

A Quick Guide to Department of Genetics

2023-2024 Postgraduate Admissions

This document is intended as a quick guide to postgraduate admissions in the Department and the University. A more detailed description of postgraduate life in the Department of Genetics can be found on our Web Site and details of University requirements through the links provided below.

We currently offer **two postgraduate programmes**:

- **MPhil by research** (thesis) (BLGEM1) 1 year.
- **PhD** (thesis) (BLGE22) minimum 3 years, maximum 4 years full-time. Part-time PhDs are potentially possible but will not be suitable for all research topics or circumstances.

Applicants for all courses should consult a [research group](#) leader well in advance of any application. In order for any application to be formally considered you must then make an application to the University via the [Postgraduate Application Portal](#), you can also find information on the University [Postgraduate Guide](#). There is a £75 application fee, but the Postgraduate School of the Life Sciences have a [scheme](#) where you can apply to up to three courses in a single application, and there are some exemptions. If you intend to apply directly to a supervisor in the Department for a self-funded degree, if you have secured an independent scholarship funding or if you wish to apply for support through the [Cambridge Postgraduate Funding Competition](#) you are strongly advised to make an informal approach to a supervisor you are interested in working with: our supervisors are listed on our [web site](#).

***Please note** –we do not consider open applications to the department; you must identify a supervisor before making an application to the University. Applications to the Department that do not include a supervisor are likely to be automatically rejected. Also, applicants are strongly advised to contact prospective supervisors to discuss potential projects before a formal application.

The Department also participates in some interdepartmental PhD programmes, including the [SBS-DTP](#) and [MRC-DTP](#). To apply to these interdepartmental programmes, you will need to follow the guidance provided on their websites. You are strongly advised to consult the [University Postgraduate Admissions Website](#) for details on entry requirements, fees, [funding](#) and the application process before making an application. Competition for admission to the University of Cambridge Postgraduate programme is intense, as a guide for consideration in the Genetics Department you will be expected to have:

- at least a 2.1 in an Honours degree or equivalent (eg CGPA 3.5/4.0) in a relevant subject. Details of [equivalent qualifications](#) can be found at the University Postgraduate Portal
- two outstanding references from senior University staff at your most recent University.
- some research project experience
- Overseas applicants must in general demonstrate competence in English speaking and writing. Please see the University advice on [language requirements](#).

For further information, specific to the Genetics Department, please email postgrad.admin@gen.cam.ac.uk
For additional information about being a postgraduate student at the University please see the [Postgraduate Guide](#).

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