

Specialization in Life Sciences Research and Technology Application Instructions Page 1

Applicants are responsible for ensuring the application is completed by the deadline. The instructions below will ensure applicants submit a complete application for the Specialization in Life Sciences Research and Technology Program. Applicants are responsible for reviewing this document thoroughly. The BS/MS Program Advising Office will **not** contact applicants if information is missing or an applicant has not completed a step required for an admissions decision to be processed. Applications with missing documents or unfinished required sections will be considered incomplete and the applicant will forfeit eligibility for the Specialization in Life Sciences Research and Technology.

Application Instructions:

1. Create a new account in the [Application Management System](#)
 - a. Select "Start New Application", "Create Application", and "Open Application"
 - b. Read through the Application Instructions
 - c. In the Program Selector Page:
 - i. Answer Yes, you are a current UCSD student
 - ii. Confirm your undergraduate college
 - iii. Answer No, you have not previously registered as a graduate student
 - iv. Enter your PID
 - v. Select "B.S./M.S." for Degree Type
 - vi. Select "Biology with a Specialization in Life Sciences Research and Technology" as the Program Interest
 - vii. Select the appropriate entry term
2. Complete all required application questions with accurate information. When completing the "Academic History" section:
 - a. Add an institution for ALL colleges or universities attended after high school
 - b. Upload unofficial transcripts for ALL colleges or universities attended after high school (including the UC San Diego unofficial transcript)
 - c. When entering information for UC San Diego:
 - i. Select "Bachelor's Degree or Equivalent"
 - ii. Do NOT calculate or enter your last 2-year GPA
3. International applicants: when completing the "English Language Proficiency" section, select "I believe I am exempt from the English Language proficiency requirement"

Specialization in Life Sciences Research and Technology Application Instructions Page 2

4. Complete the Biological Sciences Application Questions:
 - a. **Stream Selection.** Applicants must select their preferred curricular stream. Stream assignments are communicated to admitted students (placement in a specific stream is not guaranteed). Assignments are final and changes are not permitted during the program.
 - i. **Stream 1:** Research will focus on viral evolution and replication, phage therapy, and host-pathogen interactions in the nematode *C. Elegans*
 - ii. **Stream 2:** Research will focus on protein misfolding and metabolic regulation, and their dysregulation in disease
 - b. **How will the LSRT Program help you to achieve the next step in your career?**
 - i. *It is perfectly appropriate to be unsure. We are interested in responses that are concrete and personal, and name specific skills you want to develop, directions you are considering, or career uncertainties you hope to address. Your answer will help us to assess your fit with the program and to adjust the program to align with your goals.*
 - c. **Tell us about a field of biology that genuinely interests you.**
 - i. *We are not asking for a demonstration of expertise (for example, a research plan). We want to know why the topic you choose motivates you—the personal experiences, questions, and problems that make it exciting to you. Responses will help us to understand what draws you to research.*
5. Letters of Recommendation
 - a. Letters of Recommendation are **not required** for admission to this program, but applicants may choose to request letters of recommendation to supplement their application.
 - b. If an applicant chooses to request a letter of recommendation, the BS/MS Program recommends that students request letters of recommendation from faculty within the [School of Biological Sciences](#).
 - c. To request a letter of recommendation within the application portal:
 - i. Enter the recommender's contact information within the "Recommendation" section of the application portal. Applicants should consult with any potential recommender prior to submitting their information in the application portal.

Specialization in Life Sciences Research and Technology Application Instructions Page 3

6. Upload a **Statement of Purpose** that answers the following questions:
 - a. What are your future career plans?
 - b. Do you have previous experience with research? If so, please provide details.
 - c. Why are you interested in biology research?
 - d. What kind of biology research are you interested in?
 - e. What about nature excites you?

General Notes:

- Applicants are not required to report test scores (GRE, TOEFL, etc.)
- Applicants are not required to upload a CV/Resume
- Applicants must submit **AND** pay the application fee by the stated deadline to be considered for admission
- Applicants requesting a fee waiver should review the [fee waiver information](#) published by the Division of Graduate Education and Postdoctoral Affairs. Applicants requesting a fee waiver should complete and submit their application at least 1 week prior to the application deadline.