

PLANT PATHOLOGY, PHD

ADMISSIONS

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Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program's admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program's website.

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic programs and the Graduate School. **Applicants must meet the minimum requirements (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/>) of the Graduate School as well as the program(s).** Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/>).

Requirements	Detail
Fall Deadline	December 1
Spring Deadline	This program does not admit in the spring.
Summer Deadline	December 1
GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)	Not required.
English Proficiency Test	Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Requirements for Admission policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1241 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1241/).
Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT)	n/a
Letters of Recommendation Required	3

APPLICATION

A complete admission application acts as the application for financial support. All applicants who are admitted are offered financial support, generally in the form of a research assistantship (RA).

Checklist

- **Graduate School Application Form and Application Fee**
 - All applicants must complete the Graduate School's online application: <https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/>.
 - The department is able to offer a limited number of fee waivers. Please contact the Graduate Program Manager (<https://hub.russell.wisc.edu/area-homepages/student-services/>) for more information.
- **Supplementary Application**
 - Applicants must submit the Plant Pathology supplementary application, which will appear as part of the Graduate School's electronic application once the applicant selects Plant Pathology.
- **Resume or CV**
 - Applicants must submit resume or CV electronically through the online application.

• Transcripts

- All applicants must upload an unofficial transcript (non-encrypted) in a PDF format to their online application.
 - Any school listed must have a transcript uploads, otherwise the application will not be complete.
 - If an applicant is recommended for admission, they will be asked to submit an official transcript to the Graduate School; official transcripts are not to be mailed to the department.
- International academic records must be in the original language accompanied by an official English translation. Documents must be issued by the school with the official seal/stamp and an official signature.
- The Plant Pathology department requires all applicants to have a BA/BS degree from an accredited institution.
- A minimum undergraduate grade-point average of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) on the equivalent of the last 60 semester hours from the most recent bachelor's degree institution is required for regular admission. If an applicant has received a post-baccalaureate degree and the GPA for that degree is above a 3.0, then they may be admitted with full standing even if their undergraduate GPA does not meet the standards above.

• Statement of Purpose

- This should describe the applicant's graduate program objectives and career focus. Since applicants are rarely admitted to the PhD program without prior research experience, applicants must describe past research experiences in their statement.
- The statement of purpose should be around two pages in length

• Three Letters of Recommendation

- These letters are preferably from people acquainted with the applicant's academic, research and/or professional qualifications.
- Letters must be submitted online through the Graduate School's electronic format; references experiencing difficulty with the online system should contact the Graduate Program Manager (<https://hub.russell.wisc.edu/area-homepages/student-services/>).

- **English Proficiency Test Scores** (if applicable - refer to table above)

BACKGROUND EDUCATION

Admitted applicants must meet the Graduate School's minimum requirements (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/>), including completion of a bachelor's degree. Satisfactory preparation for graduate study in plant pathology includes coursework in biology, chemistry, math, and physics (foundation coursework).

Typically, successful applicants exceed the minimum requirement of a 3.0 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) and articulate a strong interest in the discipline in their application. Prior research experience is an asset for any applicant, and letters of recommendation from research advisors are viewed as one of the most useful means of evaluating applications.

PREPARATORY COURSEWORK

The program recommends admitted applicants enter the program having taken the foundation courses below. If an admitted applicant enters the program with foundational coursework deficiencies, their thesis committee may recommend courses be completed during the program.

Foundation Courses

- Biology (one course in at least 3 of the following 4 areas):
 - Genetics
 - Plant anatomy/morphology
 - Plant physiology
 - General ecology
- Chemistry
 - General chemistry (two semesters)
 - Organic chemistry (including lab)
- Other preparatory courses
 - General/introductory biochemistry (one course)
 - Physics (two semesters)
 - Calculus (one course)
 - Statistics (one course)

DEADLINE

Applications received after the deadline will be reviewed, but they are disadvantaged for admission and financial support.