

# Table of Contents

---

<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>1</b>
About This Book .....	3
Why I Wrote This Book .....	3
A Guide to This Book .....	4
<b>1 Majoring in Biology</b> .....	<b>7</b>
Degrees and Curricula .....	8
Minor in Biological Sciences .....	11
Minors in Other Departments and Double Majors .....	12
College Rankings .....	13
Colleges Offering Biology Programs .....	13
Biology .....	14
Biochemistry .....	15
Zoology .....	16
Entrance Requirements .....	16
Skills and Abilities Required to Succeed in This Major .....	17
Wrap Up .....	18
<b>2 Choosing a College for Biology Majors</b> .....	<b>21</b>
To Parents: .....	21
To Students: .....	22
What Admission Officers Look For .....	23
The Transcript .....	23
Test Scores .....	24
The Essay or Personal Statement .....	25
Extracurricular Activities .....	25
Recommendations .....	26
A Final Point About Admission .....	27
Paying for the College of Your Choice .....	27
Access and Choice .....	27
Determining Need .....	29
Cost of Attendance .....	29
Types of Financial Aid .....	30
Net Cost versus Sticker Price .....	31
Is It Worth It? .....	31
Private Scholarships and Scholarship Search Firms .....	33
Wrap Up .....	34

<b>3 Internships and Attending Graduate School . . . . .</b>	<b>.35</b>
Biology Internships . . . . .	.36
Why Would I Want to Be an Intern? . . . . .	.37
Will I Get Paid? . . . . .	.38
How Do I Find an Internship? . . . . .	.38
Graduate School Programs in Biology . . . . .	.39
Graduate School Disciplines . . . . .	.40
Quality Programs and Rankings . . . . .	.42
Selective Biology Graduate Schools . . . . .	.43
Highly Ranked Graduate Schools . . . . .	.44
Admission to Grad School . . . . .	.45
Paying for Graduate School . . . . .	.46
Similarities between Grad and Undergrad . . . . .	.46
Differences between Grad and Undergrad . . . . .	.47
Is It Worth It? . . . . .	.48
Choices, Choices, Choices . . . . .	.49
Wrap Up . . . . .	.51
<b>4 Career Possibilities . . . . .</b>	<b>.53</b>
Job Descriptions . . . . .	.53
Health Scientist Administrator . . . . .	.54
Forester . . . . .	.54
Medical Instrument Technician . . . . .	.54
Medical Technologist . . . . .	.54
Patent Examiner . . . . .	.55
Sanitarian . . . . .	.55
Quarantine Officer . . . . .	.55
Food Scientist . . . . .	.56
Park Guide . . . . .	.56
Pharmacologist/Toxicologist . . . . .	.56
Forensic Scientist . . . . .	.56
Medical Writer . . . . .	.57
Public Relations, Pharmaceuticals . . . . .	.57
Agronomist . . . . .	.57
Archivist, Curator, and Museum Technician . . . . .	.58
Dietitian and Nutritionist . . . . .	.58
Sales Representatives . . . . .	.58
Biologist . . . . .	.59
Environmental Scientist . . . . .	.61
Food Scientist . . . . .	.61
Animal Scientist . . . . .	.62

Medical Librarian	.62
Optometrist	.63
Podiatrist	.63
Chiropractor	.64
Audiologist	.64
Biomedical Engineer	.65
Pharmacist	.65
Wrap Up	.66
<b>5 Breaking into the Job Market</b>	<b>.67</b>
Planning Ahead	.68
Searching for a Job	.69
The Basics	.69
How to Budget Your Time	.69
Your Job Search Book	.70
Don't Believe the Clichés	.71
Stay Informed and Be Realistic	.72
Take Advantage of Current Trends	.73
How to Network	.75
Online Job Searches	.77
Preparing Your Résumé	.78
Career Center, On-Campus Recruiters, and Career Fairs	.80
Find Your Own Job Openings	.81
Interviewing for a Job	.82
Do Your Research	.82
Practice	.83
Interview Tips	.84
The Interview and Follow Up	.84
Wrap Up	.86
<b>6 Case Studies</b>	<b>.87</b>
Karen, Epidemiologist	.87
What I Do	.88
Why I Majored in Biology	.88
How the Biology Major Prepared Me for My Job	.89
Other Training	.89
Helpful Moves	.90
Pitfalls to Avoid	.91
What I Love About My Job	.91
Things on the Job I Could Do Without	.91
My Work and My Life	.92

Salaries for Epidemiologists .....	92
Some Thoughts About Karen's Career .....	92
Susan: Education and Outreach Program Manager .....	93
What I Do .....	93
Why I Majored in Biology .....	94
How the Biology Major Prepared Me for My Job .....	94
Other Training .....	94
Helpful Moves .....	95
Pitfalls to Avoid .....	95
What I Love About My Job .....	95
Things on the Job I Could Do Without .....	96
My Work and My Life .....	96
Salaries for Epidemiologists .....	96
Some Thoughts About Susan's Career .....	96
Sara, Zookeeper/Biologist in the Birdhouse .....	97
What I Do .....	97
Why I Majored in Biology .....	98
How the Biology Major Prepared Me for My Job .....	98
Other Training .....	99
Helpful Moves .....	99
Pitfalls to Avoid .....	100
What I Love About My Job .....	100
Things on the Job I Could Do Without .....	100
My Work and My Life .....	101
Salaries for Zookeepers .....	101
Some Thoughts About Sara's Career .....	101
Rick, Science Reporter .....	102
What I Do .....	102
Why I Majored in Biology .....	103
How the Biology Major Prepared Me for My Job .....	103
Other Training .....	103
Helpful Moves .....	104
Pitfalls to Avoid .....	105
What I Love About My Job .....	105
Things on the Job I Could Do Without .....	105
Salaries for Reporters .....	106
Some Thoughts About Rick's Career .....	106
My Work and My Life .....	106
Katie, Healthcare Attorney .....	107
What I Do .....	107
Why I Majored in Biology .....	108

How the Biology Major Prepared Me for My Job	108
Other Training	109
Helpful Moves	109
Pitfalls to Avoid	109
What I Love About My Job	110
Things on the Job I Could Do Without	110
My Work and My Life	110
Salaries for Attorneys	111
Some Thoughts About Katie's Career	111
Gail, Technical Director, Hospital Laboratory	111
What I Do	112
Why I Majored in Biology	112
How the Biology Major Prepared Me for My Job	112
Other Training	113
Helpful Moves	113
Pitfalls to Avoid	113
What I Love About My Job	114
Things on the Job I Could Do Without	114
My Work and My Life	114
Salaries for Epidemiologists	115
Some Thoughts About Gail's Career	115
<b>7 Final Thoughts</b>	<b>117</b>
<b>Appendix: Resources</b>	<b>119</b>
Biology Honor Society	119
Professional Resources	119
The American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS)	120
Professional Societies	120
Job Listing Web Sites	121
College Admission, Search, and Financial Aid Resources	122
Biology Career Reference Books	123
<b>Index</b>	<b>125</b>

