

Biochemical Products Intern

Location: Greentown Labs, Somerville, MA.

Employment type: Paid internship, full-time during the Summer.

Experience: Student seeking BS / MS in a relevant engineering or science field (for example: chemistry, material science, environmental, chemical, biochemical) OR graduated recently with these credentials.

Capro-X background

Capro-X is a sustainable biorefining startup using natural biotechnology to upcycle food and agricultural waste into clean water and carbon-negative replacements for unsustainable chemicals. Today, Capro-X is focused on upcycling dairy byproducts into building blocks for biofuels and bioplastics. Capro-X has been previously awarded Phase 1 and 2 SBIR grants from the NSF and EPA SBIR; participated in the prestigious Carbon to Value Initiative, Heritage Group Accelerator; and won pitch competition prizes from Rabobank FoodBytes! and Grow-NY. We are searching for an intern to join our team as we expand our footprint in Massachusetts, and are particularly interested in students who are excited about applying their experiences to deploying platform biochemicals for the sustainable bioeconomy.

Job description & requirements

Capro-X is searching for a **Biochemical Products Intern** to join our growing team in Somerville, MA for the Summer of 2024, and potentially onwards through the Fall semester. The intern will be joining at an exciting time for the company, as we are preparing to scale to a Production Pilot, and are providing samples of our novel bioproducts to customers.

The intern will work at our lab at Greentown Labs, assisting with biochemical product purification, organic reactions, analytical chemistry, method development, and literature reviews. Our ideal candidate will have hands-on and independent wet-lab and organic chemistry experience; experience with distillation and batch reactions is particularly sought after; clear and effective communication skills; and an ability to multitask across varying project demands.

In this fast-growing startup, the intern will gain first-hand experience in a challenging and dynamic environment – we strive to provide broad experiences that come with joining a growing startup and to find new potential hires who have a multidisciplinary background, a “get it done” attitude, and share our ambition to bring greater sustainability to the world.

Responsibilities

- Assist R&D team by following SOPs operating bench-scale distillation and batch chemical reaction systems.
- Perform literature reviews on: conversion pathways for manufacturing biofuels and bioplastics from fatty acid building blocks; market research for novel bioproducts.
- Develop experimental approaches through ideation, design, construction, and analysis phases.
- Design and setup bench-scale processing equipment.
- Analyze technoeconomics of reactions and purification processes.
- Perform maintenance on lab equipment.

Qualifications

- Experience in wet-lab environment, in particular with organic/inorganic chemistry research.
- Design and operation experience with chemistry reaction glassware, vacuum systems, mantle heating.
- Ability to perform independent research, set and achieve milestones.
- Calculate mass and energy balance, technoeconomic analysis.
- Able to learn on your own, seek out knowledge.
- Strong writing and presenting skills to communicate with team.
- Ability to lift 25 pounds regularly.

Education and experience level

- Student seeking BS / MS in a relevant engineering or science field (for example: chemistry, material science, environmental, chemical, biochemical) OR graduated recently with these credentials.
- Work and academic experience are preferred (previous internship, consulting, independent research).

Equal employment opportunity statement

Capro-X, Inc. is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) employer and welcomes all qualified applicants. Applicants will receive fair and impartial consideration without regard to race, sex, color, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, genetic data, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, or other legally protected status, or any other classification protected by federal, state, or local law.

Applicants must be eligible to work in the US without restrictions for any employer at any time. As a condition of employment, all selected candidates will undergo Capro-X's standard pre-employment checks, which include but are not limited to a background check regarding criminal history, driver's license, education, and employment.

Capro-X will not accept unsolicited candidate referrals or resumes / CVs from third-party vendors, including recruitment agencies; we will not be responsible or liable for any fees or costs associated with such unsolicited submissions.

Next steps

Interested candidates should submit application materials to **hiring@capro-x.com** with the following tag in the subject line: **[CPRX biochem prod intern summer 2024]**. Improperly addressed applications may be lost in automated filters.