The Master’s degree in Microbial Biotechnology (MMB) at North Carolina State University is a professional science master degree program that:

- Provides students with interdisciplinary academic training in both science and business
- Prepares students to work broadly in multiple areas and effectively in project teams
- Promotes development of strong communication skills that foster effective dialogue between individuals, companies and communities
- Enhances the ability to apply skills to biosciences industry-related problems
- Urges creativity and innovation
- Coordinates with NC State’s Poole College of Management to offer students 9 credit hours of MBA Biosciences and/or Entrepreneurship courses
- Offers students an opportunity to earn an MBA after an additional year of study

**What is the MMB Program?**

An individual case-study project is presented as a problem, of the company’s choosing, to a team of students. The projects typically involve:

- Feasibility studies and market research for potential areas of company growth
- Grant writing
- Cost analysis of product manufacturing
- Product improvement
- SOP development
- Researching intellectual property issues
- Risk assessment for particular methods

Some recent case study project titles:

- Evaluation of Oncology Biomarkers with Clinical and Commercial Value
- Regulatory and Market Assessment of Biological Soil Crust Reclamation
- Opportunities in the Veterinary Vaccine Market
- Evaluation of Attached Growth Bioreactors for Potential use in Industrial Enzyme Production
- Qualification of the medical device market opportunity for a company’s biofilm dispersing compounds/technology

**MMB Partnerships**

While we have managed to partner with many local bioscience companies, we actively seek new collaborations that will expose our students to the biotechnology industry.

Our partners provide support to the MMB Program by:

- Offering speakers
- Establishing case study projects
- Hosting student internships

These partnerships offer rewarding experiences that greatly influence the career decisions of our students. But, partnering companies also benefit by gaining:

1. increased exposure to the NCSU scientific community
2. meeting, and possibly recruiting, some of the best and brightest future bioscience leaders
3. an opportunity to influence the MMB curriculum

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**Would you like to know more?**

If you would like to know more about the MMB Program at N.C. State University and how you can partner with us, please contact:

Paul Hamilton, Ph.D., Director (pthamil2@ncsu.edu)
Jason Cramer, Ph.D., Coordinator (jmcramer@ncsu.edu)

**MMB**

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