

Graduate Admission Requirements

Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry; Master of Science in Chemistry

Following are the simple steps to apply for graduate study in Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Denver. If you have any questions about the process, please contact the [Office of Graduate Studies](#).

Apply Online / Application Deadlines

- Applications for graduate study at the University of Denver must be submitted [online](#).
- All online materials must be received, and all supplemental materials including transcripts are encouraged to be on file in the [Office of Graduate Studies](#) by the department's [priority deadline of January 15](#).
- The programs admit for fall quarter only. Applications submitted after the priority deadline will be evaluated on a rolling basis if space is available.
- A \$65 non-refundable application fee is required for an application to be processed.

Course and Degree Prerequisites and Requirements

- Applicants must earn and submit proof of earning the equivalent of a baccalaureate degree in chemistry, biochemistry or a related field from a regionally accredited institution prior to beginning graduate coursework at DU.

Transcripts

- Applicants are required to submit an official transcript from each post-secondary institution they have attended, or are presently attending, where two quarter hours (or one semester hour) or more were completed including study abroad and college coursework completed in high school.
- The applicant is responsible for obtaining all transcripts.
- DU students and alumni do not need to provide DU transcripts.
- Applicants who have earned a degree outside the U.S. must submit transcripts accompanied by certified English translations, if not normally issued in English.
- Official study abroad transcripts are required unless the course titles, grades, and credit earned abroad appear on another transcript.
- Transcripts from outside of the U.S. are evaluated by the Office of International Student Admission. This process can take three to four weeks and must be complete by the program's stated deadline.
- The University of Denver will consider electronic transcripts official from a domestic institution provided by the following approved agencies: Army/American Council on Education Registry Transcript System (AARTS); Docufide/Parchment; National Student Clearinghouse; Naviance; Royall and Company; and, Scrip-Safe.
- Electronic transcripts should be sent to gradinfo@du.edu.

- Mail official transcripts to:
University of Denver Office of Graduate Studies
Mary Reed Building, Room 5
2199 S. University Blvd
Denver, CO 80208-4802

Test Scores

- The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test is required. Scores must be received directly from the appropriate testing agency by the program's stated deadline. The institution code for the University of Denver is 4842.

Personal Statement

- A personal statement of at least, but not limited to, 400 words is required. The statement should include information concerning your life, education, practical experience, interests, and specific purpose for applying to the University of Denver. Include as many of the following as appropriate:
- Describe your goals for attending graduate school.
- What areas of chemistry or biochemistry are you most interested in studying?
- What do you hope to do after you complete your graduate studies?
- Why do you enjoy chemistry or biochemistry?
- Describe any research or teaching experience you have had. Have you been involved in an undergraduate research project during the academic year or in the summer?
- Have you had a summer job or internship in a commercial lab or another setting?
- Have you had experience in teaching as a grader, a lab teaching assistant, or a lab preparatory assistant?
- Specifically mention research groups at DU that you would be most interested in joining. Include brief reasoning. See list of department faculty [here](#).
- Share anything in your statement that you believe will help evaluate your application.
- The statement should be submitted via upload through the online application process.

Resume / C.V.

- A resume or curriculum vitae is required. This should include all work experience, research, and volunteer work. This should be submitted via upload through the online application process.

Recommendation Letters

- Three letters of recommendation are required from individuals who are knowledgeable about your education, experience, and/or potential in the fields of chemistry and biochemistry and who can speak to your academic and research potential.
- Requests for letters should be sent to recommenders well in advance so the letters are on file by the priority application deadline.
- Letters should be uploaded by recommenders through the online application system.

Financial Support

- Ph.D. and M.S. students admitted to the department are frequently offered financial assistance through teaching assistantship during the first year and through either teaching or research assistantship in following years. Assistantship positions provide a full tuition waiver and a 12-month stipend of \$23,333 for master's students and \$26,666 for doctoral students.
- **All non-native English speakers** must demonstrate fluency in spoken English by scoring a 26 on the TOEFL speaking section or 8.0 on the IELTS speaking section. This additional English fluency requirement must be achieved regardless of national origin, years spent in the United States, or whether any level of education was achieved in the United States.

Application Status

- We encourage you to be actively engaged in the admission process. You can check your application status online on [PioneerWeb](#). Applicants will receive login information post application submission.

Contact Information

- Mail official transcripts and any supplemental admission materials not submitted with the online application to:
University of Denver
Office of Graduate Studies
Mary Reed Building, Room 5
2199 S. University Blvd
Denver, CO 80208-4802
- Electronic transcripts should be sent to gradinfo@du.edu.
- For more information call (303) 871-2706.
- For questions specific to the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, please contact:
cheminfo@du.edu
(303) 871-2435

The University of Denver

Founded in 1864—just a few years after the city of Denver itself was founded—the University of Denver is one of the country's premier private universities and the oldest in the Rocky Mountain Region. The University's 125-acre campus, a few miles south of downtown Denver, is home to more than 11,500 students hailing from all regions of the United States and 83 other countries. Stroll our 125 tree-shaded acres set in a quiet residential neighborhood. Sprawl out on the lawns and take in DU's stunning architectural landscape with the Rocky Mountains as a backdrop. Catch a light rail train to bustling downtown Denver, just minutes away from the campus station. Or conquer one of Colorado's 54, 14,000-foot mountain peaks. You'll love outdoor study sessions with the sounds of our Harper Humanities Gardens fountains in the background. In fact, the entire campus is designated as an arboretum. The DU campus gives you access to it all!

Additional Resources

- [General graduate application requirements](#)
- [Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry](#)
- [Division of Natural Sciences and Math](#)
- [Explore DU](#)
- [University of Denver YouTube channel](#)



International Applicants

- For complete international applicant information, please visit the Office of Graduate Studies [International Student Application Information](#).
- International applicants are encouraged to have their applications complete, with all materials on file in the admission office, at least eight weeks prior to the program's application deadline.
- Transcripts from outside of the U.S. are evaluated by the Office of International Student Admission. This process can take three to four weeks and must be complete by the program's stated deadline. Therefore, **applicants with a degree from outside of the U.S. are encouraged to apply early**. Applicants educated outside the U.S. are encouraged to contact the Office of Graduate Studies for assistance regarding transcript-related materials.
- Language Proficiency
 - Official scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) are required of all graduate applicants whose native language is not listed on the application as English. This requirement is regardless of: citizenship status, country of origin, or location of education.
 - Applications will not be processed until the required TOEFL or IELTS score is received.
 - The TOEFL and IELTS scores are valid for two years from the test date. The institution code for the University of Denver is 4842.
 - The minimum scores acceptable for entry to the University of Denver are:
 - TOEFL: 80 (iBT) or 550 (paper-based)
 - IELTS: 6.0
 - Applicants may be exempted from English proficiency test requirements if by the time of matriculation they have earned a post-secondary degree from a formally-recognized/accredited university where the language of instruction and examination is English. Such applicants may be exempt from the TOEFL/IELTS requirement but not from other standardized graduate entrance examinations.
 - To be considered for financial support as a Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA), applicants must further demonstrate fluency in spoken English by scoring a 26 on the TOEFL speaking section or 8.0 on the IELTS speaking section. There are no language proficiency exemptions available for students wishing to be considered for financial support as a Graduate Teaching Assistant.
 - Students whose native language is not English and who are required to submit TOEFL/IELTS scores will also be assessed by the University of Denver English Language Center (ELC) prior to matriculation.
 - Please see the Graduate Policy Manual for complete English language proficiency requirements.

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