

Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Graduate Programs – Admissions Information for the PhD in **Biomedical Engineering (BME)**

Program Admissions Details:

During the 2022 admissions cycle, the BME program enrolled 53 students out of a pool of 759 applicants. As of July 2022, there were 258 total students enrolled in the program. More information about the PhD student body can be found [here](#). Students in this program work on the East Baltimore, Homewood, and Bayview campuses, as well as the Applied Physics Lab.

Students in this program are paid a stipend to support their living expenses (the 2022-2023 stipend is \$35,608). Tuition costs for SOM courses are covered by the School for students in this program and are not paid by the student. Standard medical benefits for the student are also covered. Benefits for the student's immediate family are available at additional cost to the student. Student stipends are subject to taxes. Students from Maryland with student loans may be eligible for a credit on their state taxes. More information is available on the School of Medicine [Financial Aid page](#). The University does not provide housing, though the [housing office](#) will provide advice.

Some students in this program are covered by Federal training grants. Others applied for individual scholarships and received funding. Applicants are encouraged (but not required) to apply for funding before beginning their training. Information about funding opportunities for U.S. students (including NSF GRFP and NIH F31 grants) can be found [here](#).

Program Details:

For the 2023 admissions cycle, the application for this program is open from 9/1/2022 to 12/1/2022. In the time before the application is open, applicants may log in and begin their applications. The application can only be submitted during the period in which the application is open.

On the application, applicants are asked to indicate two research area(s) of interest from this list below. These areas are described in detail [here](#).

- Biomedical Data Science
- Computational Medicine
- Genomics & Systems Biology
- Imaging & Medical Devices
- Immunoengineering
- Neuroengineering
- Translational Cell & Tissue Engineering

Applicants are also asked to identify faculty with whom they are interested in working. Although students in the BME PhD program may work with faculty from other departments, a list of BME faculty can be found [here](#). Applicants are encouraged to contact faculty of interest before or during the application period to discuss potential opportunities in those labs.

Academic History & Prior Research Experience:

Applicants will need to list all colleges and universities they attended and upload a transcript from each school. Applicants with prior research experience should share information about this, including the institution and mentor, dates of participation, and any publications resulting from the experience.

Admissions requirements:

- Applicants are **not** required to take the GRE for fall 2023 admissions (12/1/2022 application deadline). Applicants may choose to submit GRE scores as part of their application if they have taken the exam, and if so, scores will be reviewed as part of the holistic review process. If an applicant does not submit GRE scores, this will not be taken as a negative factor in the holistic review, and applicants will not be asked why they did not supply a GRE score. If an applicant wishes to submit their GRE results but scores were not directed to Johns Hopkins University or Johns Hopkins School of Medicine at the time the test was taken, the applicant should contact the College Board and have their scores sent to the Institution Code 5316.
- Applicants must submit a statement (one-page maximum) indicating the basis of their interest in graduate study and their career objectives. Applicants should include a discussion of any research experience they have had, mention any faculty members that they would be interested in working with as a potential student at Johns Hopkins, and explain their interest.
- Applicants may also submit an optional statement (one-page maximum) about their personal background and their contributions to support and advance diversity, equity, and inclusion in science. This personal statement is **optional**. If applicants choose to submit a personal statement, they should upload a single document that includes both the basis of interest statement and the personal statement (two pages maximum, one page per statement).
- Applicants must identify **three** people who are familiar with the applicant's work and provide their contact information. Once applicants have entered this contact information into the application, the School of Medicine will contact the recommenders and ask them to submit letters of recommendation on behalf of the applicant. Letters of recommendation must be received within one week of the application due date; applicants are encouraged to remind the recommenders to submit their letters of recommendation as needed.

International Students:

- The University will sponsor visas for accepted students.
- International students whose native language is not English are required to complete the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS). When taking the exam, applicants should request official scores be reported to Institution Code 5316 (the Department Code is not necessary). To report official IELTS test scores, please include the Test Report Form (TRF) verification number on the application. Scores must be received within one week of the application deadline.
- The TOEFL requirement will be waived if the applicant has completed their degree in a U.S. institution, or is currently enrolled and will receive a degree from a university within the U.S. prior to matriculation at JHU-SOM.
- All transcripts, letters of recommendation, and parts of the Admissions application must be completed in English. The approved transcript service for use by international students is WES.
- International applicants are not eligible for application fee waivers through the School of Medicine's Admissions Office. The BME program offers a limited number of fee waivers to international applicants available on a first come, first served basis. International applicants requesting a fee waiver should identify a potential advisor who is willing to advocate for the fee waiver based on their conversations with the candidate. The prospective advisor does not need to make a commitment to support the applicant in their lab at the time of application, and their

support of the applicant's fee waiver does not guarantee an offer of admission. International students who are requesting a fee waiver and who have identified a potential advisor to support this request should contact the JHU BME PhD program Co-directors at bmephdcodirectors@jh.edu.

Getting to know you:

- Parts of the Admissions application collect information for mandatory reporting. These parts may ask applicants to select a pre-set category for gender, race or ethnicity. Other sections of the application allow applicants to share more details about how they choose to describe themselves.
- Application fee waivers may be given to applicants based on family income (U.S. citizens only). The term *family* is determined by your definition. Families may involve adoptions, separations, and many other variations.

Admissions fees:

- An Admissions fee of \$115 dollars is required and must be submitted using a credit card. In some cases, this fee will cover applications to more than one program.
- For a complete description of the fee waiver process, please see the [Application Fees and Fee Waiver Instructions](#) on the On-Campus Admission website. These fee waivers are only available for U.S. citizens or permanent residents. International applicants may apply for a limited number of application fee waivers through the BME program (see International Students section above).

Application status website:

- Once their application is submitted, the applicant may follow its progress on the Application Status page. This page can be accessed upon completion of the application. The status page has the most current information available. Applicants should allow some time for updates to be processed within the online application system and reflected on the Application Status page.

Admission timeline:

- Review of applications will begin immediately after the application deadline.
- The BME program will contact selected applicants about interviews via email in late January or earlier if feasible. Applicants must complete the interview process to be considered for admission, and final admission decisions will be made from the pool of interviewed applicants. We anticipate that interviews will be conducted virtually for the fall 2023 admissions cycle.
- Selected applicants will be invited to an in-person campus visit in March, conditions permitting, to meet current faculty and graduate students, as well as learn more about the program and the Hopkins BME environment.
- Letters describing acceptance, wait list status, or rejection will be sent by email by mid-March. This information will also be available on the Application Status website. Applicants selected for acceptance must choose to accept or reject the offer by April 15. On April 15, all accepted offers become binding.
- Orientation for admitted students will be held in August, 2023. Students may choose to start their training on one of two matriculation dates corresponding to either the summer term (matriculation in early July) or fall term (matriculation in late August). Students who choose to

matriculate early (summer term) should be aware that this early start date may impact their eligibility for certain federal funding opportunities, including the NSF GRFP.

BME Application Assistance Program:

- The BME Application Assistance Program is a student-run initiative that supports prospective applicants by pairing them with current graduate students who are available to review the application materials and answer questions about the BME program. The BME Application Assistance Program aims to encourage applications from students who identify with groups that are historically disadvantaged or underrepresented in STEM, or those from non-traditional academic backgrounds who may lack support in their pursuit of higher education.
- Participation in the BME Application Assistance Program is strictly voluntary and will not be a factor in admissions decisions. Information provided to Application Assistance Program members is confidential and will not be shared with the Admissions committee.
- More information about the BME Application Assistance Program can be found [here](#).

Applicant survey:

- Applicants will receive a survey during the third week of April (after April 15) where they can provide feedback about their experience with the Admissions process. The survey will also ask questions about the disability status of applicants.

Upon acceptance:

- Accepted students will undergo a criminal background check.
- Accepted students must submit official transcripts to the School of Medicine Registrar. This may be in the form of a digital transcript, which is submitted through a transcript service approved by the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Registrar. The approved transcript service for international students is [WES](#). Transcripts may also be mailed directly from the accepted student's school to the School of Medicine Registrar. Detailed instructions will be provided upon acceptance.

Communicating with the program:

- BME contact: JHU-BME-Graduate@jhu.edu
- General questions: GradAdmissions@jhmi.edu
- For more information, please see the BME website:
<https://www.bme.jhu.edu/academics/prospective-students/graduate-program-overview/ph-d-program/>
- Admissions information: <https://www.bme.jhu.edu/academics/graduate/phd-program/apply-to-the-phd-program/>