

Biotech Training Programs

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A short-term training program during or after a biotechnology degree helps in orienting students to adapt to the needs of the biotech industry. Several biotech company heads felt that hands-on training gives an edge to the prospective candidates during the selection process, though it is not an essential selection criteria. It also helps them to accelerate their career opportunities. We have also received many queries from students on this subject. Here are a few courses offered by the biotech industry/institutes.

As part of its human resource training program the Department of Biotechnology facilitates postgraduate biotechnology training in industries. Students passing out of the postgraduate courses (MSc/MTech) in biotechnology are selected for practical hands-on training in various biotech-based industries in the country for a period of six months. This scheme is being implemented through the Biotech Industrial Training Program (BITP) of the Biotech Consortium India Ltd. (BCIL), New Delhi. The objective of BITP is to provide practical exposure to candidates who wish to start their career after post-graduation but do not have the requisite experience in biotechnology. This program orients them to the needs of the industry and makes them more relevant and acceptable for placement. The program is launched every year generally in the months of July/August.

For, further details visit: www.biotech.co.in

Many of the CSIR institutes offer regular training programs for postgraduate students under MoU with universities and also provide ad-hoc summer training to biotech students. Some of the other training programs offered by the educational institutes/industry are given below.

Bangalore Genei, a Bangalore-based key manufacturer and supplier of reagents for genetic engineering and molecular biology research, offers hands-on training in molecular biology/immunotechniques. It has two basic training programs in Recombinant DNA Technology Protein Purification and Immunotechniques. The company also offers a combination program covering both the topics. All the programs include lectures, discussions and bench work for 8-9 hours a day conducted by its scientists.

Address: No. 6 6th Main, BDA Industrial Suburb, Near SRS Road, Peenya, Bangalore-560 058,

Tel.: (080) 28391453/28396894

Website: www.bangaloregenei.com

Best Biotek Research Labs has designed many biotechnology-training programs ranging from proficiency courses to advanced diploma courses in industrial microbiology, enzymology, protein chemistry, molecular biology, analytical techniques like HPLC and GLC. The duration of the courses vary from 15 days to 210 days.

Address: #221, 2nd Floor, 9th Main, 5th Block, Jayanagar,

Bangalore - 560 041

Tel.: (080) 56903079/ 26632175

Website: www.bestbiotek.com

DOEACC Society, an autonomous body of Department of Information Technology, Ministry of Communications & Information Technology, recently introduced Bioinformatics Courses at various levels - O, A and B Level. To be implemented at a national level, these bioinformatics courses are in line with the DOEACC computer courses. The O and A level training started in July 2003 in 12 locations of DOEACC across India. This scheme is being implemented through the private sector from July 2004.

Address: Electronics Niketan, 6 CGO Complex, New Delhi - 110 003

Tel.: (011) 24363330-2

Website: www.doeacc.org.in

Bangalore-based Institute of Bioinformatics and Applied Biotechnology (IBAB) conducts a six-months course in the frequently used biotech lab techniques. These include handling bacterial culture, protein purification and analysis, recombinant DNA technology, microarrays, etc. IBAB also conducts several short-term courses in biotechnology and bioinformatics ranging from one day to a few days. In addition, the institute conducts tailor-made bioinformatics training programs for the corporate sector.

Address: G-05, Tech Park Mall, International Technology Park, Whitefield Road, Bangalore -560 066,

Tel.: (080) 28410029, 28412769.

Website: www.ibab.ac.in

The Department of Biochemical Engineering and Biotechnology, IIT Delhi has recently started conducting a short-term practical training course in biotechnology. This year the course starts from June 1 and is of five weeks duration. The course aims to provide exposure to some of the modern experimental tools and protocols of biochemical engineering and

biotechnology to students of MSc (Biotechnology) and BTech (Chemical/ Biochemical Engineering).

Address: Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, Hauz Khas, New Delhi -110 016,

Tel.: (011) 26591737.

Website: www.iitd.ernet.in

The Supercomputing Facility for Bioinformatics & Computational Biology, IIT Delhi, in association with NIIT under the aegis of Foundation of Innovation and Technology Transfer (FIIT) at IIT, Delhi, has launched a six-months certificate programme in Bioinformatics & Computational Biology. The program addresses requirements in both IT and Bioinformatics training. The IT modules are offered at NIIT and the bioinformatics modules at the Supercomputing Facility of IIT Delhi. The Programme starts in June 2004.

Address: Supercomputing facility, IIT Delhi,

Tel.: (011) 26596786

Website: www.netvarsity.com/nv000/iitmain.asp

The biotechnology division of Indo American Hybrid seeds (IAHS), a company engaged in the production and marketing of hybrid seeds in vegetables, flowers and agronomic crops, offers technical training in advanced methods of plant cell and tissue culture and r-DNA technology for BSc and MSc biotechnology students. The course duration is about a month for BSc and 2-4 months (including project work and dissertation) for MSc students. IAHS conducts the training in three batches around the year in the months of April, May and October. The IAHS biotech division is also a center for the Biotech Industrial Training Program (BITP) of the Biotech Consortium India Ltd (BCIL), New Delhi. Under this program, it provides extensive plant tissue culture training to 2-3 biotechnology postgraduate students for a period of six months.

Address: 17th Cross, 2nd 'A' Main, KRRoad, Banashankari 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560 070

Tel.: (080) 26760111

Website: www.indamseeds.com

Jain Institute of Vocational and Advanced Studies (JIVAS), Bangalore, a division of Jain Group of Institutions is offering a range of job-oriented courses in biotechnology. At the graduate level it is offering: Proficiency course in genetic engineering; Diploma in plant tissue culture; Diploma in human molecular genetics; Diploma in industrial biotechnology; Comprehensive training in micro propagation

At the post graduate level it is offering advanced postgraduate diploma in biotechnology; and postgraduate diploma in medical microbiology and immunology. The institute also offers customized projects for BSc/MSc students

Address: No. 127/3, Bull Temple Road, Chamrajpet, Bangalore - 560 019

Tel.: (080) 26604993/26525246

Website: www.jivas.ac.in

Magene Life Sciences, a biotechnology research and bioservices oriented company located in the Genome Valley, near Hyderabad provides an integrated, interdisciplinary basic as well as advanced training course for students in biotechnology. The basic three weeks course is designed to include hands-on-training, GLP and introduction to modern biotechnology. The advanced module of two weeks duration is offered to post graduates for hands on training to support their core capabilities for further research. The company also offers a week long corporate training module tailor made for marketing, finance and management professionals working with biotech and allied industries.

Address: Research Center, Pudur Post, Raval Kote X Roads, Medchal Mandal, Hyderabad

Tel.: (8418) 222384/225449

Website: www.magenelifesciences.com

Ocimum Biosolutions, a Hyderabad-based bioinformatics company, offers a Postgraduate Diploma Program in Bioinformatics in association with University of Alabama at Huntsville. The duration of the course is six months. The program helps students, who usually have expertise or a degree in either life sciences or computer science, to be cross-trained.

Address: 6th Floor, Reliance Classic Road No. 1, Banjara Hills Hyderabad - 500 034

Tel.: (040) 55627200

Website: www.ocimumbio.com

Padmashree Institute conducts a short-term diploma in Plant Tissue Culture and Secondary Metabolite production. This seven-day course is open for graduates in Life Sciences. The course covers the basic techniques in plant culture, organ and embryo cultures, callus and suspension cultures, etc.

Address: Nagarbhavi Circle, Bangalore - 560 072

Tel.: (080)-23211099/23217664

Website: www.padmashree.org

The Software Technology Group International Ltd offers certificate courses in bioinformatics with domain specialization (pharma, agri or biotech) for graduate and postgraduate students. It also offers a six-months diploma course in bioinformatics.

Address: 32 & 31/1, Khaleel Plaza, RV Road, Basavangudi, Bangalore - 560004

Tel.: (080) 26574553/26574554

Website: www.stgglobal.com