

# UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

## Application Instructions for the Ph.D. Program in Molecular Biology OR Biological Chemistry

---

*All application materials and requests for information or assistance should be directed to:*

**MOLECULAR BIOLOGY PROGRAM  
OR  
BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY PROGRAM  
University of Utah  
15 NORTH 2030 EAST, EIHG 533 ROOM 1400  
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84112-5330  
USA**

**PLEASE INCLUDE  
ALL DOCUMENTS  
WITH APPLICATION**

### Documents Required

1. **Application Form** — Complete and sign the form “International Student Application for Admission.” We will pay the \$65 application fee **if you send all materials directly to the above address**. Since all students admitted to the Program receive full stipends and tuition waivers, no separate financial statement is required.
2. **Transcripts and Diplomas** — one **official** copy of all transcripts and diplomas (in your native language and English translations) enclosed from each college or university you have attended.
3. **Personal Statement** — a few pages usually suffice. It should be articulate and give evidence of a strong commitment to research. Please include the following information: (i) a description of your present academic interests and long-range career goals; (ii) reasons for applying to this and other programs; (iii) a description of your scientific interests; (iv) a summary of previous experience including laboratory research.
4. **GRE Scores** — an **official** copy of your scores on the “Graduate Record Examination” aptitude tests. Please send a photocopy of your GRE score sheet with your application. The official copy may be received later. Our institution code is **4853** and our department code is **0202** or **0206**.
5. **TOEFL Score** — an **official** copy of your score on the “Test of English as a Foreign Language” (TOEFL). This test is required of all applicants whose first language is not English and must have been taken within the past two years. Please send a photocopy of your score sheet with your application. An official copy may be received later. Our institution code is **4853** and our department code is **74** or **34**.
6. **Letters of Recommendation** — from at least **three** persons in a position to evaluate your potential for success in graduate school and a research career. You may wish to ask for letters from more than three people. Just make as many copies as needed of the “Personal Reference” form and give one to each respondent.
7. **Curriculum Vitae (CV)** — please see our website for sample form.

### Application Timetable

*Applicants admitted to the Program begin study in the Fall Semester (August) of the academic year.*

<b>January 15</b>	<b>APPLICATION DEADLINE (strict deadline for all materials)</b>
March 31	Applicants are notified, on or before, of admissions decision.
April 15	Decision date for acceptance of admission offers by applicants.

### Criteria for Admission

Admissions decisions are based on the following factors (not necessarily listed in order of importance):

#### **Educational Background**

Applicants should have some undergraduate training in biochemistry, chemistry, pharmaceuticals, genetics, cell biology, biology, physics or mathematics backgrounds. You are encouraged to apply even if you have not had extensive coursework in biological chemistry or molecular biology. Ideally, the undergraduate record should be strong in all areas. However, evidence of ability to perform well in science courses, particularly those stressing quantitative skills, is most important.

#### **Research Experience**

Many successful applicants have had some sort of independent lab experience indicative of an informed commitment to a research career.

#### **Recommendations**

Strong statements of support from persons in a position to evaluate the applicant's potential for success as a graduate student.

#### **GRE and TOEFL Scores**

Strong performance on these tests can carry considerable weight.

#### **Personal Statement**

The statement should be articulate and give evidence of commitment to research. Overly vague statements may be detrimental to your application.