ADMISSIONS

Admission for Ph.D. study is offered to students with good undergraduate training in biochemistry, physics, organic chemistry, physical chemistry, biology, and mathematics. Students lacking preparation in a particular field, but otherwise qualified, may be admitted and given the opportunity to strengthen their backgrounds by taking the appropriate courses. The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test is required; GRE Subject tests in biology, biochemistry, chemistry, physics or mathematics are recommended but not required. The Admissions Committee screens completed applications and decisions on admissions are based on undergraduate record, including research experience, GRE scores, letters of recommendation, and personal interviews. TOEFL scores are required for foreign students whose native language is not English. The BMB program especially encourages applications from minority students. Admission decisions are usually completed by late March. On-line applications can be accessed at http://www.med.upenn.edu/bgs/applicants_phd.shtml

Students accepted for admission into the Ph.D. program receive tuition, and health care and insurance reimbursement, plus a twelve-month competitive stipend. Awards are renewed annually for students in good academic standing. Support for graduate students comes from a variety of sources, including Biomedical Graduate Studies, training grants, faculty research grants, and from private foundations such as the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Applicants are urged to apply for scholarships from the National Science Foundation and other funding programs for graduate students. A limited number of fellowships are available for outstanding foreign students.