

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY
HONORS PROGRAM
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

The Honors Program of the UMD Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry is designed to provide outstanding Chemistry and Biochemistry/Molecular Biology majors an opportunity to develop the ability to function as independent and competent research workers, to encourage them in their study of and interest in Chemistry or Biochemistry/Molecular Biology, and to aid in their transition from student to scientist. Students approach these goals through participation in independent research under the supervision of a faculty member, formal and informal discussions with seminar speakers and maintenance of a high grade point average. These activities and requirements are more fully discussed below.

A. Admission to the Honors Program

Qualified Chemistry or Biochemistry/Molecular Biology majors may apply to participate in the Honors Program after the fall semester of their sophomore year. An application form is attached and additional ones are available in the Chemistry and Biochemistry office. The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Honors Committee selects those students who have demonstrated high scholastic ability, mature scientific judgement, and the ability to probe chemical problems effectively. The Committee requires a 3.00 cumulative grade point average and a 3.25 grade point average in chemistry. Transfer students will be admitted on the basis of work completed at UMD. In addition, two letters of recommendation from faculty members are required for all applicants.

B. Research Advisor

After admission to the Honors Program, each student will choose a faculty research advisor under whose direction he/she will carry out a research project. The Honors Committee will give each Candidate a list of research advisors and suggested topics. Following interviews with faculty members, the Candidate will choose one to serve as his/her advisor. This advisor, in consultation with the Honors Committee, aids the Candidate in planning a program to meet the requirements described in Section C.

C. Requirements

1. *Independent Research in Chemistry or Biochemistry/Molecular Biology.*

A candidate must successfully complete two semesters of research while a member of the Honors Program. Registration in Chem 3194 for a minimum of one credit constitutes one semester of research. Research carried out during the Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP) is counted as one semester in research.

2. *Written Report and Oral Presentation of Research.*

Three weeks before the end of the last semester of the candidate's residency he/she **must** submit two copies of a double-spaced typewritten research report to the major advisor to be sent to the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. This report must include a cover page (listing your project title, your name, and your research advisor's name), an abstract, an introduction, an experimental section, a section on results and discussion of the implications of

the results and references. This report will be published in book form with the other honors students' reports and kept on file. In addition, the candidate must present a research report at a regional Undergraduate Symposium or (with his/her major advisor's permission); give an Ilenda competition seminar at the spring symposium.

3. *Maintenance of High Scholastic Standing.*

A candidate must maintain satisfactory grade-point averages, both overall and in chemistry.

D. Activities

1. *Meetings with Departmental Seminar Speakers.*

Honors candidates may be invited or may request to meet (lunch or dinner) with selected faculty members and a speaker whose research area is of special interest to the candidate. This will provide an opportunity for a longer and more informal discussion.

2. *Summer Undergraduate Research Program.*

Honors candidates will be given first consideration in the selection of Summer Undergraduate Research participants.

3. *Participation in the College of Science and Engineering Honors Program.*

**APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO
CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY HONORS PROGRAM**

Name _____ Major _____ BS BA
 ID # _____ Minor or Second Major _____ BS BA
 Entering Date at UMD _____ Anticipated Date of Graduation _____
 Class Year at UMD _____ Email Address _____
 Current Mailing Address _____

List of previous post secondary institution/s and dates:

Advisor _____ Department _____

Fill out if available

Research Advisor _____ Department _____

Title of Research Project _____

Starting Date of Research Project _____

Areas of Interest in Chemistry or Biochemistry/Molecular Biology _____

Faculty Sponsors/References (list 2) _____ Department _____

Anticipated career plans (Chemical industry, education, graduate work in chemistry or biochemistry/molecular biology, medicine, other).

Why do you wish to be in the Honors Program?

I hereby give the honors committee access to my transcripts for the purpose of judging my Honors Application and for their consideration of my eligibility for awards sponsored by the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

 Signature

 Date

To _____ Date _____

_____ has applied for admission to the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Honors Program and has given your name as a faculty sponsor/reference. Please give your opinion, comments and recommendation on the candidacy of this student in the Honors Program.

Signature _____ Date _____

To _____ Date _____

_____ has applied for admission to the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Honors Program and has given your name as a faculty sponsor/reference. Please give your opinion, comments and recommendation on the candidacy of this student in the Honors Program.

Signature _____ Date _____