

Molecular Biology Interdepartmental PhD Program (MBIDP)

2024 Application cycle

<https://bioscience.ucla.edu/application-procedure/>

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How many students apply and are accepted into the MBIDP program?

Our [Admissions Statistics](#) are [here](#).

2. How do I apply to the Molecular Biology graduate program?

To apply to the Molecular Biology doctoral program, you need to apply to one of our four home areas.

- Biochemistry, Biophysics, and Structural Biology
- Cell and Developmental Biology
- Gene Regulation, Epigenomics and Transcriptomics
- Immunity, Microbes and Molecular Pathogenesis

3. What are the basic requirements to apply to the MBIDP?

- An applicant must hold or be in the process of completing a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and must have the necessary academic preparation to participate successfully in graduate-level courses.

4. What is the MBIDP required minimum GPA?

UCLA requires a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.00 overall. For applications with GPA below 3.0, admissions is possible, but requires an exception request.

5. Do I need to take the GRE General Exam and subject exams?

No, the General Exam is optional.

6. Can I request a fee waiver?

Fee waivers are available for applicants who participated in certain undergraduate programs and who demonstrate need. The UCLA Graduate Division grants fee waivers through an [established process](#). Our department does not grant fee waivers.

7. Can I apply for a Master's?

At this time, we are not accepting applicants to our Master's program, only our Ph.D. program.

8. Is financial support provided?

Yes, students in our program have tuition/fees fully covered and receive a monthly stipend or salary. The stipend/salary amount is based on the student's year in the program and the salary scale in the latest graduate student employment contract.

9. Do I need to secure a mentor before applying?

You do not need any prior acceptance from a professor or mentor before you apply.

9. What does the admission committee look for when making admission decisions?

The committee looks at the cumulative GPA, academic history, statement of purpose, letters of recommendation, and research experience.

11. I am an international student applying to the MBIDP, where can I find information on how to apply?

UCLA Graduate Education has resources on their website for international applicants to graduate school, <https://grad.ucla.edu/admissions/international-applicants/>. Including English language requirements, submitting academic records, etc.

12. I'm applying by the December 1 deadline but I have not taken the TOEFL exam, what is the last possible date I can take the exams?

We strongly encourage applicants to take the TOEFL exam no later than November to ensure official scores are transmitted to UCLA on time.

13. Are TOEFL score copies acceptable?

Unofficial copies of scores are acceptable for review purposes but official copies from ETS are required for official admission to the University.