

Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Graduate Programs – Admissions Information for the PhD in **Pharmacology & Molecular Sciences**

Program Admissions Details:

In 2025, the Pharmacology & Molecular Sciences PhD Program admitted 6 students out of a pool of 180 applicants. In August 2025, the total number of students in the program was 46. The average time to degree for this program is 5.5 years. Students in this program work primarily on the East Baltimore campus.

Students in this program receive financial aid in the form of a tuition scholarship, individual medical/dental/vision insurance, and a stipend to support living expenses (the 2026-2027 stipend is \$52,000). Student stipends are subject to taxes. Students from Maryland with student loans may receive State tax benefits. More information is available from [Student Financial Aid Services](#).

Some students in this program are supported by NIH training grants. Others receive funding from competitive individual scholarships or fellowships. Applicants are encouraged (but not required) to apply for external funding before and during their training (e.g., NSF GFP and F31 grants).

Program Details:

The application for this program is open from 9/1/2026 to 12/1/2026. The application can only be submitted during the open application period. ***All components, including recommendations and test scores (if required, see below) must be received before the deadline for consideration.***

Academic History & Prior Research Experience:

Applicants will need to list all colleges and universities they have previously attended, regardless of whether a degree was awarded. An unofficial transcript must be uploaded from each school attended. Applicants with prior research experience will be asked to provide 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 this program.**
- Applicants must submit a one-page **personal statement** that describes their motivation for pursuing a career in science and their research experience. The research description need not be comprehensive, but should describe at least one meaningful experience in detail. The statement should conclude with a concise description of why the applicant wishes to pursue their studies in the indicated program(s) at Johns Hopkins University.
- Applications must include **three (3) letters of recommendation**. Referees should be people who are familiar with the applicant's work and can speak to the suitability and potential for graduate study.

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). Other language proficiency tests are **not** accepted. 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. There is no minimum score requirement.

- The TOEFL/IELTS requirement will be waived if the applicant has completed a degree at an institution where the primary language of instruction is English. The requirement will also be waived for applicants who will complete a degree at an institution where the primary language of instruction is English **prior to matriculation** into 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 [iWES](#).
- International students are not eligible for waivers of the Admissions application fees.

Admissions fees:

- An admissions fee of US \$125 is required and must be submitted using a credit card. This fee will cover applications for up to four PhD programs in the School of Medicine.
- For a complete description of the fee waiver process, please refer to the *Application Fees and Fee Waiver Request Instructions* on the [On-Campus Admission](#) website. Fee waivers are only available for U.S. citizens.
- Fee waivers are **not** available for applicants who do not meet the stated criteria in the *Application Fees and Fee Waiver Request Instructions*.

Application status website:

- Once the 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.

Admission timeline:

- Full review of applications will begin immediately after the application deadline.
- The Pharmacology program will contact strong applicants with invitations to interview in late December. Interviews are typically held in early February.
- Letters describing acceptance, wait list status, or rejection will be sent through the application portal as soon as decisions are reached. 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 the third week of August 2027. Students will begin their training at this time. The Pharmacology 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.

Upon acceptance:

- Accepted students will undergo a criminal background check.
- Accepted students must submit official transcripts to the School of Medicine. The preferred format is an electronic 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 Admissions Office. Detailed instructions will be provided upon acceptance.

Communicating with the program:

- Pharmacology contact: JHUPharmacology@jh.edu
- General questions: GradAdmissions@jhmi.edu
- For more information, please see the Program website:
https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/pharmacology_molecular_sciences/grad_program/
- Admissions info:
https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/pharmacology_molecular_sciences/grad_program/prospective_students/admissions.html