



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

Department of Cell Biology and

Biochemistry Graduate Programs

### **Cell and Molecular Biology Graduate Programs Admissions Information**

The graduate program in Cell and Molecular Biology offers a Ph.D and two M.S. tracks in research or pre-medical sciences.

#### Prerequisites for Admission

- A bachelor's degree or the equivalent from an accredited college or university.
- Adequate preparation for the proposed field of graduate study. There is no minimum GPA requirement, although the average undergraduate GPA of admitted students is above 3.7 for PhD and MS research, and above 3.3 for pre-medical sciences.
- Students must take the Graduate Record Examination (General Test) and have scores forwarded directly to our department for evaluation. While not required, applicants are encouraged to take one of the following Subject Tests: 1) Biochemistry, Cell and Molecular Biology, 2) Biology, or 3) Chemistry. There is no minimum GRE score requirement. However, the average cumulative GRE score for successful applicants to the PhD and both MS tracks is above 1200. Although there is no minimum verbal GRE score, we have learned that students with scores below 470 frequently struggle with the core curriculum. The average verbal GRE score of admitted students is above 515.
- Occasionally the program will accept MCAT scores in lieu of the GRE. This decision is made on a case-by-case basis. There is no minimum MCAT score requirement, although the average score for admitted PhD students is 30, and average score of 26 for admitted MS pre-medical sciences.
- International applicants must provide Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) exam results. While there is no minimum TOEFL requirement, the average TOEFL exam scores of admitted students is above 99.
- Two letters of recommendation from faculty or administrators who are familiar with the scholastic abilities of the applicant.
- A personal interview by the Graduate Committee of the department may be requested.

All completed applications receive full consideration by the admissions committee, but applications with a combined GRE score below 1000 and/or cumulative GPA below 3.0 are seldom competitive. However the admissions committee does consider other factors such as:

- prior research experience,
- evidence of a candidate's commitment to science (for example, the application Statement of Purpose and research experience statement),
- letters of recommendation,
- personal interviews, if applicable.