**BIOCHEMISTRY**

**WHAT IS BIOCHEMISTRY?**

Biochemistry is the branch of science that explores the chemical processes within and related to living organisms. It is a laboratory-based science that brings together biology and chemistry. By using chemical knowledge and techniques, biochemists can understand and solve biological problems.

Biochemistry focuses on processes happening at a molecular level. It focuses on what’s happening inside our cells, studying components like proteins, lipids and organelles. It also looks at how cells communicate with each other, for example during growth or fighting illness. Biochemists need to understand how the structure of a molecule relates to its function, allowing them to predict how molecules will interact.

Biochemistry covers a range of scientific disciplines, including genetics, microbiology, forensics, plant science and medicine. Because of its breadth, biochemistry is very important and advances in this field of science over the past 100 years have been staggering. It’s a very exciting time to be part of this fascinating area of study.

* Biology is a prerequisite for almost all biochemistry degrees. It will provide you with a sound knowledge of biochemical interactions as well as an introduction to genetics, cell biology and enzymology, all key Biochemistry topics.
* Chemistry is another essential prerequisite to study biochemistry.
* Mathematics is not essential for many biochemistry courses but a lot of biochemistry revolves around interpreting statistical data.
* Communication subjects such as English and History will teach you good communication skills which are highly valued in the scientific community.

**Career opportunities**

* A biochemistry degree opens up a range of careers in both industry and research in areas such as health, food and agriculture, and the environment.

**Different career paths**

* Academic researcher
* Analytical chemist
* Biomedical scientist
* Biotechnologist
* Clinical research associate
* Clinical scientist
* Forensic scientist
* Medical chemist

**Expected Earnings As At 2022**

* According to ziprecruiter, As of September 4, 2022, the average annual pay for a Biochemist in the United States is $57,085 a year.
* An entry level biochemist in Nigeria makes about 51k naira per month.
* A mid-level biochemist in Nigeria makes about 105k naira per month.
* While a senior level biochemist in Nigeria makes about 250k naira per month.