

## SELECTION CRITERIA 2017

### **Molecular Medicine, double degree, Master's Programme in Biochemistry, Master of Science (2y)**

#### **Programme Description**

The main objective of the International Master programme of Molecular Medicine is to train students in the field of molecular biomedical research. The program brings together complementary focus areas at Universities of Oulu and Ulm offering the students a wider study curriculum than otherwise available in either university. Thus learning possibilities are unique and top in the field.

Focus areas of the programme are:

- stem cell biology
- molecular oncology
- trauma research
- immune defence
- drug discovery
- extracellular matrix research
- hypoxia response research

Completion of this programme provides the student with highly specialized knowledge, ability for critical thinking and problem solving with skills to integrate knowledge from different fields. This programme trains students thoroughly in an area of application of molecular medicine. It enables students to engage in independent and creative research at the cross roads of medicine and basic science.

The double degree study programme in molecular medicine between University of Oulu and University of Ulm corresponds to a second cycle degree, master level (120 ECTS credits), giving access to doctoral programmes, equivalent to a PhD level in Europe. Studies leading to the double degree will last two years totaling 120 ECTS credits. Master of Molecular Medicine is based on a two year study programme: at least 1 year spent at the home institution and maximum of 1 year at the host institution, according to a study plan jointly defined by the home and host institutions. The first block of studies (15 ECTS) is spent at the home university and minimum of 30 ECTS credits has to be obtained at the host institution.

After successful implementation of a common double degree programme at both universities a certificate of "Master of Science in Biochemistry, study line Molecular Medicine" will be awarded from University of Oulu and "Master of Science in Molecular Medicine" from University of Ulm.

Faculty of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine already has established a joint PhD programme with the University of Ulm. This MSc programme further strengthens bilateral relations and academic structures for the exchange of best practices in the field of Molecular Medicine.

## How to Apply

### Admissions and application period

University of Oulu partners with the University Admissions Finland for their services for the application system and the pre-processing of application documents.

Application period for studies starting in Autumn 2017 **starts 15.12.2016 and ends 25.1.2017 at 15.00** (+2 GMT).

### Application fee

University of Oulu does not charge application fees.

### Application documents

All application documents have to be delivered by the deadline to

**University Admissions Finland**  
**Unioninkatu 40 C**  
**FI-00170 Helsinki**  
**Finland**

All submitted documents will be examined for their eligibility and authenticity. In case the applicant submits forged documents, the application will be automatically rejected.

Detailed information on the application documents is available at University of Oulu [web page](#).

## Student Selection

### Programme

Molecular Medicine, double degree, Master's Programme in Biochemistry, Master of Science (2y)

### Application

Application for Master's Programmes taught in English (University of Oulu)

### Number of Study Places

Total number of study places in program is 10. A maximum of 5 students will be selected, with the University of Oulu as a home institution.

### Eligibility

The following eligibility criteria will have to be fulfilled by students applying to the programme:

- a) BSc in Biochemistry, Molecular Medicine or in an equivalent subject, or chemistry with relevant experience in Biochemistry.
- b) English proficiency documentation ([Approved methods of demonstrating language proficiency](#), or interview).

The degree has to consist of minimum three (3) years of full-time study. An equivalent higher education degree which enables the applicant to apply for higher university degree (master) studies in his/her home country is also acceptable in place of the BSc.

*Please note that conditional admission is possible, if the applicant receives the degree certificate from the previous degree after the application deadline. However the final degree certificate must be submitted by*

- *Applicants graduating spring term 2017 from Finnish Universities of Applied Sciences by 12th of June 2017*
- *Applicants graduating spring/summer term 2017 from abroad or Finnish research university by 28th of July 2017*

*to commence the MSc degree.*

## **Student Admission to Study Programme**

The application and selection process is comprised of two stages:

Stage I: written applications

Stage II: interviews

A maximum of **5 students** will be selected to the Master's programme based on academic records and evaluation of the suitability of the applicant. The suitability is evaluated based on interview. In the case of ties the online application and application documents will be used to separate the candidates.

The final decision regarding the acceptance of students will be done in agreement between both universities.

## **Stage I: Written applications**

The admission period for International Master's Degree Programmes is **from 15th December 2016 to 25th January 2017 (15.00 pm, GMT +2)**. Please note that there is only one application period per year.

University of Oulu partners with the University Admissions Finland for their services for the application system and the pre-processing of application documents. University Admissions Finland will evaluate your eligibility and the authenticity of your educational certificates. This includes e.g. contacting your previous educational institution. Any malpractice will be reported to the universities and proper authorities.

### **A written application includes:**

- a) Completed online application form
- b) Compulsory attachments to the application form:
  - A copy of passport information page or a copy of an official ID card
  - Copy of Bachelor's (or higher) degree certificate in original language / Temporary (provisional) degree certificate
  - Translation of Bachelor's degree certificate if original document is not issued in English, Finnish or Swedish. [Information for applicants graduating after the application deadline.](#)
  - Copy of transcript of records of Bachelor's (or higher) degree in original language

- Translation of transcript of records of Bachelor's degree if original document is not issued in English, Finnish or Swedish
- University transcript, including the grading system of the institution
- Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Two reference letters: Two original reference letters must be attached to the application by the applicant. Typically reference letters are academic references (professors, faculty officials) or references from employers.

[Information about the application process.](#)

[Information about application documents.](#)

### **1. Fill in the online application**

All available study programmes of University of Oulu can be found on the [Studyinfo portal](#) where you can search for suitable programmes and start the application. The online application is only open during the application period, 15.12.2016-25.1.2017. Once you have found a programme you wish to apply to, find out what the admissions requirements are from the [University of Oulu Admissions](#).

### **2. Collect the required enclosures**

The list of required documents is also on the online application. Mark down your Application Form number into every document, and also into the lower left corner of the envelope.

Please make sure that the documents are officially certified and translated. There are no exceptions to these rules.

### **3. Send the requested application documents to the mailing address of the University Admissions Finland**

University Admissions Finland  
Unioninkatu 40 C  
FI-00170 Helsinki  
FINLAND

(If you use a courier service, please also mark down the University Admissions Finland's phone number +358 29 41 235 28)

Applications sent via email or fax will not be considered.

Please make sure your application package (enclosures) reaches University Admissions Finland by mail within the given application deadline. Late applications will not be processed.

Please note that if you apply for more than one programme, you need to submit a full application file (all requested documents) for each programme you apply for.

The application documents will not be returned to the applicants.

## Submitting Application Documents

All educational documents must be officially certified (attested) by the Notary Public or the awarding institution. Please also note the possible [country-specific requirements](#). Detailed descriptions of the official translations and officially certified copies can be found below.

### Official Translations

All documents must be submitted in Finnish, Swedish or English. Also the copies of the original documents have to be submitted. Translations of educational documents must be

1. issued by the awarding institution or
2. officially certified copy of a translation issued by the awarding institution or
3. translated by an official translator or
4. officially certified copy of a translation made by an official translator.

Each page of an official translation must bear the translator's stamp and/or signature. Official translations must be exact translations of the original documents. Translations done by the applicant him- or herself are not accepted. Please note that you have to send a legalised copy of the translated document also in its original language.

### Officially Certified Copies

All educational documents must be officially certified (attested) by the Notary Public or the awarding institution. This means that every page of each document must bear an original stamp/seal and signature of the certifying officer, e.g. regular copies of certified copies will not be accepted. In addition to the standard document requirements, educational documents from [certain countries](#) must be submitted in a certain way.

Please make sure that the officially certified copies:

1. are taken directly from your original educational documents
2. include every page of your educational documents
3. bear the original stamp of the awarding institution or Notary Public on each page of the document (e.g. a stamp stating only "Certified true copy" will not be accepted)
4. bear the original signature of the certifying officer.

All submitted documents will be examined for their eligibility and authenticity. In case the applicant submits forged documents, the application will be automatically rejected.

Please note that all students are required to present their original Bachelor's degree certificate (or higher) and transcript of records upon arrival, before starting their studies at the University of Oulu. If a student fails to do so, the right to study will be waived.

## Stage II: Interviews

The second stage of the selection will be an interview by skype (or by telephone if skype is unavailable), with questions based on the relevant scientific background on biochemistry, molecular biology, biochemical and molecular biology methods, metabolism, cell biology and genetics along with questions relating to motivation and career aspirations. The interview will also be a test of the ability of the applicant to understand and communicate effectively in English.

Applicants will be selected for interviews based on the evaluation of online application and application documents (previous studies, motivation).

Invitations to the interview will be sent by email by the end of March 2017. The interviews will typically be 45-50 minutes in length and will be held during March-April.

### Language requirements

All applicants are required to prove a high level of proficiency in English language. To find out the different approved methods, please visit the [Language Requirements pages](#) of the University of Oulu.

Our MSc degree accepts also the interview as the method for demonstrating language proficiency. When using interview as the method for demonstrating language proficiency, no separate documentation on language proficiency is needed.

### Tuition Fees and Scholarships

In double MSc degree programme in Molecular Medicine the tuition fee is 13 000 euros per year. The fee concerns degree students who will start their studies in Master's degree programme on or later than 1st August 2017.

Students who are not citizens of an EU/EEA member state are liable to pay the tuition fee.

Exceptions to this general rule are students who

- are equivalent to an EU citizen (i.e. citizen of Switzerland)
- are residing in Finland or some other EU-country on a permanent basis (continuous (A) or permanent (P or P-EU) residence permit type) or have an EU Blue Card
- are a family member (spouse or child) of an EU/EEA citizen (have a residence card for non-EU family members of EU citizens)
- have started their studies in the University of Oulu before the academic year 2017-2018
- are enrolled in Doctoral programmes
- are studying in degree programmes taught in Finnish

The first payment has to be paid by 31.7.2017. Failure to pay will result in the cancelling of the student's acceptance and revoking of the study right. Applicants eligible to full tuition scholarships are exempted from paying the tuition fee.

The tuition fee is an academic fee and thus covers the costs of tuition. The tuition fee does not cover the living costs such as accommodation, meals, and transportation. All students are required to finance their living costs by themselves.

Connected with the renewal of university strategy, the increased importance of internationalization and the introduction of tuition fees for non-EU/EEA citizens, the University of Oulu has assigned a significant amount of money for tuition scholarships for 2017 entry. **Up to five (5) scholarships** will be granted in the form of a tuition fee waiver in double degree in Molecular Medicine. The tuition fee waiver awarded **covers 100 % of the full tuition fee**. Applicants can apply for the tuition scholarship as part of the admissions

process. In order to retain the scholarship in the following year of study, a student must have completed 55 ECTS by the end of the previous academic year. If a student does not achieve this requirement during the first year of studies, they will be liable to pay the full international tuition fee for the second year if they wish to complete their Master's degree programme.

Information on the scholarship programmes and tuition fees:

<http://www.oulu.fi/university/masters/scholarships>

## **Announcing the Results**

Selection result will be published by 28th April 2017.

## **Accepting the Study Place**

Deadline to confirm the study place for a full two-year Master's Programme starting in Autumn 2017 is July 14, 2017 at 15.00 pm (GMT +3).

## **Requests for Rectification**

An applicant with grounds for appeal on the student selection procedure may apply for rectification of the decision within 14 days of notification of results. Any requests for rectification must be addressed in writing to the Board of Examiners and sent to the Registry Office of the University of Oulu (by 15.00 pm, GMT +3).

Registry Office of the University of Oulu  
P.O.Box 8000,  
FI-90014 University of Oulu, Finland