

University of Maryland

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Admission Requirements

Admission to graduate study at the University of Maryland Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Program normally requires a minimum of a Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or equivalent degree with a minimum of 30 semester or 40 quarter hours of chemistry, an overall grade point average greater than 3.0 (on a scale where the grade of A = 4.0), and 3 letters of reference indicating a potential for independent, creative scientific research and a statement of purpose. Applicants are encouraged to provide a current C.V. or resume and a personal statement, although this is not required.

The study program in **Chemistry** should have included at least 1 year of Physical Chemistry, 1 year of Organic Chemistry and 1 semester of Inorganic Chemistry, as well as laboratory courses in Organic Chemistry, Physical Chemistry and Analytical Chemistry.

The study program in **Biochemistry** should have included at least 1 year of Organic Chemistry, 1 year of Biochemistry, 1 semester of Physical Chemistry, as well as laboratory courses in Organic Chemistry, Biochemistry, and Analytical Chemistry.

These requirements represent minimum standards and the competition for available space may limit admissions to persons with credentials above these levels.

The general Graduate Record Examination Scores (GRE-Verbal, Quantitative, Analytical) are required of all applicants. The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry does not have a set GRE minimum score for admission but the Graduate School suggest that only applicants with GRE scores at or above the 50th percentile of test results in that year (Verbal and Quantitative) be admitted. The Advanced Subject Examinations (Chemistry, Biochemistry, Physics or Biology) is recommended but not required.

International applicants from non-English speaking countries must also present the results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) as well as be required to partake in a video interview as part of the admission process. **Students who have received their undergraduate degree from a college or university within the United States of America are not subject to the TOEFL requirement.**

As a point of reference, our most recent class of new graduate students had an average GRE of 730 (Quantitative-77th percentile) and 540 (Verbal-73rd percentile). Half of these students also had GPAs of 3.5 and above (4 point scale). We continue to follow the guidelines set by the Graduate School of UMD that include TOEFL scores of 100 and above (total).