

ECOLOGY

Admission Requirements

Applicants apply for admission to the program via the Graduate School application for admission (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-admissions/how-to-apply/>). Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-300 Admissions Policies (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>).

GRE scores are not required for admission. Applicants should have a strong science background, including chemistry through organic chemistry, mathematics through calculus, physics, and biology. A limited number of such courses can be made up while the student is pursuing graduate studies.

Students with a background in another discipline that has potential value to original ecological work will be seriously considered. A junior/senior grade-point average of 3.00 or better (on a 4.00 scale) is required.

Students are strongly urged to choose their research interests and initiate communication with the relevant faculty member(s) before applying for admission. A student will not be admitted without the commitment of a faculty member to serve as the student's research adviser. Teaching and research assistantships are available mainly through the student's faculty adviser.

The following are required:

1. three or more letters of recommendation regarding the student's academic and professional promise;
2. a concise statement describing the student's goals both within the program and in professional life;
3. a curriculum vitae.

Specific inquiries about the Ecology Program may be directed to the program chair. Applications received by December 1 will have preferred consideration for assistantships and fellowships for fall semester admission.