

### Graduate Application Information: Chemistry Department

Thank you for considering our graduate program. Please read the information below and explore the linked websites. We do not pre-screen applicants. Our admissions committee will evaluate every **complete** application. We guarantee support to Ph.D students in good academic standing for five years, if needed. First-year support (12 months) as of Fall 2023 will be around \$30,000- \$32,000 in combined TAs/RAships stipends. Waivers of tuition and most fees. Graduate students also receive a substantial discount on health insurance.

Graduate School is a separate entity from the various departments and graduate programs, such as Chemistry. Please note that we cannot review application materials (or even see them) until the Graduate School processes and make them available to us.

If you need assistance or information, please contact GPM, Rebecca David  
[chemgpm@umass.edu](mailto:chemgpm@umass.edu).

<b>Chemistry Website</b>	<p><a href="https://www.umass.edu/chemistry">https://www.umass.edu/chemistry</a> Note the “Faculty and Research” section.</p> <p>Also see Institute for Applied Life Sciences: <a href="https://www.umass.edu/ials/">https://www.umass.edu/ials/</a></p>
<b>Fall Admission, PhD Applications Only</b>	<p>We do not have spring admission. A doctoral student can earn a MS degree "en route" to the PhD. However, we do not accept applications for the MS degree. The total number of graduate students admitted varies year-by-year.</p>
<b>Graduate Admissions</b>	<p><a href="https://www.umass.edu/graduate/apply">https://www.umass.edu/graduate/apply</a></p> <p>How to Apply: <a href="https://www.umass.edu/graduate/apply/how-apply">https://www.umass.edu/graduate/apply/how-apply</a> After You Apply: <a href="https://www.umass.edu/graduate/apply/after-you-apply">https://www.umass.edu/graduate/apply/after-you-apply</a> International Applicants: <a href="https://www.umass.edu/graduate/apply/international-applicants">https://www.umass.edu/graduate/apply/international-applicants</a></p> <p>534 Goodell Building University of Massachusetts 140 Hicks Way Amherst, MA 01003-9333</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:gradadm@grad.umass.edu">gradadm@grad.umass.edu</a> Phone 413-545-0722 Fax: 413-577-0010</p>
<b>Application Fee</b>	<p>\$85. The non-refundable \$85 application fee is payable online via credit card or by check drawn on a U.S. bank (made payable to UMass Amherst).</p> <p>Application Fee Waiver information: <a href="https://www.umass.edu/graduate/apply/how-apply">https://www.umass.edu/graduate/apply/how-apply</a></p> <p>Chemistry Department Application for Fee waivers: Form link will be posted on <a href="https://www.chem.umass.edu/graduate-students/prospective-students/how-to-apply">https://www.chem.umass.edu/graduate-students/prospective-students/how-to-apply</a></p> <p>*Applicants who are eligible for fee waiver should select the "pay by check" option on the application. This selection will allow the application to move through the system without payment. Once reviewed and approved by the department/program and college, the University will apply the fee waiver. Application fee waivers cannot be offered retroactively or as a refund for an application fee already paid.</p>
<b>Uploading Documents in “Add Materials”</b>	<p>“Add Materials” is where you upload documents in the online application. Carefully read the instructions on the Add Materials page.</p> <p><b>Save v. Submit: You can save the application and work on it later. Hitting “Submit” locks you out of the application!</b></p>

<p><b>Submitting Documents after Filing the Application</b></p>	<p>Application materials not submitted electronically with your application can be uploaded in SPIRE on your Graduate Applicant Center.</p> <p>Find your Graduate Applicant Center in SPIRE by going to Main Menu &gt; Admissions &gt; Graduate Applicant Center.</p> <p>Materials that must be mailed directly can be sent to:  Graduate Student Service Center  534 Goodell Building  University of Massachusetts  140 Hicks Way  Amherst, MA 01003-9333</p>
<p><b>Format of Attachments</b></p>	<p><b>PDF format only.</b> No image formats (jpgs, PNGs, GIF or TIFF).</p>
<p><b>Deadline</b></p>	<p>Dec 15<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>The <b>application, research form and fee must be filed by the December 15<sup>th</sup> deadline, supporting materials may arrive later</b> (within reason, e.g., by mid-January). We review applications on a rolling basis as opposed to all at once and we wait for the file to be complete.</p>
<p><b>Late Applications</b></p>	<p>Applications filed after the deadline are automatically assigned to the next admit-term (Fall 2024) by the Graduate School.</p> <p>To be considered for Fall 2023 admissions cycle, please email <a href="mailto:chemgpm@umass.edu">chemgpm@umass.edu</a> If the admissions committee is satisfied with the number of offers made, they may decide not to consider late applications.</p>
<p><b>Objectives Page of the Online Application and Research Interests Form</b></p>	<p>Select “Doctoral Degree” as your objective and “Chemistry (PhD) as your Degree(s)</p> <p>A button then appears: “Program Web Site” links to our Research Interests Form Website”</p>

## Research Interests Form **(REQUIRED)**

<b>Research Interests Form</b>	<p>From link posted on Chemistry Graduate Students How to Apply webpage, <a href="https://www.chem.umass.edu/graduate-students/prospective-students/how-to-apply">https://www.chem.umass.edu/graduate-students/prospective-students/how-to-apply</a></p> <p><b>Complete and submit the online form.</b> Do not use the sample form provided online.</p> <p>If you are unable to access this link due to restrictions within your country, please contact <a href="mailto:chemgpm@umass.edu">chemgpm@umass.edu</a></p>
<b>Submission of Research Interests Form</b>	<p><b>BEFORE you select the submit button, with the online application (preferred)</b></p> <p>Once you submit the online Research Interests Form, it will automatically generate a PDF and email it to your email address. You can then submit this PDF along with other application materials.</p> <p><b>After you select the submit the application</b></p> <p>Once you submit the online Research Interests Form, it will automatically generate a PDF and email it to your email address. Email the PDF directly to graduate school: <a href="mailto:gradattach@grad.umass.edu">gradattach@grad.umass.edu</a></p>

## Other Application Materials

<b>Statement of Purpose (SOP) or Personal Statement</b>	<p>The graduate application lists SOP as personal statement. Describe your research interests, passion, motivation, background, goals. Tell us why you wish to pursue graduate education and how/why our graduate program is a good fit. <b>The Research Interests form does not replace SOP.</b></p>
<b>Letters of Recommendation</b>	<p>Minimum: 2 Letters <b>Preferred: 3 Letters</b></p> <p>Letter writers should comment on your educational background and preparation for graduate school</p>
<b>Resume</b>	<p>Submit your resume to the Graduate School/Graduate Admissions, same as other application materials</p>
<b>Residency Statement</b>	<p>All applicants applying as a <a href="#">Massachusetts resident</a> or for the <a href="#">New England Regional Student Program</a> must complete and sign a Residency Statement for that application to be fully processed. The Certification of Residency form is automated into the signature process for the application.</p>
<b>GRE General Test</b>	<p>The GRE exam is not required. It will not be used to assess applications</p>

<p><b>TOEFL/IELTS/Duolingo</b></p>	<p><a href="https://www.umass.edu/graduate/apply/international-applicants">https://www.umass.edu/graduate/apply/international-applicants</a>  TOEFL minimum score is 550 paper/213 computer /80 internet. Our more successful international applicants have TOEFL scores of 600/250/100 minimum. The TSE is of particular interest to us.</p> <p>IELTS minimum combined score is 6.5</p> <p>Duolingo minimum overall score is 105</p> <p>The TOEFL/IELTS should be taken within two years of the entrance date. (If you scored high enough on the previous test you may not need a retake.)</p> <p>Official test scores must be transmitted electronically from the test agency to the University of Massachusetts Amherst Graduate School. Scores are valid for two years from the anticipated date of entrance.</p> <p>*Please note, when reviewing an application the Graduate School does not superscore language tests (e.g. we do not accept the ETS MyBest Score set).</p>
<p><b>Copies of Test Scores &amp; Transcripts (Official vs. Unofficial)</b></p>	<p>Unofficial copies of test scores and transcripts are acceptable for us to review your application.</p> <p>If we offer admission, you must submit official documents before the Graduate School will process a formal admission.</p> <p>All courses should be in the transcript (official + unofficial).</p> <p>No admission offer is official until the Graduate School approves and implements it.</p>
<p><b>Transcripts &amp; GPA Conversion (International Students)</b></p>	<p>If the grading system at your university is not the standard for the USA, you can use one of the Graduate-School approved organizations <a href="http://www.naces.org/members.htm">http://www.naces.org/members.htm</a> to provide an official conversion of your transcript/GPA.</p> <p>Example: Your GPA is 92/100 on 100-point scale, or 18/20 on a 20 point-scale, etc.</p> <p>You can list your actual GPA on the Graduate-School application. There is not a place on the application where you can make notes about GPA. There is only an area to enter the GPA in.</p> <p>For Further assistance with entering GPA details and notes, please email: <a href="mailto:gradadm@grad.umass.edu">gradadm@grad.umass.edu</a>.</p>

## Checking Application File and Status

Within seven (7) days after the Graduate School processes your application fee, you will receive an email with your **UMass Amherst NetID** and **password**. Use your new credentials to log into SPIRE to see your Graduate Applicant Center. It is your responsibility to check your application file and ensure that it is complete.

Visit [SPIRE Logon Information](#) if you have questions about your IT account or your credentials for logging in to SPIRE.

**Graduate Applicant Center in SPIRE:** On this page, you can see which of your references have submitted recommendations and send reminders to those who have yet to submit. You can upload additional documents, such as transcripts, to supplement your application materials.

**Check Status of Application Materials:** You can see a summary of the materials the Graduate School has received as part of your application by following the Check Status of Application Materials link, available in the Grad Student Resources box on the top right side of your Graduate Applicant Center.

After we make a final decision on your application, the Graduate School will notify you of a status change via email and your decision letter will be made available in SPIRE. Accepted applicants also hear immediately from the Chemistry Department.

Graduate School is a separate entity from the various departments and graduate programs, such as Chemistry. Please note that we cannot review application materials (or even see them) until the Graduate School processes and make them available to us. If you are recommended for admission by the Chemistry Department Admissions committee, the Graduate School will confirm that you meet the minimum admission requirements and finalize the offer. **Applicants are not admitted until they receive an offer of admission from the Graduate School.**

### Accept or Decline the Offer of Admission

It is important that you tell us your plans as soon as possible. Your quick response will allow us to secure your place in the incoming class or release your spot to other applicants who may be waiting for acceptance. Once you have decided whether to accept or decline the offer of admission, share your plans with us in SPIRE.

From the Main Menu drop down in SPIRE, select Admissions > Student Center - New Grad. In the Confirmation Status section select 'Confirm/Withdraw Acceptance'.