

# PhD in Biological and Biomedical Sciences

كلية العلوم الصحية والحيوية  
College of Health & Life Sciences

جامعة حمد بن خليفة  
HAMAD BIN KHALIFA UNIVERSITY



# PhD in Biological and Biomedical Sciences

The PhD in Biological and Biomedical Sciences (BBS) program is multidisciplinary and aims to train the next generation of leaders in the field of biological and biomedical sciences. The program offers students an education that provides them with an advanced level of knowledge and helps them develop critical and independent reasoning skills.

## Program focus

- ▶ The exploration of a rigorous curriculum designed to provide a strong foundation, as well as cutting-edge knowledge in both the theoretical and applied aspects of biomedically-relevant areas of biology.
- ▶ The development of vital professional skills, such as clear verbal and written communication and critical evaluation of others' work.
- ▶ Students will be exposed to state-of-the-art basic, clinical, computational, and translational life sciences research.

## Curriculum

A program with a minimum of 60 credits taught in English, typically over 3.5 years, which includes:

- ▶ One mandatory foundational course
- ▶ A minimum of five elective courses
- ▶ Attendance at departmental seminars
- ▶ Participation in the BBS journal club
- ▶ Dissertation and laboratory training (minimum of six semesters)

PhD students are required to pass a qualifying examination after their second semester, and a candidacy examination after their fourth semester.

## Admission and Application Requirements

Applicants seeking admission to the CHLS graduate programs at HBKU should have a strong academic record (minimum 3.0 GPA out of 4) from a recognized university. Applicants to the PhD programs should have a master's degree.

Applicants to PhD in Biological and Biomedical Sciences should have a strong background in science and evidence of coursework in biological or medical sciences.

Applicants are required to submit a valid IELTS score of 6.5 or TOEFL score of 79 to demonstrate their proficiency in English. Further details about the language proficiency requirement and the process to seek exemption (if applicable) are available from [admissions.hbku.edu.qa](https://admissions.hbku.edu.qa)

Applicants with prior research experience are preferred, especially for the PhD programs.



## Application requirements

A completed online application form: [admissions.hbku.edu.qa](https://admissions.hbku.edu.qa)

## Academic transcripts

Official electronic copies of transcripts should be submitted as part of the online application. Final transcripts and graduation statements are required for all previous university studies. All transcripts submitted should include an explanation of the grading system.

For those who have not completed their current studies, transcripts must include results from the last completed semester of coursework. Transcripts in languages other than English or Arabic must be accompanied with an official translation. Applicants who are admitted to the program based on copies of or incomplete transcripts will be required to provide original transcripts upon enrollment in order to register for courses.

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### **Standardized test results**

Official copies of standardized test results must be sent directly to HBKU. Please refer to the institutional codes below:

- ▶ TOEFL: 4981
- ▶ IELTS: No code required. Students should ask the IELTS center where they tested to send the IELTS TRF to Hamad Bin Khalifa University.

Applicants should also submit copies of their test scores with the online application.

### **Letters of recommendation**

Applicants should submit at least two letters of recommendation, preferably from academic referees. Please visit [admissions.hbku.edu.qa](https://admissions.hbku.edu.qa) for further information about the submission process.

### **Personal statement of interest**

Applicants should submit a personal statement (300-500 words) as part of the online application. The statement should explain why the candidate is applying to the program and how their studies will contribute to the achievement of their personal objectives, including information about the applicant's research interests and achievements.

### **Resume/Curriculum vitae**

Applicants should submit a copy of their current resume or curriculum vitae as part of the online application.

#### **This should include the following information:**

- ▶ Academic qualifications
- ▶ Professional experience
- ▶ Publications
- ▶ Research projects
- ▶ Academic awards or honors
- ▶ Conference presentations

### **Identification document**

All applicants should submit an electronic copy of their passport as part of the online application. Nationals and residents of Qatar should also submit their valid Qatari ID.

### **Student funding**

CHLS provides opportunities for funding on a competitive basis. Further information will be provided to applicants who are admitted to the program.

### **Admission inquiries**

[admissions.chls@hbku.edu.qa](mailto:admissions.chls@hbku.edu.qa)