

Commonly Asked Questions Regarding Admissions

1. How many students are admitted each year?

Admission to the OHSU Program in Molecular and Cellular Biosciences (PMCB) is very competitive. We receive close to 200 applications annually. We will interview 50 applicants in Feb. 2015 and expect our matriculating class size to be between 15-20 students.

2. What fields of study fall under the PMCB Umbrella?

Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Physiology & Pharmacology, Cell & Developmental Biology, Molecular Microbiology & Immunology, Cancer Biology, Molecular & Medical Genetics and Quantitative Bioscience & Biomedical Engineering

3. Are there minimum GRE or GPA scores?

The GPA and GRE scores are just part of the criteria used by the Admissions Committee in making admissions decisions. A weakness in one area does not automatically disqualify an applicant since strong criteria in other areas of the application may outweigh any low scores.

We encourage scores equal to or greater than the following:

Verbal 153	Quantitative 148
Analytical 4.5	GPA 3.0

4. What are the average scores of your current students?

2014 Matriculated data includes:

14 students	Average GPA: 3.47	GRE Quantitative: 160
3 Foreign/International	GRE Verbal: 159	GRE Analytical: 4.2
TOEFL: 103		

5. Do you accept international students?

Yes. We encourage international students to apply.

6. If I am an international student who received my undergraduate or advanced degree from a US University, do I need to provide a TOEFL Score?

No. The program will waive TOEFL requirements based on a US degree.

7. What are my chances of being accepted?

Admissions Committee Members look for the following in applications:

- undergraduate transcripts with cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better with A's & B's in core science courses
- compelling letters of recommendation - Choose your letter writers carefully: ask mentors who know you best, and who can comment positively on the quality of your research experience
- desirable GRE scores
- research/lab experience

8. Who should write my Letters of Recommendation?

Request letters from individuals who know you well and have worked directly with you and can speak of your research/lab experience. Letters from previous and current PI's are strongly encouraged.

LOR's from course instructors carry very little weight.

8. May I contact Faculty?

You are free to contact faculty. However, this does not guarantee your admission.