**What is the education/training necessary to be a virologist?**

Undergraduate: 4 years
Graduate school (PhD): 4-6 years
Postdoctoral research training: 3-5 years

For those pursuing pure teaching careers, there is less of a requirement for postdoctoral research training. Instead, some formal training in teaching is often required, depending on the teaching position.

**What is the typical day of a virologist?**

The working conditions of a virologist are extremely variable. Most virologists spend several haours a day in their labs and conduct experiments and advise interns and graduate schools. When an outbreak occurs employers send a team of virologists and other scientists to the site, like the outbreak of Ebola in Zaire. Other virologists travel to meetings nationally and internationally. If employed be a universtiy, they spend their time teaching courses and advising students. There really is no such thing as a 'typical day' for a virologist.

**What is the salary of a virologist?**

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that as of 2010, microbiologists of all specialties earned an average of nearly $66,000 per year. In its 2011 salary survey, Advance Magazine found that virologists working as laboratory researchers earned an average annual salary of almost $77,000 per year. According to the Profiles database, virologists working as physicians earned considerably more -- an average starting salary of $158,000 per year and an average of $225,000 per year after six years of practice.

**What are some products that you are making?**

I am studying cures for HPV, EBV, or HPB. I am inventing a cream which will suppress symptoms of these diseases. I am currently trying to fund more cancer research. I’ll explain the three viruses above for you:

HPV: Genital human papillomavirus (also called HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted infection (STI). There are more than 40 types of HPV that can infect the genital areas of males and females. These HPV types can also infect the mouth and throat.

EBV: A herpes virus that is the causative agent of infectious mononucleosis. It is also associated with various types of human cancers

HPV: A virus from the papillomavirus family that affects human skin and the moist membranes that line the body, such as the throat, mouth, feet, fingers, nails, anus and cervix. There are over 100 types, of which 40 can affect the genital area. Most known HPV types cause no symptoms to humans. Some, however, can cause verrucae ([warts](http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/155039.php)), while a small number can increase the risk of developing several [cancers](http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/info/cancer-oncology/), such as that of the cervix, penis, vagina, anus and oropharynx (oral part of the pharynx - throat cancer).

**Do you like your job?**

I love my job because I know that I am striving for betterment of the future. I am taking a part of a wonderful, world-changing thing. I would not trade my job for anything. Oh, it also pays well.

Huds, D. (2013). Average Salary of Virologists. *Ehow.com.* Retrieved by: <http://www.ehow.com/info_8582730_average-salaries-virologists.html>

Editors of the American Society of Virology. (2013) Ten Frequently Asked Questions about Training in Virology. *American Society of Virology.* Retrieved by: <http://www.asv.org/faq.html>