



Careers In The Poultry Industry

The Department of Poultry Science at Mississippi State University is one of six “poultry” degree granting departments remaining in the United States. Our research programs and teaching curriculum mirror current industry practices. As such, we have a large percentage of graduates that work in the industry and allied industry (62% as a current average). However, all seniors have opportunities for employment in the poultry industry. The department supports Mississippi’s largest commodity, which has provided 100% placement of our graduates since the first Poultry Science degree was awarded in 1948. The poultry industry employs approximately 24,000 people in Mississippi with an additional 23,000 jobs created as an indirect effect of the poultry industry. Mississippi is home to 7 broiler companies and the world’s largest egg producing company. Entry-level jobs and training programs in these former companies requiring a four year degree include, but are not limited to, the following areas: live production areas, the hatchery, the feed mill, and processing and products. Further, since poultry is a growing business and there are a limited number of Poultry Science graduates, our students have career opportunities throughout the United States. A baccalaureate degree in Poultry Science is an excellent start to a career in agribusiness, or entry into veterinary school or graduate school.