

# Integrated Multidisciplinary Graduate Programs

## INTRODUCTION

The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences is offering research opportunities for doctoral level degrees through our Integrated Multidisciplinary Graduate Program designed to develop both scholarly and laboratory expertise. Doctoral studies in our graduate programs will prepare your intellect and develop your technical skill-sets that are vital to pursue career opportunities in research and education. One very special advantage of our doctoral programs is that we operate in a prominent academic health science university where scientific inquiry can synergize with the healing professions to guide our science in seeking solutions to even the most vexing issues plaguing mankind.

## THE INTEGRATED MULTIDISCIPLINARY GRADUATE PROGRAM

Student entering the IMGP are admitted undifferentiated and select a research track in the spring semester of the first year. At this time, students select a dissertation supervising professor in one of the following thematic research tracks:

- Biology of Aging
- Cancer Biology
- Cellular & Molecular Biology
- Genetics, Genomics & Development
- Membrane Biology & Cell Signaling
- Metabolism & Metabolic Disorders
- Microbiology & Immunology
- Molecular Biophysics & Biochemistry
- Molecular, Cellular & Integrative Physiology
- Neuroscience
- Pharmacology

For more information please go to:  
<http://gsbs.uthscsa.edu/>

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are required to have a minimum of a Bachelor's degree or a Master's degree. In addition, the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) for all students and the Test for English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) for international students must be taken within 5 years for the GRE and 2 years for the TOEFL before applying for admission. The minimum required scores for the TOEFL are 560 for the paper test, 220 for the computer test, and 68 for the internet test. The combined GRE for the incoming class of doctoral students for Fall 2009 was 1200.

Also, applicants should have received credit at their undergraduate institution for courses taken in:

Biology\* 2 years as required for science majors  
Chemistry\* 1 year organic & inorganic chemistry;  
Analytical and Physical Chemistry  
are recommended

Physics 1 year

Mathematics Minimum of 1 semester of Calculus

\*Courses should include laboratory experience.

## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS REQUIRED WITH ONLINE APPLICATION

- ◆ Transcripts: one **official** transcript in a sealed envelope is required from each college/university attended. If you



have attended a non-US college/university, it is required that all international transcripts be evaluated by an accredited foreign credentialing service.

- ◆ Official test scores (**HSC code 6908**): the GRE and TOEFL scores must be sent directly from the Educational Testing Service (ETS) to the HSC. No photocopies or faxed copies will be accepted.

**NOTE:** Applicants who are Permanent Residents of the U.S. must supply a certified copy of both the front and back sides of their federal Green Card.

### Mail all supporting documents to:

The UT Health Science Center at San Antonio  
Registrar's Office-Graduate Admissions  
7703 Floyd Curl Drive  
MSC 7702  
San Antonio, Texas 78229-3900  
USA

## APPLY ONLINE

Application to the IMGP can be accessed at <http://gsbs.uthscsa.edu/>. Application priority deadline is January 15 with a final application deadline of April 15. Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply early and submit complete applications with all supporting materials to receive priority review. There is NO application fee.

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

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|-----------------------|--|
| <b>January 15</b>     | Priority application deadline              |
| <b>April 15</b>       | Final application deadline                 |
| <b>November–April</b> | Applications are reviewed.                 |
| <b>February–April</b> | Students are invited for interviews.       |
| <b>February–May</b>   | Student are offered admission to the IMGP. |

## DOCTORAL STIPENDS

The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences offers financial assistance, in the form of teaching and research assistantships, to full-time students admitted to the IMGP doctoral program. The annual stipend is \$26,000 beginning in the fall semester of 2010, which will readily cover all living and educational expenses, including tuition and fees. Stipend support is provided by the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences in year 1 and by faculty mentors beginning in year (over)

2 of the program. Students may also apply for stipend support from training grants associated with specific areas of research.

Funds for short-term and emergency loans as well as traditional Federal Aid Programs are available through the Office of Financial Aid (<http://studentservices.uthscsa.edu/financialAid.aspx>).

### FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ONLY

For questions regarding student visas, required documents, and forms, please refer to the Office of International Services at <http://www.uthscsa.edu/ois/index.asp> or contact their office at 210-567-6241.

### CURRICULUM FOR PHD CANDIDATES

In the Fall of the first year, all incoming students register for a core course, *Fundamentals of Biomedical Sciences* (8 credit hours), that provides in depth lecture material relevant to biomedical concepts from the molecular to the cellular to the integrated systems of living organisms. Different research tracks within the IMGP also provide optional enrichment activities to enhance the classroom lectures. This course is taken concurrently with research laboratory rotations.

In the Spring semester of year 1, students enroll in track-specific courses and electives and continue with laboratory rotations in the IMGP. Students register for a minimum of 9 semester hours in the Fall and Spring and 6 semester hours in the Summer.

For a complete list of elective courses, refer to the *HSC Catalog* [http://studentservices.uthscsa.edu/GI\\_catalog.aspx](http://studentservices.uthscsa.edu/GI_catalog.aspx).

### FACULTY

Our educational and research faculty are drawn from all 5 schools of the Health Science Center. More than 300 research faculty from the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences are training approximately 400 students in our combined graduate programs. There is a diversity of talent, but a unity of purpose, i.e., to teach and mentor students in an exciting array of interdisciplinary and discipline-based fields of study and research. The academic programs offered by the GSBS are designed to provide a fundamental foundation of knowledge and scientific inquiry for our graduate students to ultimately become independent scientists and thinkers.

### REQUIRED STUDENT BACKGROUND CHECKS

Recognizing a sound character is vital to health care professions. The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (HSC) is committed to admit and retain students who meet the high professional standards expected of all health care providers and biomedical researchers. The HSC requires applicants and/or continuing students to undergo criminal background checks. For more information refer to the *HSC Catalog* at [http://studentservices.uthscsa.edu/GI\\_catalog.aspx](http://studentservices.uthscsa.edu/GI_catalog.aspx).

### REQUIRED HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE PRIOR TO ENROLLMENT

All students are required to have health insurance. The UT System Board of Regents requires you to maintain a valid major medical insurance policy while you are a registered student at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. If you are covered by major medical health insurance, you must submit proof of coverage to the Student Health Center each school (academic) year. If you do not have your own

health insurance policy, you will be automatically enrolled in a group plan chosen by the U.T. System (United Healthcare). A student may enroll her/his spouse and/or children at additional cost(s). The premiums vary accordingly.

A student with her/his own health insurance plan must complete the *Health Insurance Coverage Information and Student Health Insurance Acknowledgement and Disclaimer form* before the first day of classes, and return them to the Student Health Center, along with her/his health insurance card. A student who has not provided coverage prior to the first day of classes will be billed for a United Healthcare insurance policy. Each student is also required to present her/his valid health insurance card at each visit to the Health Science Center.

Please access the Student Health Center Web site for complete information on student health insurance at: [http://studentservices.uthscsa.edu/GI\\_healthInsurance.aspx](http://studentservices.uthscsa.edu/GI_healthInsurance.aspx)

### REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS PRIOR TO ENROLLMENT

**Prior to Registration, all students are required to have completed the immunizations outlined below. Consult the Student Services Web site for complete information on required immunizations at [http://studentservices.uthscsa.edu/HC\\_Immunization.aspx](http://studentservices.uthscsa.edu/HC_Immunization.aspx).**

1. **Hepatitis B Alone or Hepatitis A&B Combo Vaccine**
2. **Tuberculosis**
3. **Tetanus-Diphtheria (Td) or Diphtheria-Tetanus-Acellular Pertussis (Tdap)**
4. **Polio**
5. **Measles-Mumps-Rubella**
6. **Varicella (Chicken Pox)**

The Board of Regents may require immunizations against additional diseases for some students. Further immunizations may be required by the Board of Regents in times of emergency or epidemic. The cost of all immunizations will be the responsibility of the student and/or dependent.

### ACADEMIC POLICY ON EXCESS CREDIT HOURS

A graduate student who has earned 100 or more semester hours of credit at the doctoral level (130 semester credit hours for biomedical sciences) is subject to the non-resident tuition rate, even if the student is a Texas resident or holds an appointment that would normally entitle the holder to pay resident tuition. This policy is authorized by Section 54.012 of the *Texas Education Code*.

For complete information please refer to the *HSC Catalog* at [http://studentservices.uthscsa.edu/GI\\_catalog.aspx](http://studentservices.uthscsa.edu/GI_catalog.aspx).

### CONTACT INFORMATION

To contact the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences:  
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Fax: (210) 567-3719

For more information, go to the Graduate School Web site at: <http://gsbs.uthscsa.edu/>

For official procedures, forms, rules, and to apply online, go to Student Services at: [http://studentservices.uthscsa.edu/prospects\\_apply\\_grad.aspx](http://studentservices.uthscsa.edu/prospects_apply_grad.aspx)