



Roles BME students take in their organizations?

Job Title	Description
Product Development Engineer	R&D in traditional departments (e.g. mechanical engineering, chemical engineering, optics engineering)
Life Cycle Management Engineer	Assist with new product introduction, production process development, and sustaining efforts.
Research Associate/Scientist	

What technical skills do they look for in BME students?

Notes: There are a few specific technical skills that I look for such as experience with sequencing instruments, analytical testing equipment, bioinformatics, and qPCR, but I'm mostly looking for logical thinking. I would rather hire someone who is able to explain how and why an experiment was performed rather than someone who is technically proficient because the skills that I look for can be taught. Many applicants have impressive experience and technical backgrounds, but lack the ability to communicate the rationale behind their work. I like to ask candidates to describe their work and how they measured things in an experiment and why during an interview.

Ideally, applicants are seniors, but juniors can also be considered. Sophomores could be considered for positions if they have a strong application, but rising juniors or seniors are preferred given Illumina's fast-paced environment.

What soft skills do they look for in BME students?

Soft Skill	Description
Initiative	Want students to be able to explore the why and critically analyze experimental data.
Team engagement	Asking follow-up questions, checking in, communicating updates to team.

Notes (Note any additional points that were discussed, but not covered above): Any experience outside the academic environment is definitely seen as a plus.