

Students have the ability to customize their degree program by choosing either the Biochemistry Option or the Molecular and Cell Biology Option. Undergraduate research opportunities in both options include the genetics/biochemistry of bacteria, the genetic control of metabolism in *Drosophila*, and the use of cell culture systems to study development and cancer.

Biochemistry Option

This option is tailored for students who are interested in the structures, properties, and functions of macromolecules, and in the quantitative and analytical techniques used to characterize these macromolecules. Graduates with this option will be well prepared for careers in the pharmaceutical industry and biotechnology and health-related industries, including government, academic, and private laboratories. Students will also be prepared for graduate and professional school.

Molecular and Cell Biology Option

This option is for students whose interests relate to the growth, reproduction, and differentiation of cells and to signaling processes that occur in multicellular systems that activate and modulate these processes. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for advanced study leading to careers in research, medicine, and education, or to secure employment in biotechnology and health-related industries, including government, academic, and private laboratory.

Dr. Maureen Dunbar

Program Coordinator

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Admission Process

Applying for degree admission to Penn State Berks is simple. Applications are available on the web at berks.psu.edu. Penn State reviews applications throughout the year. Students can expect a decision within four to six weeks after completing the process. Contact Berks Admissions Office with your questions at 610-396-6060.

Transfer Students

Penn State Berks welcomes students who began their education at other institutions. Prospective transfer students are invited to use the online course evaluation guide at admissions.psu.edu/myadmissions/tas as a preliminary tool to learn how credits earned at another institution can be transferred to Penn State. Contact the Berks Admissions Office with your transfer questions at 610-396-6060.

Financial Aid

Eligibility for all financial aid is determined by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form available on the web at fafsa.ed.gov. Contact the financial aid coordinator at Berks or check the web at psu.edu/studentaid for a complete description of the types of available student aid and the application process at 610-396-6070.

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For more information, please visit

BERKS.PSU.EDU

The B.S. in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology applies the basic principles of chemistry and physics to the study of living cells and their components to explain biology at molecular, genetic, and cellular levels. Students will develop a strong foundation in quantitative and analytical biological sciences, including molecular biology, biochemistry, enzymology, metabolism, cell biology, and molecular genetics. Penn State Berks is the only campus outside University Park to offer the B.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

Gain Marketable Experience in College

Students have access to several career development opportunities, including undergraduate research with science faculty members, cooperative education experiences through Penn State's Eberly College of Science, and an opportunity to complete an internship.

Many positions in the healthcare field rely on biochemistry and molecular biology. The Biochemistry & Molecular Biology degree gives students great preparation for the widest variety of career paths.

Continuing Education

Students in the Biochemistry & Molecular Biology degree program are well prepared for graduate and professional school. The degree program benefits students interested in medical school because the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) began including biochemistry in 2015.

Academic Minors

Enhance your degree with one of the college's academic minors; the following are recommended for Biochemistry & Molecular Biology majors.

- Business
- Communication Arts & Sciences
- Entrepreneurship & Innovation
- Global Studies
- Information Sciences & Technology
- Natural Science
- Professional Writing
- Spanish



Job Titles and Salaries

The following is a list of job titles and salaries, which was compiled from the Bureau of Labor and Statistics *Occupational Outlook Handbook*. This is only a partial list to provide you examples of the kinds of jobs available to graduates with a B.S. in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology. Some positions require additional experience.

Title	2012 Median Pay
Biochemistry Technician	\$39,750
Biomedical Engineer	\$86,960
Genetic Counselor	\$56,800
Microbiologist	\$66,260

