



OAKLAND  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE

# News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **New OCC Degree Program Capitalizes on Emerging Industry**

Oakland Community College is introducing a new degree program to help students enter one of the few growing job markets in Michigan – biotechnology. Also referred to as Life Sciences, biotechnology positions are found in biological, medical and pharmaceutical industries, and academic research laboratories.

The **Molecular Biotechnology Associate Degree** program at OCC emphasizes cellular and molecular biology. Courses include biology, chemistry, molecular biotechnology and genetics. With an associate's degree, a student is qualified to work at the technician level in the biological, chemical, environmental, forensic or medical science areas. Students may also use the degree to transfer to a biotechnology program at a four-year institution.

The life science industry in Michigan is the fastest growing in the nation, and over the past four years the state has invested \$178 million to foster its growth. As a result, today there are approximately 10,000 life science related jobs in Southeastern Michigan, with job opportunities expected to continue to grow by 8.5% in the next few years.

For more information on the OCC Molecular Biotechnology program call 248- 522-3741 or visit [www.oaklandcc.edu/molecularbiotechnology](http://www.oaklandcc.edu/molecularbiotechnology).

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