up to date information.
• If given the option to come into the Laboratory prior to the interview – make sure to accept this offer and turn up. This helps to show your interest and also gives you a chance to chat informally prior to the interview.
• Expect to be asked how you got on in the lab during your training. Elaborate on what areas you particularly liked / disliked.
• May be asked around how good you think your course has prepared you for this job – and whether there are any alterations you would make to the course.
• Remember that your work placements are an informal interview. Perform well, have respect for your supervisor and be enthusiastic.
• When going for interview know your final year project, its aim and the outcome, also sell your work placements and what you’ve learnt
• Attend meetings or training specific to your chosen discipline
• Shadow or volunteer in a department (if possible).

For more information on how to go about finding a job and job-hunting sites, click here

Interviews
For more information on how to perform in interviews, click here

CVs/Cover Letters & Applications
For information on how to put together a great CV/Cover Letter or Application, click here
Useful Links (e.g. Company Databases, Professional Bodies, LinkedIn Groups)

This list contains links to some of the most useful websites for your course including professional bodies and associations, employer directories, information sources and LinkedIn groups.

General Websites

**CORU** - Regulating body for Health and Social Care professionals - [www.coru.ie](http://www.coru.ie)

Academy of Clinical Science and Laboratory Medicine [https://www.acslm.ie](https://www.acslm.ie)

Institute of Biomedical Science - [www.ibms.org](http://www.ibms.org)

Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute [www.tcd.ie/biosciences/](http://www.tcd.ie/biosciences/)

Academy of Medical Sciences - [https://acmedsci.ac.uk](https://acmedsci.ac.uk)

Public Hospitals: [www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/3/acutehospitals/hospitals/](http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/3/acutehospitals/hospitals/)

Private Hospitals: [http://privatehospitals.ie/members/](http://privatehospitals.ie/members/)

GPs: [www.hse.ie/eng/services/maps/](http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/maps/)

Other Relevant links

[http://www.getreskilled.com/](http://www.getreskilled.com/) - comprehensive list of Pharma and Biotech companies; jobs; links to recruitment agencies; linkedin groups


Careers Open To All Disciplines (including ‘Paths into……’ series)

Many graduate vacancies don't require specific degree subjects as possession of a degree is taken as evidence of intellectual ability. What is more important to the potential employer is the range of transferable skills and experience you can demonstrate.

Many graduate training programmes take final year students from a wide range of disciplines – register with the Career Development Centre’s Jobsence for a full list of programmes

Here is a range of career areas that are potentially open to graduates of all disciplines. It’s important to note that some of these options may require further study either on the job or beforehand. If you are considering diversifying or changing career direction a postgraduate conversion course may be a viable option.

Some examples of career areas open to students of all disciplines:

- Teaching & Education
- Financial Services & Accounting
- Marketing, Advertising and PR
- Retail, Sales and Customer Service
- Banking, insurance and financial services
- Charities and voluntary sector
- Fund management / administration and investment banking
- Human resources, recruitment and training
- Management consulting
- Management, business and administration
- Media and publishing
Further Study (including Postgraduate Conversion Courses)

Are you considering further study or training? Click here for comprehensive information.

Conversion courses

Some graduates find that their primary degree did not meet their expectations, either vocationally, academically or personally, and seek change career direction. Conversion courses offer the opportunity to diversify into another chosen career area while meeting the necessary entry requirements for that discipline. However, it should be noted that this is not the case for all disciplines e.g. disciplines such as science and engineering will require an undergraduate degree in that discipline.

As with all choices good research and planning are very important.

Self-Employment

Ever thought of being your own boss? Think you have an innovative product or service idea that could have commercial value? Want to commercialise your research? Click here for more information.

Other Options (e.g. Time out, travel etc.)

Volunteering and working with communities with is a great way to gain valuable real world experience, to develop new skills, to meet new people, to do something worthwhile and to improve your employability. For more details, see here.

Labour Market Information

For information on the latest labour market trends see here.

Additional Information / Advice

For any query you might have, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

Disclaimer: DIT Career Development Centre offers advice in good faith on the basis of the best information available. The Centre accepts no responsibility for decisions made by individuals based on such advice.