

Biomedical Sciences, OVC FAQ Sheet

Q: Where can I find the Biomedical Sciences Department website?

A: The website can be found at the following location: www.ovc.uoguelph.ca/biom

Q: What are the application deadlines for Biomedical Sciences?

A: The application deadline for the **Fall semester** (with a start date in September) is July 15th. The application deadline for the **Winter semester** (with a start date in January) is November 15. The application deadline for the **Summer semester** (with a start date in May) is March 15.

Q: How do I apply to the Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences?

A: All applications must be submitted through the Office of Graduate Studies website at the following location: www.uoguelph.ca/graduatestudies/apply

Q: What are the minimum requirements for admission to Biomedical Sciences?

A: Applicants should hold an Honours BSc in biological sciences or a degree in veterinary medicine or equivalent with a minimum average B+ standing (or 77% Ontario equivalent GPA) over the last four semesters completed prior to entry into the graduate program.

Q: Do I need a faculty advisor in order to be admitted to a graduate program in Biomedical Sciences?

A: Yes, all graduate programs require a faculty advisor. You can find a list of faculty at the following link: <http://ovc.uoguelph.ca/biomedical-sciences/faculty> You should begin contacting faculty advisors who are conducting research in your area of interest to determine if they are taking on new students. Applicants are advised to begin contacting potential faculty advisors early (2-4 months in advance of your proposed start date) to avoid disappointment.

Q: What documents do I need to upload when making my application?

A: See the link: <https://www.uoguelph.ca/graduatestudies/apply>
Required documents are your OUAC form, a minimum of two (2) references for Masters programs and three (3) for PhD applications, undergraduate and graduate transcripts (if applicable), your C.V., Statement of Research Interest and an English language test if English is not your first language. See link: <https://www.uoguelph.ca/graduatestudies/future/international>

Q: What graduate programs are offered in Biomedical Sciences?

A: The **MBS** (Master of Biomedical Sciences) is a course-based program, consisting of six 0.5 credit courses plus a major research project/paper. This program is normally completed in three semesters (one year).

The **MSc** (Master of Science) program consists of course-work and the preparation and defense of a research-based thesis. In addition, this program has a minimum scientific communication requirement of one conference presentation (poster or podium) at a suitable regional, national or international conference. This program is normally completed in six semesters (two years).

The **PhD** (Doctoral) program requires the successful completion of a Qualifying Exam and the completion and defense of a thesis that contains a substantial component of original research. In addition, this program has a minimum scientific communication requirement of two manuscripts that must have been submitted to a scientific journal prior to graduation. The program is normally completed in 9-12 semesters (three to four years).

The Department of Biomedical Sciences also contributes to the **DVSc** program. DVSc students require a DVM (or equivalent degree) that would allow the applicant to practice veterinary medicine in the province of Ontario.

For more information please consult the Department of Biomedical Sciences Graduate Handbook: http://ovc.uoguelph.ca/sites/default/files/users/ovcweb/files/BIOM_GradStudentHandbook.pdf

Q: Are there any collaborative graduate programs offered in Biomedical Sciences?

A: Yes, Biomedical Sciences offers a collaborative graduate program with Neuroscience. The collaborative Neuroscience program provides a specialization for students engaged in research in the rapidly expanding field of Neuroscience, by permitting students to combine their departmental degree with multidisciplinary exposure to the field of Neuroscience. This unique combination of multidisciplinary studies provides students with the best possible foundation for academic careers in Neuroscience and related areas. See the following link for more information: <https://ovc.uoguelph.ca/biomedical-sciences/graduate-studies>

Q: What is the process after all the required documentation has been provided?

A: A file will be started, your transcripts analyzed and the information will be provided to the graduate committee of the department. The graduate committee will review your file and make a recommendation to Graduate Studies Department based on the information you have provided. If the graduate committee recommends admission, your application will be forwarded to the Graduate Studies Department. The final decision on whether admission is granted rests with the Graduate Studies Department.

Q: How will I know if I have been accepted?

A: You will receive formal notification in the mail along with an offer of admission. Your official transcript(s) will be required prior to admission in order to verify your credentials.

Q: Is funding provided for graduate students?

A: For the MSc and PhD programs the answer is yes. A stipend is provided to these students. For the MBS program, there is no funding provided. MBS students are expected to fully fund the cost of their programs.

Q: To whom should I address additional questions if I cannot find the answers on the University's website?

A: The graduate secretary of the Department can usually answer most questions. See the following link: <http://ovc.uoguelph.ca/biomedical-sciences/graduate-studies>