

Immunologist

What is it?

Immunologists study the immune system and how it protects the body from infections, diseases, and allergens. They work in research, healthcare, and pharmaceutical industries to develop treatments for conditions like autoimmune diseases, allergies, and cancer. Their work is vital for vaccine development and improving public health.

Qualifications/Experience Required:

A **degree in immunology**, biomedical science, biology, or medicine.

Many roles require a **master's degree or PhD**, especially for research positions.

Clinical immunologists must complete **medical training and specialist postgraduate qualifications**.

You can also enter through a Laboratory Scientist Degree Apprenticeship. Work experience in a lab or healthcare setting is highly recommended.

Type of person who may be suited to this job:

- Good with your hands and attention to detail.
- Interested in science and design.
- Able to concentrate for long periods.
- Comfortable using digital tools and lab equipment.
- A team player who can follow precise instructions.

What the Work Involves:

- Studying immune responses to infections and diseases.
- Developing vaccines and immunotherapies.
- Analysing blood and tissue samples in laboratories.
- Writing research papers and presenting findings.
- Advising on treatments for immune-related conditions.

Money/Wage Guide:

- **Starting Salary: £26,000-£32,000**
- **Experienced Salary: £45,000-£70,000+**

Related Opportunities:

- **Biomedical Scientist**
- **Microbiologist**
- **Clinical Scientist**
- **Pharmacologist**

Future Prospects – Labour Market Information:

Immunology is a growing field due to advances in medicine and biotechnology. With experience, you could become a Senior Researcher, Clinical Immunologist, or move into pharmaceutical development, public health, or teaching.

Typical weekly hours – 37 to 40 hours per week.

Typically, between 8am and 6pm, Monday to Friday.

Research roles may involve longer hours for experiments or deadlines.

Further Information:

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/clinical-scientist>

<https://www.immunology.org>