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Graduate Program in Cellular and Molecular Biology  
University of Wisconsin, Madison

### **Direct Admit Process**

Direct admit students do not do lab rotations like students admitted through the typical enrollment process, and instead they are directly admitted into a lab with full financial support for the duration of their graduate studies coming directly from the faculty member. Direct admit students must also complete an interview with the faculty trainer, submit the direct admit form, and provide a detailed description of the potential research project.

**January or Early February** (after all Admissions Committee meetings have been completed)

- Direct admit list students will be informed of the option to be placed in the direct admit list and the process for submitting information required for further consideration of direct admission into CMB. Students who do not notify CMB that they would like to be placed on direct admit list will not be eligible for admission.
- Students who are interested in being on the direct admit list are welcome to begin contacting faculty whose labs they might be interested in joining (see <https://cmb.wisc.edu/faculty/>). Faculty will not be notified of the final Direct Admit list until after March 1 (more details below).

#### **March 1**

- Students eligible for the direct admit list must notify the CMB Office by this date that they would like to be placed on list.
- CMB Office sends additional information about the process (including the direct admit application form) to direct admit students.
- CMB Office sends direct admit list to CMB faculty and gives faculty access to the students' applications.
- After March 1, students who have added themselves to the direct admit list and wish to pursue a direct admit offer should:
  - Contact CMB faculty trainer(s) of interest
  - Faculty and student will schedule an appointment to discuss specifics of space in the lab, research projects, etc.
  - Interview must be completed by April 30<sup>th</sup>
  - A virtual interview (to be arranged by the faculty trainer) will be required of students applying for direct admission to the CMB program.



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- Faculty and student submit required materials to the CMB Office by April 30<sup>th</sup> for further review by the CMB Admissions Committee
- If a faculty member is interested in a particular student on the direct admit list:
  - Faculty and student will schedule appointment/interview to discuss specifics of space in the lab, research projects, etc. (see details above)

### **March 1 – April 30**

Direct admit offers will be reviewed on a rolling basis for final admission. The student and faculty member must submit the following materials to the CMB Office for further review by the CMB Admissions Committee:

- Letter from the CMB faculty trainer stating the following: (1-2 pages total)
  - Commitment of financial support for the student at the CMB stipend rate (determined annually) for the duration of the student's PhD studies
  - Brief description of the student's research project
- Letter from the student stating the following: (1-2 pages total)
  - Intent to join the specific faculty trainer's lab under the direct admit policy
  - Brief description of research project
  - Direct Admit Form
    - Signatures are required from both the CMB faculty trainer and the student on this form

### **April 30**

- Deadline for student and faculty to submit required materials to the CMB Office
- Once all required materials have been received:
  - Admissions Committee will review the direct admit materials submitted by both the student and faculty
  - Within approximately two weeks of receiving direct admit materials, the CMB trainer and direct admit student will be notified in writing of a final direct admit admissions decision