

Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Graduate Programs – Admissions Information for the PhD in Immunology

Program Admissions Details:

In 2026, the Immunology PhD Program admitted 3 students out of a pool of 282 applicants. In August 2026, the total number of students in the program will be 28. The average time to degree for this program is 5.7 years. Students in this program work on the East Baltimore campus and the Bayview campus.

Students in this program are paid a stipend to support their living expenses (the 2026-2027 stipend is \$52,000). Tuition costs for SOM courses are covered by the school for students in this Program (i.e., not paid by the student). Standard medical benefits for the student are 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 receive State tax benefits. More information is available here on our [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 GFRP and F31 grants) can be found [here](#).

Program Details:

The application for this program is open from September 1 to December 1. In the time before the application is open, applicants may log in and begin their applications. The application can only be submitted in the period when the application is open.

On the application, Applicants are asked to indicate the research area(s) of interest from this list:

- Cancer Immunology
- Autoimmunity
- Immunology of Infectious Disease
- Microbiome-related Immunology
- Allergy and Asthma
- Immune Cell Signal Transduction
- Immune Cell Gene Expression and Regulation
- Development and Maintenance of Immune Cells and Tissues
- Antigen Processing, Presentation and Recognition
- Engineering of Immune Responses
- High Throughput and Genome-Wide Assessment of Immunity
- Immunodeficiency
- Immunology of Transplantation
- Sex differences in immune responses

Academic History & Prior Research Experience:

Applicants will need to list all colleges and universities they have attended. A transcript will need to be uploaded from each school attended. Applicants with prior research experience share information

about this including the institution and mentor, dates of participation, and any publications resulting from the experience.

Admissions requirements:

- The Graduate Program in Immunology no longer requires the Graduate Record Exam (GRE).
- Applicants must submit a one-page personal statement that describes their personal motivation for pursuing a career in science and their research experience. The research description need not be comprehensive, but it should describe at least one meaningful experience in detail. The statement should conclude with a concise description of why they want to pursue their studies in the indicated program(s) at Johns Hopkins University.
- Applicants must identify **three** people who are familiar with the applicant's work and provide contact info for these references. The contact info will be entered into the application, and SOM will contact the references and ask them to submit letters of recommendation on behalf of the applicant.

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 before 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 in English. The approved transcript service for use by international students is [WES](#).
- International students are not eligible for waivers of the Admissions Application fees.

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 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.

Admissions fees:

- An admissions fee of \$125 is required and must be submitted using a credit card. This one fee covers applications to up to four programs.

Admission timeline:

- Review of applications will begin immediately after the application deadline. The program will begin reviewing applications when they are received, so submitting your application before the deadline may be helpful.
- The Immunology program will contact strong applicants about interviews beginning during winter break around the middle of December. Letters describing acceptance, wait list status, or rejection will be sent by email. 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 will be held in late August. Students will begin their training at this time. The Immunology program only accepts students for fall matriculation.

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 Office of Graduate Biomedical Education. Detailed instructions will be provided upon acceptance.

Communicating with the program:

- Immunology contact: ajames@jhmi.edu
- General questions: GradAdmissions@jhmi.edu
- For more info, please see the Program website: <https://gradimmunology.med.som.jhmi.edu/>