

E. Education programme in *Biomedical sciences* in the discipline of biological sciences with English as a medium of instruction

Application requirements

The *Biomedical sciences* programme at the Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences welcomes applicants holding a Master's degree, a Master of Engineering degree or an equivalent degree in any subject (major).

Exceptionally and taking into account scientific achievements of high quality, a person referred to in Article 186(2) of the Act, who does not hold a Master's degree and who is a graduate of the first-cycle study programme or a student who has completed the third year of the long-cycle study programme but who has a student status in a field from among those indicated above, or who has completed such studies, may also apply for admission to this programme.

In order to verify whether the condition referred to in Article 186(2) of the Act is met, the applicant is required to submit two opinions confirming high-quality research and the degree of progress to date of their research. These opinions are issued by scientific advisors holding a postdoctoral degree, or who are employees of a foreign university or scientific institution and who have outstanding achievements related to the programme in question.

The Director, in consultation with the chairperson of the admission committee, shall decide whether an applicant meets the condition referred to in Article 186(2) of the Act.

Admission criteria

The applicants are evaluated by the committee in two stages.

In the first stage, the applicant's grade point average of the studies and special achievements (e.g. internships, publications, participation in research, (summer) schools, conferences, scholarships and awards granted) are evaluated on the basis of the submitted curriculum vitae and other documents (0-30 points).

In the second stage, an applicant participates in an interview conducted in English (0-70 points).

Admission procedure

Candidates may apply for the programme which involves the implementation of research topics at one of the three institutions: the Malopolska Centre of Biotechnology (MCB) or the Jagiellonian Centre for Experimental Therapeutics (JCET) or the National Synchrotron Radiation Centre Solaris.

The admission procedure consists of two stages.

Stage 1

In the first stage, the committee analyses the documents submitted by the applicant and assesses them by offering points from 0 to 30. The committee draws up for each institution – MCB, JCET and Solaris – a separate pre-ranking list of applicants for the programme.

From each pre-ranking list, a maximum of twice the number of applicants in relation to the number of research topics available in a given year for MCB, JCET and Solaris, respectively, shall be eligible for the second stage according to the order on the pre-ranking list of each institution; the order is established on the basis of the number of points.

The cut-off thresholds in the pre-ranking lists are applied to determine twice the number of applicants in relation to the number of research topics available in a given year for each institution separately. Transfer of applicants between pre-ranking lists is not considered regardless of the number of points the applicant has received.

The minimum score to be eligible for the second stage of the admission process is 20 points. Applicants who are not eligible for the second stage, either because they did not obtain the required minimum of 20 points in the first stage or because they are below the cut-off, are granted 0 points for the second stage.

Stage 2

In the second stage an interview is conducted. The interview consists of:

1. a 5-minute talk in which an applicant presents the thesis project and/or other research work in which they took part;

In this part, the applicant's presentation skills, English language skills and preparation for conducting research are assessed (total number of points 0 – 20).

1. a 15-minute discussion conducted by committee members; the discussion concerns: the applicant's talk, the research paper chosen by the applicant from one to three papers provided 1 hour and 30 minutes before the interview, a range of research topics selected by the applicant during the admission process, other scientific problems.

In this part the committee assesses: the applicant's general and specialized knowledge, problem-solving skills, the ability to work in a research team, preparation to carry out research into the research problem of the applicant's choice (total number of points 0 – 50).

Calculating admission score

The admissions committee draws up ranking lists of applicants for the programme in *Biomedical Sciences* at the Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences separately for the Malopolska Centre of Biotechnology (MCB), the Jagiellonian Centre for Experimental Therapeutics (JCET), and the National Synchrotron Radiation Centre Solaris.

The order of applicants on each ranking list is determined by their final admission results, which is the sum of the points received in the first stage and the second stage of the admission procedure.

The cut-offs in the ranking lists for a given year and for a given institution are separate and independently prepared for MCB, JCET and Solaris. 75 points is the minimum admission score for the programme. The number of applicants ultimately admitted to the programme from the

ranking lists of MCB, JCET, and Solaris corresponds to the number of research topics available in a given year for each of these institutions, respectively.