

Bioprocess Engineering Intern

Location: Buffalo, NY.

Employment type: Paid internship, part/full-time during the Fall (around September to December)

Experience: Students currently seeking a BS, MS, or PhD in engineering or science (i.e. chemical, environmental, biological, civil, mechanical, food science, microbiology) OR graduated with a BS, MS, or PhD within past year 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 sourced from palm and petroleum. Today, Capro-X is focused on upcycling dairy byproducts into building blocks for beauty, biofuels, and bioplastics. Capro-X recently received investment from SOSV through the IndieBioNYC Program; has been awarded multiple Phase 1 and 2 Small Business Innovation Research awards (NSF, EPA, DOE); selected to impactful accelerators (Carbon to Value Initiative, Heritage Group Accelerator, Swissnex); and won key pitch competition prizes (Rabobank FoodBytes! and Grow-NY).

Job description & requirements

Capro-X is searching for a **Bioprocess Operations Intern** to join our growing team in Buffalo, NY immediately for the Fall semester of 2026. The intern will be joining at an exciting time for the company, as we are scaling fermentation-based production towards early commercial sales; generating samples for customers in the personal care, bioplastic, and biofuel markets; developing novel products using our core fermentation-based platform molecule; and kickstarting direct-to-consumer sales of beauty products through our website.

The intern will work at our lab in Buffalo, assisting with bench- and pilot-scale bioreactor operations, wastewater-type samples analysis, method development, process design, and light construction. Our ideal candidate will have hands-on and independent wet-lab experience; knowledge of microbial growth practices; experience with hydraulic design and operations; 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; we're looking for a new team member with deep bioprocessing, chemical engineering, or wastewater treatment interest for their career, a multidisciplinary background, a "get it done" attitude, and share our ambition to bring greater sustainability to the world.

Responsibilities

- Assist R&D team with operating bench- and pilot-scale bioreactors, optimizing chemical extraction systems, evaluating new waste stream feedstocks, and analyzing samples and data (OD, pH, COD, BOD, VSS, etc).
- Perform mechanical, electrical maintenance on lab equipment.
- Design, build, and operate novel chemical and biological process units.
- Develop experimental approaches through ideation, design, construction, and analysis phases.

Qualifications

- Experience in wet-lab environment, especially with a biological and wastewater background.
- Experience with operating biological and chemical production systems.
- Manufacturing experience with hydraulics and electrical controls (NPT/socket/barb/Swage, DC/AC wiring, power and hand tools).
- Experience with AC/DC wiring, Arduino/Raspberry Pi, PC and networking components, basic coding.
- Able to learn on your own and seek out knowledge to bring solutions to problems.
- Strong writing and presenting skills to communicate with team.
- Ability to lift 50 pounds periodically.

Education and experience level

- Student seeking BS / MS / PhD in a relevant engineering or science field (for example: biological, environmental, chemical, mechanical; microbiology, food science) OR graduated recently with these credentials.
- Work and academic experience are preferred (previous internship, 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 bioprocess eng 2026]**. Improperly addressed applications may be lost in automated filters.