Admission Requirements

Applicants apply for admission to the program via the Graduate School application for admission (https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-admissions/how-to-apply/). Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-300 Admissions Policies (https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/).

Applicants should have a B.S., B.A. or comparable degree in agricultural or biological sciences with strong academic performance. Students from other majors will be considered provided they have academic background that includes biological sciences, chemistry, and mathematics. Expected course background varies with the intended area of concentration, but botany or plant science courses, statistics, soils, and chemistry are recommended. Students who lack some of the prerequisite courses may be provisionally admitted (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/gcac-303-provisional-admission/) but may be required to take these courses without degree credit. Ph.D. applicants should have a M.S. degree in a related field or significant research experience.

Scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general tests are not required for admission.

A minimum junior/senior grade-point average 3.00 (on a 4.00 scale) is required in all courses in the biological and physical sciences. Exceptions to these requirements may be made for students with special backgrounds, abilities, and interests.

Applicants must submit a statement of interests and goals and three letters of reference.