BIOCHEMISTRY, MS

for the Master of Science in Biochemistry

head of department: Satish K. Nair
director of graduate studies: Kai Zhang
mcb graduate admissions email: mcb-grad@illinois.edu
department website: https://mcb.illinois.edu/departments/biochemistry
school website: https://mcb.illinois.edu
college website: https://las.illinois.edu
department office: 417 Roger Adams Laboratory, 600 S. Mathews Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801
phone: (217) 333-2013

The Department of Biochemistry does not admit students to the Biochemistry MS degree program. Admission to graduate study is only through the PhD degree program. Information about the Biochemistry PhD program can be found here (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/biochemistry-phd/).

Graduate Degree Program in Biochemistry

Biochemistry, PhD (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/biochemistry-phd/)
The Department of Biochemistry offers graduate programs leading to the Doctor of Philosophy degree. For an application and departmental materials that provide greater detail on programs, offerings, admission, degree requirements, and financial aid, visit our website at www.mcb.illinois.edu/graduate/gradprospect.html. The Department of Biochemistry is a part of the School of Molecular and Cellular Biology (MCB), which also includes the Departments of Cell and Developmental Biology, Microbiology, Molecular and Integrative Physiology, as well as Programs in Biophysics and Neuroscience. The Department is part of an umbrella program in MCB that encompasses over 70 different research laboratories. Students admitted into any of these departmental graduate programs can select faculty thesis advisors from these active research laboratories in the School. Close ties are also maintained with the School of Integrative Biology, the School of Chemical Sciences, the College of Medicine, and the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Admission

Applicants interested in the Biochemistry, PhD program will need to apply directly to the School of Molecular and Cellular Biology (MCB) PhD program, https://mcb.illinois.edu/graduate/gradprospect/. The MCB PhD program is an umbrella program that requires admitted students to spend their first semester rotating among three different labs to explore their interests before joining one of our four departments.

MCB Admission requirements include a bachelor’s degree in biological or physical sciences, a grade point average of a 3.0 or higher (A = 4.0), prior research experience and three letters of recommendation from individuals who can attest to the applicant’s academic and research background. The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is not required. Applicants interested in pursuing a PhD in Biochemistry should have a strong background in chemistry, biology, physics, and calculus. In addition to these requirements, non-native English-speaking applicants must attain a minimum Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) overall score of 96, with at least a score of 22 on the speaking section. MCB does not accept the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) to show English proficiency. Graduate College requirements also apply.

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 04/2022