



Application Procedures

Admission Deadlines

An on-line application and **ALL** required supporting materials must be submitted online **AND** received by the following deadlines:

- Fall Semester (begins in August) – December 1st for MS/PhD and February 1 for MPS applicants
- Spring Semester (begins in January) – September 1st

Notification of admittance/declination (approximate):

- Fall Semester – March 15th for MS/PhD and April 15 for MPS applicants
- Spring Semester – October 15th

Submitting an Application

Applications are available online through the Cornell Graduate School at <http://www.gradschool.cornell.edu/admissions/applying/apply-now>. *Applications from traditionally underrepresented minorities are strongly encouraged.*

Do not send paper copies of application materials. All materials must be submitted online through the Graduate School application.

The following items are required with your online application:

1. **Statement of purpose:** Must include career/professional goals, research and/or academic interests, applicable experience (research skills, internships, etc.) as it relates to your research/academic interests, and the names of faculty with research programs of interest.
2. **Resume**
3. **Unofficial transcripts:** Please do not have your University mail official transcripts. You may scan and submit your official transcripts electronically or upload another electronic version of your transcripts.
4. **2-3 letters of recommendation:** From academic and/or professional contacts. Enter your recommender information in the on-line application and they will receive an e-mail with letter submission instructions. Keep in mind that recommenders will not receive this email until the application is submitted, so it is best to submit your application well before the deadline.
5. **GRE scores:** Scores are self-reported in the application. You must also request ETS to send official scores (college code – 2098, department code – 0107)
6. **IELT scores:** The **Graduate School** requires an overall band score of a 7.0 or higher on the IELTS. Please email gradadmissions@cornell.edu for information about how to send your scores.

7. **TOEFL scores***: Scores are self-reported in the application. You must also request ETS to send official scores (college code – 2098, department code – 30). **Graduate School TOEFL iBT score requirements are: 20 Writing, 15 Listening, 20 Reading, 22 Speaking.** We are unable to consider any applications for admission that do not meet the individual score requirements on the TOEFL exam.

**For international students whose native language is NOT English (for exemptions visit <http://www.gradschool.cornell.edu/admissions/applying/english-language-proficiency-requirement>)*

Admission Criteria

Admitted applicants generally meet the following criteria:

- GRE scores: 153-160 verbal, 155-166 quantitative, 3.5-4.5 analytical/writing
- We do not have a minimum GPA requirement but look for strong performance in science courses (mainly A's and B's)
- Research (for MS and PhD applicants) and/or internship experience
- A clear statement of research/academic interests and future goals
- Letters of recommendation that indicate a clear knowledge of the applicant's skills, accomplishments, and character

The admissions committee evaluates candidates on their entire application and specific fit to faculty programs. Also considered are the number of graduate research assistantships field faculty have available for incoming graduate students, e.g., through funded research projects (for MS and PhD applicants). Applicants are asked to indicate on the Graduate School application form whether they contacted faculty and to explain their research interests and fit with faculty in their statement of purpose (see <http://foodscience.cornell.edu/cals/foodsci/academics/graduate/faculty.cfm> for a complete listing of faculty affiliated with the Field of Food Science and Technology).

Funding

All MS and PhD students admitted to our program must be fully funded by either (i) a department assistantship and/or faculty research funds (we do not require a separate application for funding consideration), or (ii) an outside fellowship such as Fulbright, NIH or other government/educational funding agency. We are unable to admit self-funded MS and PhD students to our program. Funding includes tuition, health insurance and a stipend of approximately \$30,000/year (exact amount varies). MPS candidates are responsible for their own funding. Please note: renewal of financial support each semester is contingent upon academic performance constituting good standing in the graduate field and satisfactory performance in any teaching or research responsibilities.