

Inspiring high school students to learn and love life science

The Spring 2026 High School Apprenticeship Challenge was an eight-week specialized program that prepared high school students to apply for paid summer internships, higher education, and full-time jobs in the life sciences. From March to May, our students built technical knowledge, lab techniques, research-based thinking, and professional skills.



- 21 Students Graduated
- 17 Schools Represented
- 54 Hours of Training
- 7 Career Conversations
- 73 Microcredentials Earned

“My favorite part was doing the labs and actually getting to do the actual real life work of what scientists do.”

- Isaac K.

ABOUT OUR APPRENTICES

Demographics

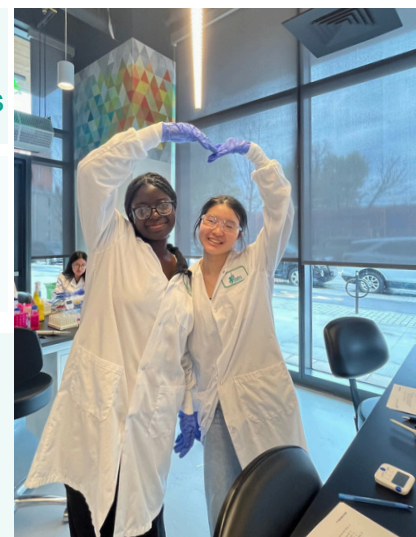
62% Female | 38% Male
19% will be First-Generation College Students

% of Students Confident in STEM Skills

94% of students agreed that they could confidently work at a lab bench after completing this program

Plans for the Future After Program Completion

82% of students are interested in pursuing life science careers through either higher education or full-time employment



Microcredentials

Our Spring 2026 students underwent microcredential testing through Bioscience Core Skills Institute (BCSI) and Biotechnology Aptitude and Competency Exam (BACE). The apprentices were evaluated on their biotechnology skills, use of essential lab equipment, lab safety, and numeracy. These credentials can support students' immediate entry into the biotech workforce after high school graduation.

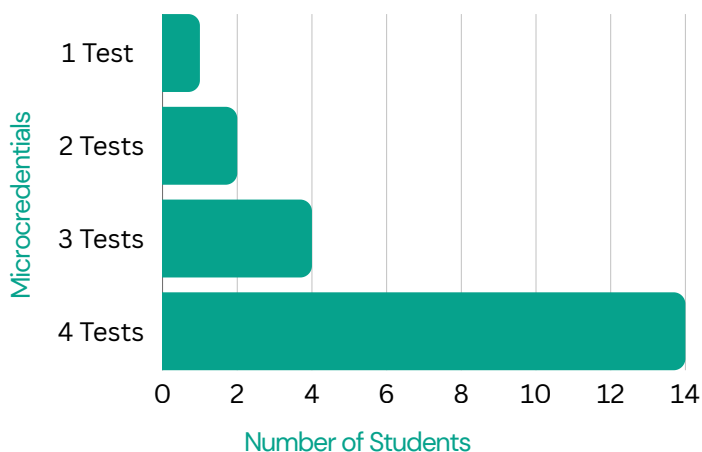


Biotechnology Aptitude and Competency Exam (BACE) & Bioscience Core Skills Institute (BCSI) Testing

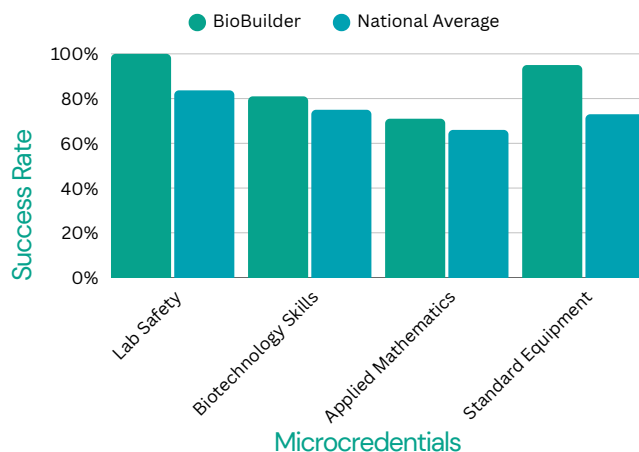
BCSI and BACE offer national industry-recognized testing that verifies students' mastery of core bioscience knowledge and skills. Through performance-based assessments, apprentices demonstrate competencies aligned with current biotechnology workforce standards and expectations. Students who earn these credentials show documented proficiency in essential laboratory techniques, safety practices, and analytical skills. As BCSI and BACE credentials are verifiable and valued by employers, they allow students to showcase the skills they've gained through the High School Apprenticeship Challenge.

100% of our Apprentices Earned One or More Microcredentials

85% of our Apprentices Passed 3 or More Tests



Microcredential Awards Earned by Apprentices



Career Conversations

During our online Career Conversations, apprentices engaged with senior scientists and researchers from leading biotechnology companies. These conversations inspired our students and provided valuable networking opportunities, which will continue through our robust alumni network. In addition, Kelly Science & Clinical helped students develop their resumes, LinkedIn, and interview skills that will guide students in their internships and professional trajectories.



Organizations where our Career Conversations Speakers Work

Kelly Science & Clinical

Kelly Science & Clinical



Inspired by patients.
Driven by science.

UCB

LanzaTech

LanzaTech

Where Are They Now?

Alumni Jobs

Scientist at Sunflower Therapeutics,
Associate Scientist II at GentiBio
Scientific Support Specialist at ThermoFisher Scientific
Research Technician at Massachusetts General
Hospital's Edlow Lab
Laboratory Assistant at Novo Nordisk
Research Associate at Seia Bio
Research Intern at NEU FORGE

Kelly Science and Clinical

Kelly Science & Clinical is a leading staffing agency, specializing in placing professionals in roles across various sectors, including biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, and medical devices. Their extensive network and expertise assist our students in securing job placements and offer career advice, further enhancing their professional development.

Sponsors and Instructors

BioBuilder gratefully acknowledges all of our partners and instructors for their support and leadership of the Spring 2026 Apprenticeship Challenge. Together, we are transforming education and giving students the opportunity to shape their futures.



Thanks to our hosts for this program

City of Boston

We are grateful for the City of Boston, whose support allows us to expand workforce training and career opportunities for young people across the city. With this partnership, BioBuilder is addressing Boston's demand for skilled talent in the life sciences industry.

Allston Labworks

BioBuilder's Learning Lab in Allston, a fully equipped bioengineering lab and teaching space where this program was conducted, was generously donated by Allston Labworks. We are thankful for their partnership.

BioBuilder Instructors

Natalie Kuldell, PhD
Hiroko Kaczmarek, PhD
Katie Bacon Schneider, PhD
Becky Meyer, PhD
Joseph Switzer
Jackie Thompson
Allie Leslie
Shweta Khorana
Andrés Quiñones-Molina
Eric Bueno

Sponsors



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