SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
RESEARCH EDUCATION OFFICE

Form Description:

The University of New Mexico Biomedical Science Graduate Program (BSGP) is proud to use a flexible and holistic admissions process. This means that our final admission decisions are based on a combination of numerical (e.g., grades) and non-numerical information (e.g., presentations, publications, and experience). We encourage applicants to provide as much evidence as possible of their potential to be successful in the BSGP.

Admission to the BSGP is competitive and meeting the recommended minimum requirements does not ensure admission to the program. Applicants who complete only the minimal recommended coursework and/or who lack competency in one of the core knowledge areas often struggle with the first-year BSGP core curriculum. Therefore, if you lack competency in any of the core knowledge areas, it is to your advantage to seek out opportunities to acquire competency before beginning training in the BSGP.

You may apply for admission to the BSGP while still completing or repeating courses, but you must complete all coursework prior to the start of Fall semester BSGP classes. If conditionally accepted for admission pending coursework completion, you must submit official transcripts showing successful completion of the required coursework with a grade of "B" or higher prior to the start of Fall semester BSGP classes.

The admissions process allows the BSGP to consider applicants who have not taken the minimum number of recommended pre-requisite courses or who have received grades below a "B" in recommended courses in core knowledge areas, **if the applicant otherwise demonstrates exceptional potential to succeed in the BSGP**. This supplemental form allows applicants to provide evidence of their competency in core knowledge areas.

Evidence of competency in a core knowledge area includes grades of "B" or better in recommended pre-requisite courses (upper-division or graduate-level preferred), relevant scientific presentations and/or publications, relevant research experience, GRE or other standardized test scores, relevant teaching or work experience, etc. GRE scores are optional and should only be submitted if you believe they strengthen your application package. If you received below a "B" in a recommended pre-requisite course within these core knowledge areas, you need to provide evidence to demonstrate that you have successfully remediated this core knowledge area.

For students who feel that they do not meet criteria for a PhD application, the MS degree may provide the opportunity to excel in graduate-level biomedical science courses, gain research experience, and obtain powerful letters of recommendation to support an application to the PhD program. Many MS students in the BSGP accelerate to the PhD track after demonstrating success in our coursework and research.

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Please complete this form (<u>typed font, not handwritten</u>). Attach as an addendum to your online application before the application deadline:

	Knowledge Area	Recommended Minimums and Example Evidence of Competency	Briefly explain how you demonstrate competency, including name of course with grades, your role in any research/teaching projects, etc.
1	Advanced Biological Sciences	Recommended minimum: 2 semesters upper-division Examples: Cell Biology, Molecular Biology, Genetics, Immunology, Physiology, Neuroscience, relevant research, teaching, publications, employment, etc.	
2	Biochemistry/Chemistry	Recommended minimum: 2 semesters upper-division Examples: Organic Chemistry, Biochemistry, relevant research, teaching, publications, employment, etc.	
3	Quantitative & Analytical Reasoning	Recommended minimum: 2 semesters Examples: Calculus, Statistics, Physics, Analytical Chemistry, 147 or higher on GRE Quantitative Reasoning, relevant teaching, etc.	
4	Writing	Recommended minimum: 1 semester upper-division Examples: upper-division writing courses, 3.5 or higher on GRE Analytical Writing, significant writing role on relevant publication, relevant teaching, etc.	
5	Research Experience	Recommended minimum: 1 year wet lab research experience, especially in biomedical areas, with 2 strong letters of recommendation from research mentors Examples: Other relevant non-wet lab research experience, laboratory-based coursework, exposure to and demonstrated interest in wet lab research, employment in a laboratory	

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