

OVERALL SCORE (not a simple average of all scores, as categories/individual scores may be weighted differently)
 Only use the score options below (i.e., 0.5 increments only):

4.0 (outstanding) 3.5 3.0 (excellent) 2.5 2.0 (good) 1.5 1.0 (poor)

MOST IMPORTANT

CATEGORY	WHERE TO FIND EVIDENCE	OUTSTANDING (4) ^{***}	EXCELLENT (3)	GOOD (2)	POOR (1)
Engagement in research	Research statement, letters of recommendation, CV*, personal statement	at least one <u>in-depth</u> research experience, demonstrated <u>independence</u> and <u>self-driven</u> intellectual engagement in the research question(s), <u>actively sought out</u> and took advantage of available opportunities	at least one <u>in-depth</u> research experience, demonstrated <u>independence</u> and intellectual engagement in the research question(s), took advantage of available opportunities	at least one research experience, demonstrated intellectual engagement in the research question(s), took advantage of available opportunities	Little research experience, not intellectually engaged, did not take advantage of available opportunities
Resilience/grit/work ethic	Research statement, letters of recommendation, personal statement	<u>Self-driven</u> , persistent behaviors; taking extra steps/having initiative in a <u>self-directed manner</u> ; a positive outcome from a personal or research challenge <u>through self-motivated actions</u> ; actively seeking out opportunities <u>on their own initiative</u> (e.g. funding, work experience, tutors); <u>self-driven</u> in finding resources & mentors	Persistent behaviors; taking extra steps/having initiative; a positive outcome from a personal or research challenge; actively seeking out opportunities (e.g. funding, work experience, tutors); finding resources & mentors	Persistent behaviors; a positive outcome from a personal or research challenge	Little evidence of persistent behaviors
Readiness/fit for program	Personal statement, research statement, transcript, letters of recommendation	N/A	<u>Problem-driven</u> rather than technique-motivated; future research interests <u>aligned with CMB faculty</u> ; grounding in biology and chemistry (coursework*, teaching or other work experience)	grounding in biology and chemistry (e.g., coursework in biochemistry, organic chemistry, advanced courses in either chemistry or biology coursework); interdisciplinary practical experience (teaching, work experience)	Limited preparation for interdisciplinary coursework & research
Why UW-Madison & CMB?	Personal statement, research statement, "motivation to attend UW-Madison" statement	N/A	specific statements about UW-Madison & CMB scientific environment; specific mention of names and research area of CMB faculty; mention of Madison atmosphere in other respects beyond science	general statements about UW-Madison & CMB scientific environment	no mention of UW-Madison scientific environment

*Publication(s) in and of themselves are **not** meaningful unless there is clear indication that the candidate played a significant role in the published study.

***Reserved for candidates who stand out among "excellent" candidates in "Engagement in research" and "resilience" categories. Specifically, there should be evidence that behaviors/accomplishments are independently driven/self-motivated (as opposed to stimulated by PI/mentor).

NOTE: This rubric was modified from a sample rubric provided by Anna Mapp & Ehriam Brammer (both from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor) during the Workshop on Holistic Graduate Admissions Practices on 9/29/2023.