

# “You should not give up easily...”

## Bio-economy Career Profile

**Position:** President & CEO

**Name:** Najla Guthrie

**Company:** KGK Synergize Inc.

**Salary Range:** \$120,000 and up per year

## What I do:

As the CEO of KGK Synergize Inc., I lead and manage the growth of the company. We have developed a cholesterol product that is currently on the market and are in various levels of testing for a type II diabetes prevention drug, and in clinical trials for a drug to prevent skin cancer and the effects of aging.

As part of my day-to-day responsibilities, I make many strategic decisions for the company's two divisions, contract and product development. I am continually building relationships within the biotechnology industry to position the company for greater growth. As CEO, I am also required to do the majority of public relations for the company.

Travel is a large part of my job. I travel extensively throughout the U.S., Europe, China, and India. I travel mainly to meet with new and existing clients. However, as the CEO, I am required to attend industry meetings and scientific conferences to help network and position the company in the industry and marketplace.

## What education and skills do candidates need for this position?

I have a Bachelor of Sciences. I worked “on the bench” doing research for many years before becoming a partner in KGK Synergize. My path to a CEO's position is not typical. Most CEOs have a strong business background. Also, having an MBA is not essential, but an asset.



Above all, a CEO needs to have good leadership skills in order to manage employees and contractors. You need to be able to motivate people to help move the company forward. You need a vision and then work hard at finding and meeting that vision. You should not give up easily, and if you fail, pick yourself up and keep going. It is really about how you face the challenges that meet you in your lifetime.

## What are the best parts of your job?

The best thing about being a CEO of your own company is the products that you bring to market. It is gratifying knowing that we are developing credible natural health products to help people live healthier and longer lives.