

# Healthcare Science Career of the Week



## Microbiologist

Area of HCS: Life Science  
Pay scale: Band 4-7 £18k-£55k

**AMAZING FACT** | Electron Microscopes can magnify things up to 10 million times. (Check out the house dust mite below)

Contrary to the name, this is a huge part of biology and medical research. They study microscopic organisms that can be deadly to humans such as bacteria and viruses, characterising them and developing effective treatments against diseases.

As well as bacteria, microbiologists also study:

- Viruses such as HIV
- Fungal infections such as athlete's foot
- Parasites such as tapeworm

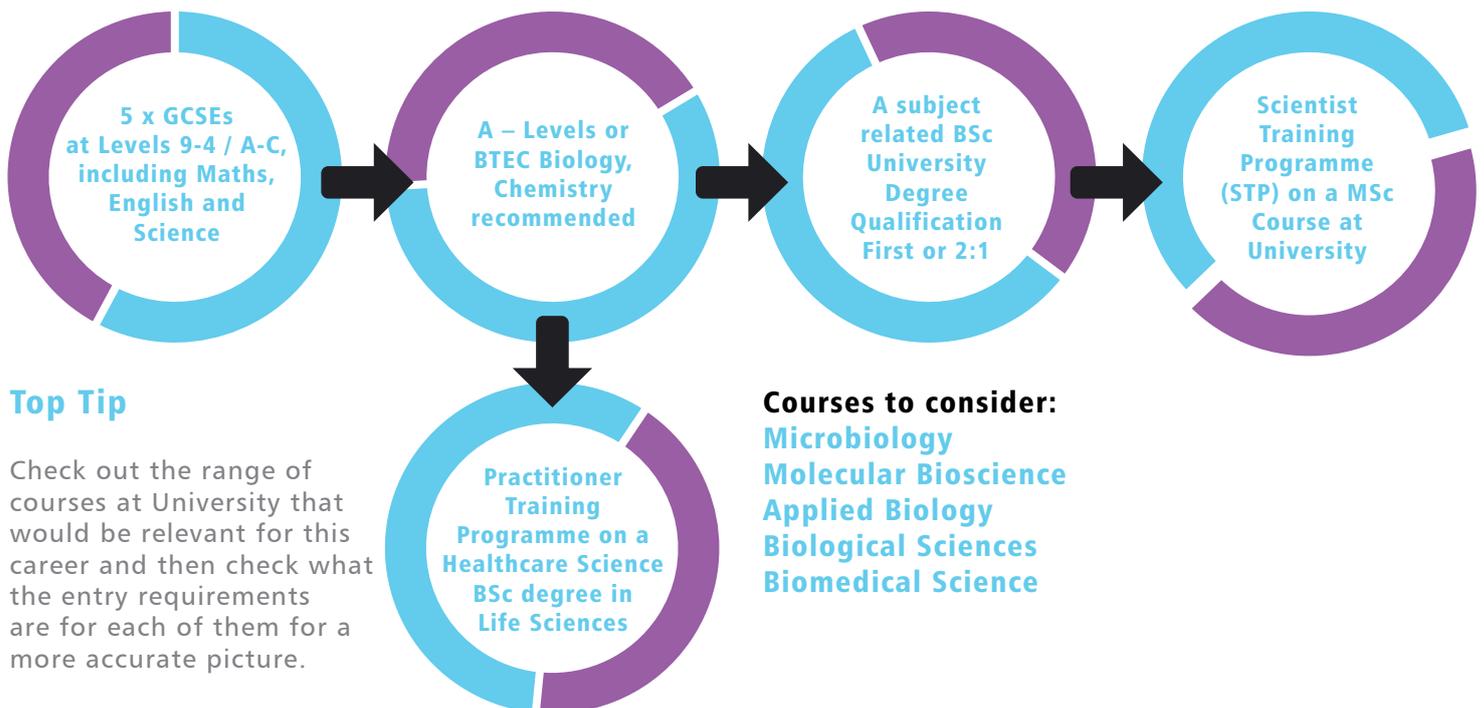
This research enables the patients to get the best and most up-to-date treatments available. Not only do they get to use electron microscopes but they use the machine to the right to carry out PCR (polymer chain reaction), which enables them to take a tiny sample of DNA and multiply it!!



### VIDEO

We've put a really cool video from Australia that looks at the day in the life of a microbiologist on our website. Check out [www.medicalmavericks.co.uk/book](http://www.medicalmavericks.co.uk/book) if you want to watch it!

## What to do to get into this career...



### Top Tip

Check out the range of courses at University that would be relevant for this career and then check what the entry requirements are for each of them for a more accurate picture.

### Courses to consider:

**Microbiology**  
**Molecular Bioscience**  
**Applied Biology**  
**Biological Sciences**  
**Biomedical Science**



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