

MICROBIOLOGY, PHD

ADMISSIONS

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Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program's admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program's website.

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic programs and the Graduate School. **Applicants must meet the minimum requirements (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/>) of the Graduate School as well as the program(s).** Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/>).

Requirements	Detail
Fall Deadline	December 1
Spring Deadline	The program does not admit in the spring.
Summer Deadline	The program does not admit in the summer.
GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)	Not required.
English Proficiency Test	Every applicant whose native language is not English, or whose undergraduate instruction was not exclusively in English, must provide an English proficiency test score earned within two years of the anticipated term of enrollment. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Requirements for Admission policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1241 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1241/).
Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT)	n/a
Letters of Recommendation Required	3

PROGRAM APPLICATION MATERIALS

Note that all application materials are submitted through the UW Graduate School Admissions Office. (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/>) See the Microbiology program website (<https://microbiology.wisc.edu/how-to-apply/>) for more information and guidance for the application components.

- Personal statement, also known as "Statement of Purpose".
- An applicant background statement describing how the applicant's background and life experiences have motivated their decision to pursue a graduate degree at the University of Wisconsin.
- An unofficial copy of transcripts from each college or university attended.
- Three or more letters of reference from individuals (faculty, staff, supervisor, mentor) who can comment on the applicant's qualifications. This should include scholarly and academic qualifications, and can also include experiences in teaching, outreach, and community service. Directions for submission will be provided once you have initiated your application.

- A brief resume/CV listing academic awards, scholarships, location and length of research experiences, co-authorship on any publications or presentations at scientific conferences.

This program is a research-intensive program. Therefore, strong letters of recommendation, a well-crafted personal statement, and extensive research experience often aid students with below-average grades.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

We have recommended courses based on material that previous students have found valuable for success in the program, both in the lab and in required graduate level coursework. However, we recognize that the backgrounds of many students – and future student career goals – are varied and diverse, and that this diversity is a strength of our program. In the online application process, you will be asked if you have completed the following prerequisites:

- Biology: Two semesters. Such as the following UW-Madison course equivalents: (BIOLOGY/BOTANY/ZOOLOGY 151 and BIOLOGY/BOTANY/ZOOLOGY 152) or (BIOLOGY/ZOOLOGY 101, BIOLOGY/ZOOLOGY 102, and BIOLOGY/BOTANY 130)
- Genetics: One semester. Such as: MICROBIO 470, GENETICS 466, or (GENETICS 467 and GENETICS 468)
- Chemistry: Four semesters, including two semesters organic chemistry with one semester organic chemistry lab component. Such as: (CHEM 103 and CHEM 104), CHEM 109, or (CHEM 115 and CHEM 116), and (CHEM 343, CHEM 344, and CHEM 345)
- Biochemistry: One semester. Such as: BIOCHEM 501, (BIOCHEM 507 and BIOCHEM 508)
- Physics: One semester. Such as: (PHYSICS 104, PHYSICS 202, or PHYSICS 208)
- Mathematics: Two semesters of calculus or one semester each of calculus and statistics. Such as: MATH 171, MATH 217, MATH 221, STAT 301, or STAT 371
- Second semester of physics OR other quantitative reasoning course such as physical chemistry, differential equations, or upper-level course in computer programming, bioinformatics or statistics. Such as: PHYSICS 104, PHYSICS 202, PHYSICS 208, CHEM 561, (CHEM 563 and CHEM 565), MICROBIO 657, COMP SCI 319, COMP SCI/ B M I 576, STAT 303, MATH 319, or MATH 320

For each prerequisite, please be prepared to enter the course name and number. If you do not have all the recommended coursework, please use the text box in the application system to explain any deficiencies.

We ask that you fill in the course list as appropriate, but more broadly that you include a dedicated section within your personal statement to note how your academic preparation has prepared you for PhD training in microbiology.