The past half century has seen tremendous growth of technological activity in biology and medicine. As engineers increasingly have become involved with projects in the life and health sciences, biomedical engineering has emerged to bridge the gap between these sciences and engineering.

The Roy J. Carver Department of Biomedical Engineering fosters interdisciplinary activities across departments and colleges and maintains strong ties with the Carver College of Medicine and the Colleges of Dentistry, Nursing, and Public Health. The department strives to provide a well-rounded and superior engineering education that attracts outstanding students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels; to conduct high-quality research that enables faculty members and students to keep pace with and initiate new developments; and to serve government, industry, and institutions worldwide by making the department's facilities and faculty expertise accessible.

Department faculty members have teaching and research expertise in areas related to cardiovascular and fluid biomechanics, musculoskeletal biomechanics, biomaterials and tissue engineering, bioinstrumentation, biosystems, biomedical imaging, biological signal analysis, bioinformatics and computational biology, respiratory and pulmonary engineering, and other allied fields. Several faculty members have joint appointments with the Carver College of Medicine, the College of Dentistry, or the College of Public Health. Biomedical engineering undergraduates and graduate students collaborate with faculty members and their colleagues on research problems in the life and health sciences.