BIOPHYSICS, PhD

ADMISSIONS

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**
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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 but may be considered if available.
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

**EVALUATION PHILOSOPHY**

The Biophysics Admissions Committee will carefully evaluate the potential of candidates to be successful in the Biophysics program by taking all components of the application into consideration. Applications will be reviewed holistically, and all aspects of training will be taken into account, including research experience, letters of recommendation, personal statement and academic transcripts.

**APPLICANT CONSIDERATIONS**

To qualify for admission to the program, an applicant must complete a bachelor’s degree at a recognized, accredited college or university, or a comparable degree from an international institution. Biophysics is a broadly interdisciplinary program. We encourage applications from students from a wide variety of undergraduate training experiences in biology, biochemistry, chemistry, physics, computer science, computational biology, bioengineering, cell and molecular biology, neuroscience, or other biological or medical sciences. A successful candidate will have substantial prior research experience. Some level of experience in one or more of the biological disciplines through coursework or prior research is also highly beneficial.

Biophysics at the University of Wisconsin Madison is committed to building a diverse and inclusive community and strongly encourages candidates from underrepresented groups to apply. Applicants are encouraged to include in their statements information about how their background and life experiences shaped their interests in pursuing a research-oriented career and will make them successful in this program.

**APPLICATION MATERIALS**

A complete application (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/) (Graduate School website) includes:

- A resume or CV.
- Reasons for graduate study (address, in narrative essay form, your research experiences, reasons and goals for graduate study, and how earning a PhD will help you achieve your goals).
- Transcripts must be submitted from each institution that you have attended and listed on your graduate school application (undergraduate and graduate). Records from international institutions must be in the original language with an official English translation. Copies of transcripts must be uploaded to the online application.
- Three letters of recommendation:
  - Qualified references include faculty and/or supervisors, who have familiarity with your intellectual, academic, and research-oriented capabilities, accomplishments, and personality. Recommendations are included as part of your online application.
  - A $75 non-refundable application fee. The application fee covers an application to three different graduate programs at UW-Madison. We encourage you to apply for the programs that best encompass your research interests, but you need to keep in mind that you will need to submit all application materials by the first program deadline. The UW Graduate School offers a limited number of application fee grants (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/fee-grant/) to eligible students.
  - Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores are NOT required as part of the application submitted to the Biophysics Program. You can choose to include scores if you wish, but a lack of scores will not impact consideration of your application.

Candidates must meet the general requirements of the UW–Madison Graduate School, including an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 out of 4.0 in the last 60 semester hours. For more information, please visit the Prospective Students (https://biophysics.wisc.edu/prospective-students/) page on the Biophysics program’s website.