

MOLECULAR, CELLULAR AND INTEGRATIVE BIOSCIENCES

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/>).

Review of completed applications begins December 1 of each year. Applicants to the Ph.D. program are considered for admission; the program does not admit applicants for the terminal master's degree. GRE scores are not required for admission.

Required application materials include:

1. Completed official Penn State Graduate School application (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply/>).
2. Paid, nonrefundable application fee (see Requirements for Graduate Admission (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply/new-applicants/requirements-for-graduate-admission/>) for current fee).
3. Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended (<http://www.gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply/new-applicants/requirements-for-graduate-admission/>).
4. Application for a U.S. visa (international applicants only).
5. Names and contact information, including business email addresses, for three references.
6. Statement of goals that pertain to the life sciences including motivation for pursuing a research doctorate; research experience and interests; and professional goals. The statement should include biological problems that are of interest to the applicant and how the applicant's past experiences have prepared him or her to pursue this research.
7. Successful applicants generally will have completed coursework in biochemistry, molecular and/or cell biology, physics, chemistry (organic and inorganic), and calculus and have a minimum 3.5/4.0 Jr./Sr. undergraduate grade point average.

The language of instruction at Penn State is English. English proficiency test scores (TOEFL/IELTS) may be required for international applicants. See GCAC-305 Admission Requirements for International Students (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/gcac-305-admission-requirements-international-students/>) for more information.

Applicants to the MCIBS graduate program must have a minimum TOEFL score of 575 for the paper-based test, or a total score of 90 with a 21 on the speaking section for the Internet-based test (iBT). Successful applicants generally have a minimum score of 100 (with a 23 on the speaking section) on the Internet-based test.