



Life Sciences

Working in the innovative life sciences sector provides opportunities for highly skilled professionals to work nationally and internationally in a wide range of occupations. Jobs include those in research and development - translating ideas into new products - professional occupations like accountants and business managers, and production roles like laboratory technicians and engineers.

What is happening?

- Although not a large sector locally, life sciences is of strategic importance to Kent and Medway with around 100, predominantly medium to large sized, firms based in the county that together account for around 2,500 jobs.
- The top industries in terms of employment are biotechnology research and development, which is highly concentrated in Kent and Medway, pharmaceuticals manufacturing, and the manufacture of medical, dental instruments and supplies.
- Local jobs in the sector have declined in recent years following the relocation of pharmaceutical firm, Pfizer, out of the county.

active learning

chemistry
engineering and technology

biology
critical thinking

Skills and qualities

USEFUL WEBSITES

- sciencecareerpathways.com
- sciencecouncil.org
- futuremorph.org

- Employment is expected to decline overall by 12% by 2020, although there will be a continuing need to replace biological scientists, biochemists, laboratory technicians, and research and development managers. Together these roles comprise a fifth (19%) of local jobs in the sector.
- The workforce tends to be highly skilled and professionally qualified and is typically educated to degree level.



Top 10 businesses locally in the Life Sciences sector

- May and Baker Ltd
- Colorcon Ltd
- Argenta Discovery 2009 Ltd
- Graseby Medical Ltd
- Biofocus DPI Ltd
- Sekisui Diagnostics UK Ltd
- Charles River UK Ltd
- Smiths Medical
- Church & Dwight UK Ltd
- Forest Laboratories UK

What you could earn?

Biological Scientist/Biochemist	£18 p/h	Medical/Dental Technician	£12 p/h
Sales/Account/Business Development Manager	£23 p/h	Chemical Scientist	£14 p/h
Research and Development Manager	£25 p/h		