Biochemistry, PhD

Solving biological problems at the molecular level and with molecular tools is the goal of this program. You will learn to define structure, properties and synthesis from the molecular perspective in a biological context, how to tackle complex challenges, and how to be successful in an increasingly post-disciplinary scientific world.

**Program Description**

**Degree Awarded: PHD Biochemistry**

The PhD program in biochemistry in the School of Molecular Sciences provides students with the training they need to solve biological problems at the molecular scale and to be successful independent scientists who can contribute to current challenging societal issues. Students earning a doctoral degree in biochemistry from the school are fully trained in all fundamental aspects of the discipline, but most also will choose to learn by joining transdisciplinary teams that work on larger, mission-based contemporary problems in areas such as:

- biogeochemistry
- energy and sustainability
- fundamental chemical biology
- materials and nanoscience
- medicine and health
- structure function and dynamics

Students should visit the prospective student page ([https://sms.asu.edu/graduate-study](https://sms.asu.edu/graduate-study)) to learn more about this doctoral program and the graduate research page ([https://sms.asu.edu/graduate-study/research](https://sms.asu.edu/graduate-study/research)) to learn more about the cutting-edge, transdisciplinary research being conducted in the school. The doctoral program in biochemistry prepares students for professional careers in industry, government and academia.

**At a Glance**

- **College/School:** College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Degree Requirements

84 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam, a prospectus and a dissertation

Six graduate-level courses (12-18)  
Enrollment in a BCH 501/CHM 501 seminar each semester (8)  
BCH 792 Research (46-52)  
BCH 799 Dissertation (12)

Additional Curriculum Information

The program consists of coursework and seminars selected by the student in consultation with the student's supervisory committee and based on the student's area of research. Qualifying exams consisting of a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam and a prospectus are required to advance to candidacy. Students must successfully defend their dissertation during a public final oral defense. Students must also maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") or better.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in chemistry, biochemistry, or closely related field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. personal statement
4. GRE scores
5. three letters of recommendation
6. proof of English proficiency
Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

In addition to the admission application, applicants must complete an online supplemental application to the School of Molecular Sciences. The supplemental application will be available 24 to 48 hours after submission of the admission application. The personal statement and contact information for the letters of recommendation will be submitted as part of the supplemental application. Information about the supplemental application can be found on the department's website. Applications lacking a supplemental application will not be reviewed.

Application Deadlines

Fall

Contact Information

School of Molecular Sciences | PSD 102
smsgrad@asu.edu | 480-965-4664
Admission Deadlines