

Biomedical Sciences (PhD)



Pursue your passions while contributing to translational, life-changing health research.

The **Interdisciplinary Program in Biomedical Sciences (IDP)** at the Medical College of Wisconsin trains the next generation of graduate students to be well-rounded, productive, and highly competitive scientists within the contemporary workforce. We accomplish this through an innovative and modernized integrated curriculum that includes core and elective courses in a broad array of biomedical sciences, professional development, and scientific writing as well as research-based rotations in world-class laboratories led by enthusiastic, collaborative, and engaged faculty members. Our curriculum is designed to be inclusive, comprehensive, creative, individualized, and highly interdisciplinary.

5.3 YEARS

average time to degree
completion

<2:1 RATIO

of students to research
faculty

The mission of the Interdisciplinary Program in Biomedical Sciences (IDP) is to help students discover their potential while expanding knowledge through coursework and biomedical research. Our goal is to train the next generation of graduate students to be productive, well-rounded scientists that are able to contribute substantively within the contemporary workforce.

Program Overview

Choose from 1 of 6 broad research program areas, including:

- **Biochemistry**
- **Biophysics**
- **Cell & Developmental Biology**
- **Microbiology & Immunology**
- **Pharmacology & Toxicology**
- **Physiology**



The IDP is an umbrella program that provides initial training to students who will be pursuing a PhD degree in one of six basic science departments. Students complete the first 18-months of their PhD training within the IDP, enrolling in required and elective courses along with at least four 6-week laboratory rotations while also participating in professional development activities, scientific writing session, and presentation exercises. Students identify a research mentor in the early part of the spring term of their first year and begin working on a research project to support their

PhD dissertation. The IDP culminates in the fall of the student's second year with a qualifying examination that includes preparation of a research fellowship proposal based on the student's PhD dissertation project along with an oral defense of the proposed research. Students are then encouraged to submit their prepared research proposal to the NIH or other extramural funding agency. It is also at this time that the student officially transitions out of the IDP and matriculates into the specific graduate program associated with their primary mentor's department.

Receive a guaranteed financial aid support package that includes:

- **Full tuition coverage**
- **An annual stipend of over \$33,500**
- **Complimentary health insurance**

Admissions

No GRE or any other standardized test required for admission consideration.



While applications are welcome and reviewed year-round, the most ideal time to submit an application is between September 1 and the priority deadline date in order to be considered for enrollment the following year. Applications that are completed on or before the priority deadline date are guaranteed to receive consideration to move on to the interview stage

of the admissions process. Interviews will be held virtually in January, and admitted students will be invited to visit campus in March. All admission offers will be honored through April 15, at which point they may be rescinded. New students are admitted once per year only, at the beginning of the Fall term. You can reach out to **idp@mcw.edu** for more information.

