



Full-Time Position Assistant Professor of Biology

Union Commonwealth University invites applications for a full-time Assistant Professor of Biology beginning August 11, 2026.

The successful candidate will demonstrate a strong commitment to excellence in undergraduate teaching, student mentoring, academic advising, curriculum development, recruitment and retention, scholarly and professional development appropriate to the appointment, and service to the Department, School, and University.

Applicants from diverse academic and professional backgrounds are encouraged to apply, including those with expertise in the biological sciences, biomedical sciences, medicine, nursing, and other health-related disciplines.

Applicants with an earned terminal degree (Ph.D. or equivalent) in Biology or a closely related discipline, as outlined in the Qualifications for Tenure-Track Appointment section below, are eligible for appointment to a tenure-track position. Candidates with a master's degree in Biology or a related field may be considered for a full-time, non-tenure-track appointment. Additionally, individuals with appropriate graduate credentials and substantial professional experience in a health-related discipline, including medicine, nursing, physician assistant studies, or allied health, who are academically qualified to teach biology courses, are encouraged to apply and may also be considered for a full-time, non-tenure-track appointment.

Position Responsibilities

The successful candidate will:

- Teach undergraduate lecture and laboratory courses in biology based on departmental needs and the candidate's areas of expertise.
- Teach foundational courses such as General Biology, Human Biology, Anatomy and Physiology, Microbiology, Cell Biology, Genetics, Ecology, Evolution, and upper-level biology courses as assigned.
- Develop engaging learning experiences that integrate scientific principles with practical applications and current biological research.
- Foster critical thinking, scientific inquiry, laboratory skills, and evidence-based decision making.
- Advise and mentor biology majors and students pursuing careers in healthcare, medicine, nursing, education, research, environmental sciences, and other life science professions.
- Participate in curriculum assessment, program development, student recruitment, and academic advising.
- Contribute to departmental, university, and professional service activities.

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- Maintain an active program of professional development, scholarship, research, or clinical practice appropriate to the discipline.
- Collaborate with faculty across academic programs to support interdisciplinary teaching and student success.

Required Qualifications

Applicants must possess:

- An earned master's degree or higher in Biology, Biomedical Sciences, Medicine, Nursing (ARNP), Physiology, Microbiology, Genetics, Biochemistry, or another closely related life science discipline by the time of appointment.
- Evidence of successful college-level teaching or demonstrated potential for excellence in undergraduate instruction.
- Ability to teach introductory biology and contribute across multiple areas of the undergraduate biology curriculum.
- Strong communication, organizational, and interpersonal skills.
- A commitment to student-centered learning, academic excellence, and faculty collaboration.

Qualifications for Tenure-Track Appointment

Preference will be given to candidates holding an earned terminal degree, including but not limited to:

- Ph.D. in Biology or a related biological science
- Doctor of Medicine (MD)
- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO)
- Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
- Other appropriate earned doctoral degree in a closely related discipline

Candidates who are ABD or nearing completion of a terminal degree may be considered, with appointment status determined according to university policies.

Additional preferred qualifications include:

- Experience teaching undergraduate laboratory courses.
- Clinical experience as a physician (MD or DO), advanced practice registered nurse (APRN), nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or other healthcare professional.
- Experience mentoring undergraduate research, internships, or experiential learning.
- Commitment to active-learning strategies and innovative instructional methods.
- Interest in interdisciplinary collaboration with programs such as Nursing, Exercise Science, Psychology, Education, Chemistry, and Environmental Science.
- Demonstrated commitment to student success, mentorship, and community engagement.



About Union Commonwealth University

Union Commonwealth University is a private, liberal arts institution located in Barbourville, Kentucky, with a longstanding commitment to educating students for meaningful lives and careers. Founded in the Appalachian region, Union combines personalized education with opportunities for students to engage deeply with their communities and the wider world. Our faculty are dedicated teachers, mentors, and scholars who value close student relationships, classroom innovation, and the transformative power of higher education.

Application Process

Applicants should submit:

- Letter of application addressing qualifications and interest in the position
- Curriculum vitae
- Statement of teaching philosophy
- Unofficial transcripts (official transcripts required upon appointment)
- Contact information for three professional references

Applications will be reviewed immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

Union Commonwealth University (the "University") is committed to maintaining an educational, employment, and business environment free of all forms of discrimination. The University provides full and equal access to its educational services, classes, and programs without regard to and prohibits discrimination based on the protected characteristics of age (40 and older), race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex (including transgender status, gender identity or expression), pregnancy (including childbirth, lactation, and related medical conditions), physical or mental disability, AIDS/HIV status, genetic information (including testing and characteristics), veteran status, uniformed servicemember status, status as a smoker or nonsmoker, medical condition, sexual orientation, marital status, or because an individual is perceived to have one or more of the foregoing characteristics, or any other status protected by federal, state, or local laws.