

Graduate Outcomes 2020/21

Full-time UK domiciled first degree graduates - 15 months after Bath

The University of Bath has an excellent record of graduate employment, featuring in the top ten for graduate prospects in three major national league tables*. Across all subjects, 92% of Bath 2020/21 graduates who are employed in the UK are in high skilled employment, compared to 74% nationally#. Hundreds of employers of all sizes and from all industries each year advertise vacancies, deliver presentations or network with our students; we are in the top 15 universities targeted by employers†.

The information shown here is from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Graduate Outcomes survey for 2020/21 leavers. It is the biggest UK annual social survey and captures the perspectives and current status of recent graduates, 15 months after leaving university.

Pharmacologists work at the forefront of global health, aiming to discover, design and develop therapeutics agents. Throughout your degree you will develop a strong set of practical skills, including the ability to design, retrieve and handle complex data, research skills, attention to detail and interpreting technical and scientific information for different audiences. As a pharmacologist, you could work in the NHS, large pharmaceutical companies, biotech companies, government departments or at university and research institutions. Pharmacologists also work in product management, marketing and medical writing, and in wider roles such as education and business.

Courses included:

- Pharmacology BSc/MPharmacol

Response rate	
Total in 2020/21 cohort	35 [§]
% response rate	80%

[§]Number rounded to the nearest multiple of five

Graduate outcomes by activity

Activity summary	
Employment	57%
Voluntary/unpaid work	-
Employment and further study	14%
Further study	14%
Other: travel, caring, retired	4%
Unemployed [§]	11%
Total	100%

Note: Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding. Activity defined using HESA XACTIVITY: takes account of all activities and most important activity.

[§]Unemployed includes those due to start work or study.

*6th in the Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2024, 4th in the Complete University Guide 2024, and 4th in the Guardian University Guide 2024

#Compared with [all Universities UK members](#).

†The Graduate Market in 2024, High Fliers Research.

Industries and employers

The British Pharmacological Society describes the profession of pharmacology as working on the global challenge of helping everyone to live healthy lives for longer. Pharmacologists work at the forefront of research to develop new drugs and also look at improving the life of patients through developing the effectiveness of existing drugs.

Pharmacologists can use their skills in a variety of settings. Employers include the NHS, pharmaceutical and biotech companies, government departments such as the Department of Health and Social Care or academic research at universities. With progression, you may specialise in certain diseases or therapeutic agents. You might manage large programmes or departments, or multiple drug discovery projects.

The most frequent of the industry categories are:

- Professional, scientific and technical activities
- Education
- Human health and social work activities

Examples of employers for the 2020/21 cohort:

- Cancer Research UK
- Fishawack Health
- GSK
- Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine
- Mosaic Therapeutics
- Nottingham University Hospitals Trust

Occupations and job titles

A pharmacology degree opens doors to cutting-edge research and industry jobs. The global challenge of improving healthcare and disease management has resulted in exciting careers for pharmacologists. You are likely to make key decisions around the effectiveness of different drug treatments.

You will have the scope to pursue a highly specialised career using your degree. Or you could choose to use the wide range of transferable skills you'll gain to pursue a scientific writing, communications, science policy, or regulatory affairs role. Pharmacologists also work in broader industries such as finance and insurance, management, business and marketing roles.

The vast majority of our UK employed Pharmacology graduates are in high skilled employment. High skilled employment includes these three categories:

- Associate professional and technical occupations
- Managers, directors and senior officials
- Professional occupations

Examples of job titles for the 2020/21 cohort:

- In Vivo Scientist
- Market Access Associate
- Medical Writer
- Research Assistant
- Site Setup Facilitator

Further study

Some Pharmacology graduates may pursue further study to develop expertise in a specialist field. This can include professional courses for example in actuary or accountancy, a PGCE to train as a teacher, or a PhD to deep dive into a novel research area.

Examples of institutions for the 2020/21 cohort:

- Swansea University
- University of Bath
- University of Cambridge

More information

Find out what Bath graduates from other courses do: go.bath.ac.uk/graduate-outcomes.

More information is available about how Careers supports current and prospective students, as well as graduates from Bath: bath.ac.uk/careers.

Source: HESA Graduate Outcomes Survey for 2020/21 leavers relating to full-time UK domiciled first-degree University of Bath graduates, 15 months after leaving university.

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