

# Looking for placements in Life Sciences

For interesting information, ideas and weblinks see: <https://www.ratemyplacement.co.uk/science-and-research>

## Key national life science related 1-year work placement options

Company	Web info	Placement areas
Pfizer	<a href="https://www.pfizer.co.uk/undergraduate-placements">https://www.pfizer.co.uk/undergraduate-placements</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research &amp; Development               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Synthetic Chemistry</li> <li>○ Analytical Research and Development</li> <li>○ Pharmaceutical Sciences</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Commercial               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Finance &amp; Procurement</li> <li>○ Marketing</li> <li>○ Human Resources</li> <li>○ Worldwide Safety and Regulatory</li> <li>○ Business Technology</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Merck Sharp & Dohme	<a href="https://www.msd-uk.com/careers/students-and-grads.xhtml">https://www.msd-uk.com/careers/students-and-grads.xhtml</a>	Very wide range including: clinical research, marketing, IT, engineering and technology....
GlaxoSmithKline	<a href="https://www.gsk.com/en-gb/careers/apprentices-students-and-graduates/work-experience-placements-and-internships/">https://www.gsk.com/en-gb/careers/apprentices-students-and-graduates/work-experience-placements-and-internships/</a>	Very wide range including: research & development, global health, communications & government affairs, regulatory affairs, ethics & compliance....
Astra Zenec	<a href="https://careers.astrazeneca.com/students">https://careers.astrazeneca.com/students</a>	Bioscience research
AkzoNobel	<a href="https://www.akzonobel.com/careers/graduates-and-students">https://www.akzonobel.com/careers/graduates-and-students</a>	Overseas including Germany, Brazil, the Netherlands, Sweden.
Unilever	<a href="https://www.unilever.co.uk/careers/">https://www.unilever.co.uk/careers/</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research &amp; development</li> <li>• Business – HR, Supply Chain etc</li> </ul>
EDF	<a href="https://www.edfenergy.com/careers/early-careers/industrial-placements">https://www.edfenergy.com/careers/early-careers/industrial-placements</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research</li> <li>• Commercial</li> </ul>
Johnson Matthey	<a href="https://matthey.com/careers">https://matthey.com/careers</a>	
Evotec	<a href="https://www.evotec.com/en/career">https://www.evotec.com/en/career</a>	
STFC	<a href="http://www.stfccareers.co.uk/careers/students/">http://www.stfccareers.co.uk/careers/students/</a>	
Croda	<a href="https://www.croda.com/en-gb/careers/graduate-opportunities/training-for-graduates/placements-and-projects">https://www.croda.com/en-gb/careers/graduate-opportunities/training-for-graduates/placements-and-projects</a>	

Hexcel	<a href="https://www.hexcel.com/Careers/Student-Opportunities">https://www.hexcel.com/Careers/Student-Opportunities</a>	
3M	<a href="https://www.3m.co.uk/3M/en_GB/careers/students/industrial-placements/">https://www.3m.co.uk/3M/en_GB/careers/students/industrial-placements/</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research and development</li> <li>• Marketing and other business areas</li> </ul>
Malvern Panalytical	<a href="https://careers.malvernpanalytical.com/vacancy/year-in-industry-placement-2/">https://careers.malvernpanalytical.com/vacancy/year-in-industry-placement-2/</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistant Scientist (Biology/Chemistry)</li> <li>• Assistant Scientific and Technical Writer</li> </ul>
Norbrook, N Ireland	<a href="https://www.norbrook.com/careers">https://www.norbrook.com/careers</a>	Chem and life sci

## Finding other options

- Use CareerHub to find relevant placement opportunities – we advertise key research placements
- See the Careers sector guides for further vacancy sites that you can look at in the sector you're interested in:
  - Biotechnology - <http://guides.careers.sussex.ac.uk/bio/jobs>
  - Food drink FMCG - <http://guides.careers.sussex.ac.uk/food-drink-fmcg/jobs>
  - See full range of sector guides: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/careers/careerchoices/researchingcareers>
- You can use graduate recruitment directories to research opportunities to explore online:
  - [www.ratemyplacement.co.uk](http://www.ratemyplacement.co.uk)
  - [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk)
  - <https://www.gradcracker.com/search/engineering-work-placements-internships>
  - <http://targetjobs.co.uk>
  - [www.top100graduateemployers.com](http://www.top100graduateemployers.com)
  - <http://targetjobs.co.uk/uk300>
  - [www.milkround.com](http://www.milkround.com)
- Life Science related organisations in Sussex:
  - <https://locateeastsussex.org.uk/health-life-sciences>
  - <http://www.businesswestsussex.co.uk/254-health-life-sciences-sector-map-.html>
- Global list of organisations doing genetics related research: <https://biopharmguy.com/links/company-by-location-genetics.php>
- Cambridge Science Park jobs: <https://www.cambridgesciencepark.co.uk/jobs/>
- Royal Society of Biology Careers has information and links to different placement schemes: <https://www.rsb.org.uk/careers-and-cpd/careers/industrial-summer-placements>
- If you would like to meet life science organisations, the Royal Society of Biology holds annual Life Science Careers Conferences. Look out for regional events too. <https://societyofbiology.org/careers-andcpd/careers>
- The Biochemistry Society also has some useful careers information: <http://www.biochemistry.org/Education/Careers/Workexperienceandinternships.aspx>

- Useful information on the Association of British Pharmaceutical Industry: <http://careers.abpi.org.uk/Pages/default.aspx>
- Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (DSTL) offer a summer vacation scheme as well as industrial placements. [www.dstl.gov.uk/careers](http://www.dstl.gov.uk/careers)

## Useful resources for a creative job search

If you want to find organisations to contact and ask if they could offer you a placement year, have a look at the following:

- [www.ukspa.org.uk](http://www.ukspa.org.uk) - the UK Science Parks Association site has links to science parks across the UK, e.g. Cambridge Science Park directory of organisations - <https://www.cambridgesciencepark.co.uk/company-directory/>
- [www.rcuk.ac.uk](http://www.rcuk.ac.uk) - Government research centres and institutes are normally funded (at least in part) by one of the UK Research Councils. Check each Research Council for lists of its funded institutes.
- [www.bionow.co.uk](http://www.bionow.co.uk) - a NW membership organisation for bioscience, biomedical and life-sciences, drug discovery and development and more. The site includes news, a members' directory and jobs.
- <http://unitedlifesciences.org> - links to other organisations like Bionow across the UK and beyond.
- [www.labhoo.com](http://www.labhoo.com) - searchable directory of thousands of companies with a detailed level of classification.
- [www.airto.co.uk/our-members.html](http://www.airto.co.uk/our-members.html) - AIRTO is a membership organisation for a number of commercial and government funded research organisations and institutes.  
[www.abpi.org.uk/aboutus/membership/Pages/full-membership-list.aspx](http://www.abpi.org.uk/aboutus/membership/Pages/full-membership-list.aspx)
- [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com) - If you are a member of LinkedIn, you can join groups which are relevant to your interests. This will let you see where other group members work. You can also search companies by keyword and filter by location etc.

### Writing a cover letter to ask for a placement:

- Example speculative cover letter:  
<https://www.sussex.ac.uk/webteam/gateway/file.php?name=speculative-letter-for-placement-2018.pdf&site=3>
- Remember to add in to your letter to them a link to information on our website about how to go about employing a placement year student:  
<http://www.sussex.ac.uk/about/recruit-graduates-students/placements>
- Include your CV – find out about the skills required in the kind of job you're interested in by looking at the job profiles on  
<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles>