The Biochemistry graduate program is sufficiently flexible to accommodate students with a wide variety of interests and backgrounds. Students with a bachelor's degree in any of the biological sciences, biochemistry, engineering, or physical science who have a strong desire to pursue a research-oriented career in molecular biology, biophysics, and/or cell biology are encouraged to apply.

The Biochemistry faculty is a community of 40 members: 25 research-active primary and secondary faculty members, six adjunct appointees, and nine faculty emeriti. The faculty supervise research in biochemistry, molecular, cellular, developmental, computational, and structural biology, and in model systems genetics. Research is supported by grants from the NSF, NIH, AHA, ACS, MDA, and other sources. The Department has undergone a significant expansion with the addition of 9 new faculty members since 2009. Total research funding for primary members of the department exceeds $5 million per year.

To apply to the graduate program in the Department of Biochemistry, please visit our website (www.medicine.uiowa.edu/biochemistry/graduate_apply/) where you may submit your application as well as all supporting material. Stipends and full tuition support are available for all PhD graduate students. Stipends for 2018-2019 were $28,000 per year. (Full tuition, mandatory fees, and a significant contribution to health and dental insurance are paid by the Department).

Campus and Community

The University of Iowa is located in Iowa City, a safe and friendly Midwestern city with an abundance of cultural and recreational opportunities. Iowa City is centrally located; ~2 hours from Des Moines, ~3 hours from Chicago, ~4.5 hours from Minneapolis, Omaha, St. Louis, and Kansas City. Its popular pedestrian mall with unique shops, restaurants, and live music reflects the city's cosmopolitan atmosphere. The University's renowned Hancher Theater attracts Broadway shows and internationally recognized music and dance performances, and in 2008, Iowa City was designated as a UNESCO City of Literature. Sports enthusiasts enjoy being at a Big Ten university with opportunities to attend college football, basketball, and other athletic events. The University's state of the art recreation center open in 2010.
Primary and Secondary Faculty: Research Interests

Charles Brenner, PhD
Metabolic Control of Gene Expression

E. Dale Abel, MD/PhD
Molecular Mechanisms for Cardiovascular Complications for Diabetes

Ted Abel, PhD
Molecular Mechanisms of Memory Storage and the Molecular Basis of Neurodevelopmental and Psychiatric Disorders

Sheila Baker, PhD
Protein Trafficking in Photoreceptors

John Dagle, MD/PhD
Genetics and the Complications of Prematurity

Brandon Davies, PhD
Endothelial Cells and Lipid Metabolism

Kris DeMali, PhD
Cell-Cell and Cell-Matrix Adhesion

Adrian Elcock, PhD
Large-Scale Molecular Simulations

Ernesto Fuentes, PhD
Structural Biology of Signal Transduction

Pamela Geyer, PhD
Nuclear Organization and Gene Expression

Andrew Norris, MD/PhD
Molecular and Developmental Control of Diabetes

David Price, PhD
Eukaryotic Transcriptional Control

Miles Pufall, PhD
Fine-tuning Protein Function

Peter Rubenstein, PhD
Factors in Actin Function

Michael Schnieders, DSc
Computational Molecular Biophysics

Debra Schwinn, MD
Molecular Pharmacology

Madeline Shea, PhD
Allosteric Regulation and Calcium Signaling

Maria Spies, PhD
Molecular Machines of DNA repair

M. Ashley Spies, PhD
Computer-aided Drug Discovery/Cheminformatics

Eric Taylor, PhD
Molecular Regulation of Mitochondrial Function

Lori Wallrath, PhD
Chromatin Structure and Gene Expression

M. Todd Washington, PhD
DNA Replication, Repair, and Mutagenesis

Daniel Weeks, PhD
Control of Development and Differentiation

Ronald Weigel, MD/PhD/MBA
Gene Regulation and Hormone Response

Marc Wold, PhD
Eukaryotic DNA Replication and Repair