Admissions Requirements

In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, applicants must meet the following admissions requirements:

- **Baccalaureate Degree** A baccalaureate degree or its equivalent in a science- or engineering-related field from an accredited college or university will be required, except in special cases. Prior academic work should include college mathematics, general biology and biochemistry, general and organic chemistry, or the equivalent engineering courses.

- Generally qualified candidates may be required by the department to remove specific course work deficiencies by completing selected undergraduate courses prior to matriculation or graduation.

- **Grade Point Average**
  - **Undergraduate:** At least 3.00/4.00 for the final 60 semester hours (90 quarter hours) of undergraduate study. Exceptions to this requirement may be considered on a case-by-case basis.
  - **Postbaccalaureate:** The student’s grade point average for any postbaccalaureate course work must be 3.00/4.00 or greater.

- **Transcripts Required** Transcripts are required from all institutions where the applicant earned the last 60 semester hours (90 quarter hours) of credit toward the baccalaureate degree and from all institutions where postbaccalaureate work has been done.

- **Tests Required** GRE General Test is required. Results should be less than two years old. The GRE requirement may be waived on a case-by-case basis for applicants with sufficient work experience (nominally five years or more) in biotechnology or other science-related fields. MCAT, DAT, and PCAT scores may be accepted as alternative accomplishment testing information.

- **Minimum English Competency Test Scores** All persons who do not have English as their native language must submit the results of one of the three language skills tests:
  - **TOEFL** The TOEFL score cannot be more than two years old. UIC’s Institutional Code is 1851. Internet Based test (iBT)—total score of 80 or greater, with sub-scores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Speaking 20, and Writing 21; 60, with sub-scores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Writing 21 (New Paper-Based—after August 2018); 550 (Institutional Testing Paper-Based—prior to August 2018) **Note:** Exemptions to the TOEFL requirement are as stated in the UIC Graduate College Application Instructions, page 4. OR,
  - **IELTS** 6.5 average Band score, with sub-scores of at least 6.0 (Band 6: Competent user) in all subcategories (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking), OR,
  - **PTE-Academic** 54, with sub-scores of Reading 51, Listening 47, Speaking 53, and Writing 56.

- **Letters of Recommendation** Three required. If applicant is employed, one of the letters of reference must come from the employer confirming employer commitment to student participation. The other letters should be from former professors, teachers, or persons who can refer the candidate based on personal experience with the candidate’s professional competence.

- **Personal Statement** Required statement of career goals.

Degree Requirements

In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, students must meet the following program requirements:

- **Minimum Semester Hours Required** 34 credit hours.
- **Course Work**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MBT 501</strong></td>
<td>Cell Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MBT 504</strong></td>
<td>Principles and Techniques in Protein Biochemistry</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MBT 505</strong></td>
<td>Principles and Techniques in Molecular Biology</td>
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<td><strong>MBT 506</strong></td>
<td>Principles and Techniques in Immunology</td>
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<td><strong>MBT 510</strong></td>
<td>Ethics in Medical Biotechnology</td>
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<td><strong>MBT 511</strong></td>
<td>Statistics for Biotechnology Research</td>
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<td><strong>MBT 513</strong></td>
<td>Research Planning, Design and Execution</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MBT 520</strong></td>
<td>Biotechnology Product Development: Concepts, Practice and Regulatory Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MBT 595</strong></td>
<td>Student Seminar in Medical Biotechnology</td>
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**Electives**

At least 6 credit hours.

- **Comprehensive Examination** Not required
- **Thesis, Project, or Course-Work-Only Options:** Research Project or Course-Work-Only.
  - **Research Project Option** (lab research or library paper) with written and oral final reports.
    - In addition to required courses and electives, students must earn 8 credit hours in MBT 597.
    - Research project requirement requires design, justification, and execution of a research project and preparation of written and oral final reports. This requirement may be met by research conducted at University of Illinois at Rockford or other University of Illinois sites or in the laboratories of one of our industrial/academic partners or a combination of both.
    - Formal defense of the research project is required.
  - **Course-Work-Only Option:**
    - In addition to required courses, students must complete at least 14 credit hours of electives yielding a minimum total of 34 credit hours.
    - The Course-Work-Only Option also allows for students to do an internship at an approved site. Students choosing to do an internship must complete up to 8 credit hours of MBT 592. Students must then select enough elective credit hours to complete the 14 credit hours of electives required for the Course-Work-Only option. For every one credit hour of MBT 592, students must complete 75 hours of internship. Upon completion of the internship, students must submit a written report and give an oral presentation.