AMCBT
Guidelines for Evaluating
Undergraduate Education in Biology

An AMCBT approved program of study for a major in Biology should include at least the following:

* 480 Hours of classroom work in Biology (33 semester hours)

* 360 Hours of Laboratory/Field work in Biology (approximately one three hour session per week of the semester per course)

* A core curriculum that covers principles of Evolution, Procaryotic Biology, Eukaryotic Biology, Systematic Biology, Cellular and Molecular Biology, Ecological and Environmental Biology, Genetics, Physiological Biology, Structural (Anatomical) Biology, and Experimental Design/Biometrics

* Capstone experience such as a Senior Seminar

* One year of advanced work in biology or in allied fields that is outside of the core

* An undergraduate Research experience

* One year of Mathematics/Computer Science

* One year of Physics

* Two years of Chemistry to include Biochemistry
An AMCBT approved program would also include the additional evaluation of:

* Faculty Size (minimum four biologists, three-fourths with Ph.D.'s in Biology)

* Teaching loads (maximum 12 contact hours per week, including labs)

* Examinations, syllabi, and student research reports

* Faculty compensation

* Faculty professional activities

* Library collection (20 subscriptions to refereed journals, access to Biological Abstracts)

* Facilities and Equipment

* Budget and administrative structure; Support Personnel

* Textbooks and use of primary literature

* Placement of graduates

These suggestions are the result of a survey conducted by AMCBT between 1988 and 1990. The statistics were compiled by Secretary Harold Wilkinson. Please consult him for copies of the full nine page summary of all responses.