



Naji Chaar

**B.S. in Biomedical Engineering (2020)
Thermo Fisher Scientific, Fairlawn, NJ**

Describe your overall duties/responsibilities as a Manufacturing Supervisor (Operations Leadership Development Program):

Thermo Fisher Scientific's Operations Leadership Development Program is a two-year program that has rotated me across 4 roles every 6 months as an industrial engineer, manufacturing supervisor, operational excellence specialist, and materials planner. In the current role I am in as a manufacturing supervisor, I lead our Single Use Technologies Bio Process Containers assembly team consisting of 13 operators. My tasks include delivering on customer order, holding team meetings to improve our processes through lean exercises, resolving quality defects cross functionally, introducing new product into the manufacturing line through appropriate training, and developing my employees' skills through monthly coaching.

Explain the skills/abilities that are required for being successful in your role:

The pandemic has placed a lot of pressure on Thermo Fisher Scientific to deliver products that are key to manufacturing COVID-19 vaccines and test kits in addition to pharmaceutical therapeutics. As of recent, our colleagues have further developed the ability to work through ambiguous scenarios and knowing when to pivot our goals. A background in technical problem solving, manufacturing lean principles, statistical

data analysis, effective teamwork with strong communication, and passion for developing your team members is key to function in an operations leadership environment.

What advice would you give to students who are considering majoring in Biomedical Engineering?

In the field of Biomedical Engineering, the work we do enables our society to lead safe and healthy lives and it services a very diverse community. There are many untapped and exciting solutions yet to be discovered in the field. For students considering Biomedical Engineering as a major, I strongly advise to carry that sentiment of excitement for exploring and innovating new therapeutics as the field is currently booming exponentially. I would also advise to work with your program advisor to establish if you would want to pursue a research, medical, or industry track so you can cater your college experiences towards a successful graduation to the track of your choice.

