REACH YOUR FULL POTENTIAL
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BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
BY THE NUMBERS

FACTS

>$480M TOTAL RESEARCH FUNDING

20th RANK IN NIH FUNDING TO MEDICAL SCHOOLS

12 TOP 25 DEPARTMENTS IN NIH FUNDING

>1 MILLION SQUARE FEET OF BASIC SCIENCE AND COMPUTATIONAL RESEARCH SPACE ON MAIN CAMPUS

250,000 SQUARE FEET OF ADDITIONAL BASIC AND CLINICAL RESEARCH SPACE THROUGHOUT TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER OCCUPIED BY BCM FACULTY AND STAFF

14 MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

8 MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

5 MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS

4 HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE INVESTIGATORS

STUDENTS

604 NUMBER OF STUDENTS

398 DOMESTIC
(After the state of Texas the largest groups are from California and New York)

206 INTERNATIONAL
(After the U.S. the largest groups are from China, India, and Taiwan)

302 MALE

302 FEMALE

— 96 — UNDERREPRESENTED IN SCIENCES

AVERAGE TIME TO DEGREE

6 YEARS
CHOOSE YOUR PATH

Many students begin a Ph.D. program envisioning a lifetime spent in an academic lab. For a growing number of Ph.D. graduates, career ambitions lie along alternative pathways in biotech, business, pharmaceutical industry, consulting, law, and more.

Wherever your ambition leads, we will help you reach your goal. You will be following a path well worn by BCM alumni who have built successful careers across diverse endeavors.

“Baylor opened up my world to what is possible in terms of everything I wanted to do scientifically and academically. If you find a job you love, you never have to work a day in your life.”

WARREN ZIMMER, PH.D.
ALUMNUS
PROFESSOR OF GENETICS AND TOXICOLOGY
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

JOB PLACEMENT/ADVANCED TRAINING FOR 2018 GRADUATES*

* These data are for graduates from July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019. Data were unavailable for 2% of graduates.
My thesis advisor told me when I graduated, you have learned about a specific process, but more importantly you have learned how to learn. That has served me enormously throughout my career in that I know I can take a technical article in any discipline and read it and understand it.
Baylor College of Medicine ranks among the top 30 academic biomedical research institutions in the world in the 2019 Nature Index. In the Reuters listing of the World’s Most Innovative Universities, BCM ranks in the top 50.

Research by BCM faculty has led to the issuance of more than 185 patents and the creation of more than 200 companies.

Addressing contemporary challenges in biomedical research and healthcare requires collaborative teams of scientists and clinicians from multiple disciplines. This has long been routine at BCM. On all questions related to collaborative culture, Baylor consistently scores significantly higher than national benchmarks on faculty engagement surveys.

The College’s membership in the Texas Medical Center expands the culture of collaboration and innovation beyond BCM.

“This radial graph shows the web of interactions between Dr. Adam Kuspa, dean of research, by showing his co-authors and the connections these researchers have to others through their publications.”

“TOGETHER, THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE TMC ARE SECOND IN THE NATION IN FUNDING FROM THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH.”

RACHEL CURRY
STUDENT

If there is something you are interested in that has anything to do with biomedical sciences, there is someone here who does it or knows somebody who does. There are an astounding number of labs here, which offers a lot of opportunity for collaboration.”
A hundred years of achievement in biomedical research, exceptional scientists and trainees, and a resource-rich research enterprise create an exceptional environment for basic, clinical, and translational research. A few examples of recent findings are highlighted here.

Dr. Ross Poché’s lab is dedicated to elucidating the transcriptional and epigenetic mechanisms regulating proliferation and differentiation of retinal progenitor cells to identify new therapeutic interventions to restore sight and treat cancers such as retinoblastoma. This image is of a developing optic cup and lens of a mouse embryo, day 11.5.

This image appeared on the cover of the Dec. 4, 2018, issue of *Cell Reports*. Dr. Benjamin Arenkiel and his colleagues study the genetic, molecular, and cellular mechanisms that guide the formation, function, and maintenance of neural circuits in the mammalian brain. In this image different colors indicate different adult-born granule cell types and delineate their dendritic arborization patterns.

Making new viruses requires assembling intracellular replication factories via a complex, little known process that involves both viral and cellular components. New insights into this process have emerged from Dr. Mary K. Estes’ lab, where she and her colleagues have identified novel essential players in the formation of rotavirus factories. This image resulted from their findings that when a cellular protein called CK1α adds phosphate groups to NSP2 (shown in the green rectangle), it triggers the assembly of NSP2 octameric units into a crystal-like structure that appears to be required for the formation of rotavirus factories.

The most appealing aspects of Baylor for me is that the faculty collaborate across departments and the research spans from clinical to animal models with a focus on translation so that research has an impact on human health.

DISCOVER THE LATEST RESEARCH ADVANCES FROM BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE. FOLLOW OUR RESEARCH BLOG AT fromthelabs.bcm.edu
RESEARCH RESOURCES TO SUPPORT YOUR SUCCESS

As a student of the Baylor College of Medicine Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, you will leverage the resources from one of the nation’s preeminent research institutions in the world’s largest medical complex.

Advanced technology core laboratories provide state-of-the-art instrumentation and technologies, as well as consultation on experimental design, data analysis, and training. Through the cores, students not only gain access to tools and techniques that support cutting-edge research, they also receive training and mentorship. Exceptional facilities available at BCM, include:

- Advanced MR Imaging
- Antibody-Based Proteomics
- Bioengineering
- Biostatistics & Informatics
- Cell-Based Assay Screening
- Cytometry & Cell Sorting
- Cryo EM
- Gene Vector
- Genetically Engineered Mouse
- Genomic & RNA Profiling
- Human Stem Cell
- Human Tissue Acquisition & Pathology
- Integrated Microscopy
- Mass Spectrometry Proteomics
- Metabolomics
- MHC Tetramer
- Mouse Embryonic Stem Cell
- Mouse Metabolic and Phenotyping
- NMR and Drug Metabolism
- Optical Imaging & Vital Microscopy
- Patient Derived Xenograft & Advanced In Vivo Models
- Population Biosciences Biorepository
- Protein & Monoclonal Antibody Production
- RNA In Situ Hybridization
- Single Cell Genomics
- Small Animal MRI

Advanced Technology Cores support cutting-edge research, including the work represented by these images.

A. 3-D reconstruction of a natural killer cell. This image highlights the abundance of actin branches and uses false colors to represent the height of the structures.

B. Immunofluorescence staining of porcine cardiac fibroblasts that were transduced with lentivirus co-expressing GFP and co-cultured with mouse cardiomyocytes.

C. Browser representation of mCG density in the adult mouse brain (black). Shown are ChIP-seq profiles for MeCP2, a methyl-CpG binding protein, from pluripotent ES cells (green), adult mouse brain (blue) and adult mouse hypothalamus (red).
COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH CENTERS

Collaborative research centers create dynamic communities in which faculty and students engage across traditional scientific divides. Center-organized seminars and workshops are open to all graduate students.

BCM research centers include:

- Alkek Center for Metagenomics and Microbiome Research
- Cardiovascular Research Institute
- Center for Drug Discovery
- Center for Cell and Gene Therapy
- Center for Precision Environmental Health
- Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Dan L Duncan Institute for Clinical and Translational Research
- Huffington Center on Aging
- Human Genome Sequencing Center
- Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine Center
- Therapeutic Innovation Center

DATA ACCESS

As the home of one of the world’s premier human genome sequencing centers and co-owner of Baylor Genetics, BCM has access to high-quality genetic data. Through the College’s involvement in the Human Microbiome Project, National Institutes of Health Brain Initiative, and other major national and international collaborations, BCM researchers have access to extensive data repositories.

The College’s partnership with CommonSpirit Health, which has more than 700 care sites and 142 hospitals in 21 states, collaboration with Baylor Scott & White, the largest not-for-profit healthcare system in Texas, and affiliations with large healthcare providers in the Texas Medical Center, provide our researchers access to extensive clinical data warehouses.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON RESEARCH RESOURCES VISIT

bcm.edu/research

When I was interviewing here, people highlighted the cores and the clinics, but it didn’t mean anything to me at the time. Now I see how the cores and collaborations with clinicians have pushed my research forward in what feels like a really short time.
FLEXIBILITY TO MEET YOUR GOALS

Enrolling in the BCM Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences opens doors to educational opportunities both within the College and with other outstanding institutions. We encourage students to customize their training to fit their individual career goals. You may choose to gain teaching experience, complete internships, work with young students, take courses at neighboring institutions, or take advantage of other opportunities at the college.

CROSS-CUTTING CURRICULUM

While it remains critical for Ph.D. students to gain deep knowledge of their specific field of specialization, this is no longer sufficient. To meet this challenge, the graduate school redefined the curriculum so that students gain knowledge and skills in a variety of areas, including human subjects research, ethics, rigor, leadership, mentoring, time management, and teamwork.

“...

We of course have great classes that teach us about science and everything you need to know to be a great scientist. But, one of the strengths of BCM that puts it above anywhere else is how much emphasis there is on learning to present well and write well.

...”

MARISSA SCAVUZZO, PH.D.
ALUMNA

STUDENTS HAVE MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO PRESENT THEIR WORK AT ON-CAMPUS EVENTS AS WELL AS AT LOCAL, NATIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS.
INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
Every graduate student has an Individual Development Plan (IDP). The IDP enables each of our trainees to identify professional goals that match their interests and values for the purpose of developing appropriate career-specific skills. The creation and regular review of the IDP encourages discussions between students and mentors about career goals early in the training process and implements a course of action to achieve these goals.

TEAM LAUNCH: TEAMWORK SKILLS FOR CAREER SUCCESS
BCM’s unique Team Launch program provides innovative, interdisciplinary opportunities that will prepare you for the full range of careers open to individuals with a Ph.D. in biomedical sciences. You will have the opportunity to learn effective teamwork skills and implement these skills through working on real-world problems.

I’m surrounded by students from many different countries and backgrounds. The diversity here has improved my communication skills, my ability to work in teams and my ability to problem solve. I think it has just made me a better all-around person.
LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

When selecting where to pursue your doctoral degree, you are choosing your professional and personal home for the next several years. As with any home, location is the key. Baylor College of Medicine’s location is ideal for anyone wishing to pursue a career in biomedical sciences while maintaining a high quality of life.

A LEADING HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

BCM is home to researchers, clinicians, and educators dedicated to improving lives for individuals and communities locally and globally. The healthcare, education, and research programs of BCM consistently rank among the best in the nation. The college’s students and faculty receive prestigious awards and honors for their contributions.

BCM fosters diversity among its students, trainees, faculty, and staff. In the AAMC Diversity Engagement Survey, BCM’s community ranked in the top third among institutions for having an inclusive environment.

My mom recently told me I need to work for the tourist office of Houston because I try to convince everyone to move here. I couldn’t imagine going back to live somewhere without the diversity of cultures, restaurants, events, and activities. Other cities may offer as much to do as Houston, but the low cost of living here means that you can actually take advantage of everything the city has to offer as a graduate student.

THE WORLD’S LARGEST MEDICAL COMPLEX

Along with BCM, many of the top-ranked research and clinical institutions in the nation are members of the Texas Medical Center, including:

- Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center
- MD Anderson Cancer Center (the world’s largest cancer hospital)
- Rice University
- Texas Children’s Hospital (the world’s largest children’s hospital)
- Texas Heart Institute
- Texas Children’s Hospital

The exceptional size and scope of the TMC biomedical research community creates unique opportunities to leverage resources as well as the talents and experience of faculty, staff and students. The culture and environment of a large medical center provide students with opportunities to obtain education and practical experience in both basic and applied research.
THE CITY OF HOUSTON

We’ve discovered that many people who have never been to Houston have some preconceived notions about the city that are, well, just plain wrong.

HOUSTON FACTS & FIGURES

1st
AMONG NATION’S 10 MOST POPULOUS CITIES IN TOTAL ACREAGE OF PARK LAND

2nd
LARGEST CONCENTRATION OF FORTUNE 500 COMPANIES IN THE U.S.

4th
LARGEST CITY IN U.S.: 2.3 MILLION RESIDENTS

23%
BELOW THE AVERAGE COST OF LIVING IN THE 20 MOST POPULOUS U.S. CITIES

60
DEGREE GRANTING COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

145
LANGUAGES SPOKEN

500
INSTITUTIONS DEVOTED TO PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS, HISTORY, AND SCIENCE

WANDERSON REZENDE, STUDENT

I went from Brazil to Washington, D.C., and from Washington to Texas. Because of the Southern hospitality, the way people treat you, how open things are, and how diverse Houston is, it was a fairly easy transition. I love this place!

PLENTY OF OPTIONS TO OCCUPY YOUR FREE TIME:

• Professional, collegiate, and recreational sports leagues
• Theater, ballet, concerts, opera, and museums
• Nightlife options around town
• Shopping galore
• 350 parks; 95 miles of nature, hiking, and bike trails; and three state parks nearby
• More than 10,000 restaurants representing 70 countries and U.S. regions
• Water recreation within a short drive (Galveston beaches, Clear Lake, Lake Conroe, and Lake Livingston)

BOTTOM LINE: IT’S A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE, LEARN, WORK, PLAY, AND RAISE A FAMILY.

TMC FACTS

50 million
DEVELOPED SQUARE FEET

8th
LARGEST BUSINESS DISTRICT IN THE U.S.

10 million
PATIENT VISITS PER YEAR

180,000+
SURGERIES ANNUALLY

$3 billion
IN CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

106,000+
EMPLOYEES

HOUSTON FACTS & FIGURES

THE MOST DIVERSE LARGE METROPOLITAN AREA IN THE U.S.
Student resources at BCM are designed to help you successfully navigate through your education and into the workforce.

**CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER**
Our Career Development Center works with students at every stage of their education to help them explore options and learn about different career paths. Through affiliations and connections with institutions and companies throughout the Houston area and beyond, the center staff, as well as faculty and leadership at BCM, help students find opportunities to gain experience and build connections that match their career interests.

Learn more at bcm.edu/careerdevelopment

**HEALTH & WELLNESS**
Taking care of yourself is a prerequisite for success in school and beyond. At BCM you will have many options to participate in individualized or group wellness programs, activities and events run by the graduate school, the college, and the Texas Medical Center as well as organizations throughout Houston.

For a full listing of Student Wellness services, visit bcm.edu/student-wellness
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
If you need help with a specific course, accommodations for a disability, veteran’s affairs services, counseling, or assistance finding resources in the Texas Medical Center Library, a wide-range of services are available to you at BCM.

For a full listing of Student Success Resources visit bcm.edu/student-services

ANDREW LOPEZ
STUDENT

BCM really focuses on meeting your needs that are not specific to the lab or the classroom. There are a lot of opportunities for social outreach, volunteering and engagement in student groups.

JULIA WANG
STUDENT

Biotechnology companies need people who can cross from research to clinical and also understand business. The Career Development Center has helped me to see where I can fit in this space.

NETWORKING & STUDENT ENGAGEMENT
Your opportunities to build your support and networking community begin as soon as you arrive on campus for orientation. In addition to getting to know your fellow first-year students, during orientation you will meet students from other years through the Student Orientation Leaders Program.

Throughout your years at BCM, you will have many opportunities to participate in and lead organizations and committees within the graduate school and the college. Diverse student-led organizations facilitate networking and building of social connections with students who share your interests.

Learn more at www.bcm.edu/graduate-student-council
STIPENDS AND BENEFITS

At BCM we are focused on you and your training. If your vision for your future includes teaching, you may choose to gain experience as a teaching assistant for graduate courses as well as through other opportunities available to our students. Teaching is not required in order to receive a stipend and other benefits. You have the freedom to focus exclusively on your education and research as well as work with your mentors to take advantage of other BCM resources that match your career interests.

Students receive:

$33,500 stipend in 2019/20*

Health and dental insurance

Students do not pay tuition.

Students who successfully compete for outside funding receive a $3,000 Dean's Excellence Award.

*I Baylor College of Medicine reserves the right to increase, decrease, or alter benefits. Up-to-date information on benefits is provided at bcm.edu/gradschool.

I chose Baylor College of Medicine because it offers a combination of opportunity and affordability that is unmatched by other options for my graduate training. The collaborative culture was also one of the key attributes that drove me to choose BCM. My colleagues and I have ongoing projects with labs from across the hall to around the world. These relationships are essential for networking and exploring future opportunities in ways that would not be possible without the collaborative efforts at all levels of the institution.
We look at every applicant as a whole person, not a collection of statistics. We search out students who are pursuing science because their interest in it is so strong that they cannot imagine doing anything else.

Of course we look at your GPA. But numbers are not the primary factors we value in our students. So what are we looking for?

- Research Experience
- Motivation
- Commitment
- Diversity

Applicants are encouraged to select both a first- and second-choice program. If the first program you list is unable to accept your application, it will automatically be sent to the second for consideration.

The collaborative culture is my favorite part of being at BCM. Everyone is going to see the same problem a little bit differently depending on where they grew up, their religion, or other factors. Hearing all these different views helps you get out of your own box.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**SEPT. 1** ............... **FREE APPLICATION SYSTEM OPENS.**

**JAN. 1** ............... **APPLICATION DEADLINE.** Applications received by Dec. 1 will be considered for early review and are strongly encouraged. Late applications will be considered on a space-available basis.

**JAN./FEB.** ............. **INTERVIEWS ARE HELD BY INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS.**

**FEB./MARCH/APRIL** ... **ADMISSION OFFERS ARE EXTENDED.**

**APRIL 15** ............. **FINAL DECISIONS BY STUDENTS TO ACCEPT AN OFFER.**

TO BEGIN YOUR APPLICATION, VISIT bcm.edu/gsbs/admissions
FIND YOUR FIT

With more than 600 STUDENTS and 540 FACULTY MEMBERS, you will have a diverse group of potential colleagues, mentors, and advisors at Baylor College of Medicine Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

But, no need to worry that you will be lost in the crowd. Our graduate programs provide each student a smaller community within the whole. While strongly grounded in BCM’s collaborative, innovative culture, each interdisciplinary program has its own personality and unique offerings.

DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES

Interdisciplinary programs integrate related research across basic science and clinical departments and academic centers. Our faculty members have the freedom to select the programs that align with their research. Rather than be bound by the department or center into which they were hired, faculty opt into participation in graduate programs that align with their research interests. This ensures that you will interact with faculty who bring diverse backgrounds, perspectives, and experience to your chosen field of study.

FLEXIBILITY TO PURSUE YOUR PASSIONS

Your program will provide a home base, set your required coursework and qualification requirements and provide a network of faculty and students who share your interests. However, when selecting laboratories in which to rotate, and ultimately the one in which you will pursue your dissertation research, all the resources of BCM are open to you. You have the freedom to find your home in the laboratory of any member of the graduate faculty.

When I learned that the BCM Ph.D. programs had been recently redesigned to be even more student focused, it cemented my view that BCM was the right place for me.
I chose to pursue a career in cancer research because I wanted a chance to help people. I believe that our discoveries will translate into new medicines and new treatment strategies based on the underlying biology of each patient’s disease.

Michael L. Gatza, Ph.D.
Alumnus
Assistant Professor of Radiation Oncology, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey

Acquire the knowledge and skills you need to break barriers in cancer and cell biology.

Our faculty includes members of BCM’s National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center—the Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the BCM Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, which is ranked in the top ten in the country for National Institutes of Health funding.

You will receive broad, interdisciplinary training in the fundamentals of normal cell function and cancer with an emphasis on a wide spectrum of genomic analyses to growth, invasion, and metastasis. Small class size facilitates one-on-one interactions with some of the nation’s leading scientists. Your choices for curriculum can be individualized, depending on what you have already had during your undergraduate and/or master’s studies.

Career Paths

Positions currently held by BCM alumni whose research focused on cancer and cell biology include:

- Analytical Microbiological Specialist, MillerCoors
- Assistant Professor, Albert Einstein College of Medicine
- Chair of Pharmacology and Cancer Biology, Duke University School of Medicine
- Commercial Manager, Shell Oil
- Principal Investigator, Neural Stem Cell Institute
- Postdoctoral Associate, BCM
- Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Iowa Carver College of Medicine
- Program Director of BU’s BEST, Boston University School of Medicine
- Professor, BCM and Pathologist-in-Chief, Texas Children’s Hospital
- Professor, Texas A&M University
- Professor, University of California, San Francisco
- Research Scientist, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences in the National Institutes of Health
- Scientist, Thermo Fisher Scientific
- Scientist, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

Contact Us

Phone: 713.798.6557
Email: cancer-cell@bcm.edu

General Admissions Questions

Phone: 713.798.4029
Email: gradappboss@bcm.edu
I decided to pursue graduate work in cancer and cell biology because I wanted to explore novel biochemical and cellular mechanisms that could potentially advance human health by becoming future targets for pharmacologic intervention.
Join us in developing and applying new technologies and innovative methods to deepen understanding of the chemical, physical, and structural basis of fundamental biology and human disease.

You will acquire a deep understanding of fundamental aspects of disease biology at the chemical, molecular and supramolecular level. You will have access to multidisciplinary training opportunities including biophysical and biochemical analysis of proteins, biochemistry, structural biology, pharmacology, chemical synthesis, combinatorial chemistry, synthetic biology, and design and engineering of small molecule drugs.

Our courses focus on problem-solving and the development of skills for a career of innovation in biomedical research. Core classes that survey biology are complemented by workshops that focus on specific skills. You have the option to pursue one of several curricular tracks tailored to meet your own educational interests and needs. These include a Biophysics & Biochemistry Track and a Pharmacology & Drug Discovery Track. There is also a Flexible Track through which you may work with your advisor to tailor your coursework to match your goals.

**CAREER PATHS**

Positions currently held by BCM alumni whose research focused on chemical, physical, and structural biology include:

- **Assistant Director**, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
- **Associate Director**, HD Biosciences
- **Consultant**, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
- **Director**, Molecular Genetics Laboratory, Stanford Health Faculty
- **Professor and Division Head**, UT Southwestern Medical Center
- **Intellectual Property Lawyer**, Fandga Partners
- **Professor and Division Head**, UT Austin
- **Associate Professor**, Cell Biology, Yale
- **Principal Investigator**, Institute Pasteur of Shanghai
- **Postdoctoral Associate**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- **Regulatory Scientist-Chemist**, FDA
- **Senior Bioinformatics Director**, Baylor College of Medicine
- **Senior Scientist**, LakePharma, Inc.
- **Trader**, DRW Holdings
- **Associate Director**, Qiagen

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**NICK YOUNG, PH.D.**

I decided on my career path when I realized as an undergraduate that the foundational mechanisms of life and the root causes of disease can be revealed in rich detail at the molecular—or even chemical—level.
BCM researchers accelerated the destruction of SRC-3 molecules as part of a new approach to fighting cancer. This cartoon-like rendition shows the proposed effect SI-2, a first-in-class anticancer drug, has on cancer cells. SRC-3 regulates many intracellular signalling pathways. By interfering with SRC-3’s function, SI-2 disrupts cancer growth.

Learn about research advances made by our faculty and students, find details about our curriculum, discover faculty whose research interests match your own, and more on our website bcm.edu/cpsb

I chose CPSB because of its leadership in cutting-edge, molecular-level mechanistic science and its location in the world’s largest biomedical research complex.
Work at the interface of developmental biology, physiology, health, and disease using diverse disease models to understand the biology of human diseases that can impact all stages of life and develop diagnostic and therapies to treat them.

Human disease can impact all stages of life—from hereditary and congenital birth defects to the degenerative diseases of old age—as well as any of the organs or systems in the human body. Our approach crosses traditional barriers between disciplines to understand the basic biology underlying health and disease and developing therapeutics.

With more than 150 faculty members, representing most of the departments and centers at BCM and many at our partner institutions, you will not only find mentors who share your interests, but also colleagues who will expose you to new ideas and perspectives. In addition to your research mentor, you may also elect to have a clinical mentor to aid you in selecting courses and shaping your research project in ways that facilitate the translation of your discoveries into new approaches to enhance patient care.

CAREER PATHS
BCM alumni whose research focus has includes development, disease models and therapeutics include:

Faculty Members and Postdoctoral Fellows at: BCM, Harvard Medical School, UCSF, University of Science and Technology in China, University of Lausanne in Switzerland, University of Pennsylvania, Rockefeller University, Washington University School of Medicine, and Yale University

Clinicians at: Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Stanford University School of Medicine, Texas Spine & Neurosurgery Center, University of Arkansas Medical Sciences, and UCSF

Scientists and Managers at: American Institutes for Research, AstraZeneca/Medimmune, Food and Drug Administration, Fu Wai Hospital in China, Genialis, IBM, Naval Medical Research Unit, National Institutes of Health, Novartis, Roche Diagnostics, Sanofi Genzyme and Thermo Fisher Scientific

As well as science writers, consultants, and advisors.
Using diverse techniques our faculty and students investigate questions that touch on each of these domains and use models that may include any organ, tissue, physiological system or organism in order to understand their fundamental biological processes and to identify and develop new therapeutics.

This is a picture of the hearing organ of the fruit fly. The green spots mark a novel protein that has homology to proteins involved in hearing and deafness in humans. BCM researchers use the fruit fly to model many human diseases and have developed and made available a large, versatile library of fruit flies that can be used to perform efficient and elegant in vivo gene-specific manipulations.

Learn about research advances made by our faculty and students, find details about our curriculum, discover faculty whose research interests match your own, and more on our website bcm.edu/ddmt

Developmental biology encompasses many subjects: genetics, molecular biology, biochemistry, immunology, embryology, organogenesis. By bridging together knowledge from these disciplines and their diverse methods, I get to exercise my creativity, learn multiple subjects in-depth, and become a well-rounded scientist!
CONTRIBUTE TO OUR UNDERSTANDING OF FUNDAMENTAL GENETIC AND GENOMIC PRINCIPLES. USE THE INSIGHTS YOU GAIN TO EXPLORE THE GENETIC BASIS OF HUMAN DISEASE, ELUCIDATE NEW BIOLOGY, BOTH BASIC AND APPLIED, AND DEVELOP NEW TREATMENT OPTIONS TO IMPROVE HUMAN HEALTH.

As the home of the No. 1 NIH funded genetics department, the largest clinical genetics program in the nation, and the BCM Human Genome Sequencing Center—one of only four such centers in the nation—Baylor College of Medicine is an international leader in genetics and genomics. Our faculty members and students publish investigations from fundamental to translational research in top-tier journals in the biomedical field.

Our core curriculum will provide you with a broad background in basic aspects of genetics, molecular biology, bioinformatics, biochemistry, and cell biology. Partnering with program leadership and your mentor, you will have the flexibility to select courses that match your interests and prepare you for the career you want. These may include any course offered at BCM as well as offerings from Rice University, the University of Texas Health Science Center – Houston, the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, and the University of Houston.

If you are interested in focusing your graduate training on bioinformatics, genomics, and/or systems biology, read about our BiGSB track as you explore our website.

There is no fee to apply!

CAREER PATHS
Positions currently held by BCM alumni whose research focused on genetics and genomics include:

Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator & Professor, University of Washington School of Medicine
Head of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Clinic, Antwerp University
Senior Global Project Manager, the Boston Consulting Group
Stadtman Tenure Track Investigator, National Cancer Institute Center for Cancer Research
Associate Professor, Baylor College of Medicine
Associate Professor and Director of Microscopy Imaging, University of California, San Diego
Even as a trainee, it was clear to me that the integrated genetics department at Baylor was unique in the world and that the environment would never limit what I could achieve in science.
I am fascinated with learning how viral and bacterial pathogens can facilitate infection and how the human body has adapted to overcome these stresses. By understanding these mechanisms, we can gain a stronger insight into developing strategies to help protect people.

Join us in investigating the importance of interactions between microbes, their hosts, and the immune system in human health and disease.

Our innovative program builds on active self-directed learning and peer-to-peer teaching to deliver a personalized, inquiry-based education. We integrate fundamental and cutting-edge elements of immunology and microbiology. You will acquire a sophisticated understanding of basic, translational, and clinical immunology and microbiology problems and the skills required to use state-of-the-art techniques. Electives allow you the flexibility to pursue and develop areas of individual, scientific and professional interest. Core and elective offerings also immerse students in the activities of grant writing and scientific presentations. You will actively participate in seminars, journal clubs, annual retreats, and other activities in which you will present your work.

CAREER PATHS
Positions currently held by BCM alumni whose research focused on immunology and microbiology include:

Assistant Professor, BCM
Assistant Professor, MD Anderson Cancer Center
Associate Professor, UC Berkeley and Howard Hughes Medical Institute
Attorney, Vinson & Elkins
Bioinformatician, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine
Director of Production Maximization & Microbiology, Nalco Champion
Director, App Biopharmaceutical
Epidemiologist, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Lead Data Scientist, Nielsen
Postdoctoral Scientist, Harvard University
Professor, BCM
Senior Director, Emergent Biosolutions
RESEARCH AREAS

•— Antibiotics, Antivirals, and Drug Resistance
•— Autoimmune and Inflammatory Diseases
•— Host-Microbe Interactions and Pathogenesis
•— Immune System Development, Metabolism, and Function
•— Immunotherapy, Gene Therapy, and Vaccine Development
•— Mechanisms of Viral Replication
•— Microbial Macromolecular Structure and Function
•— Microbiome in Health and Disease
•— Molecular and Viral Carcinogenesis and Cancer Immunology

This is an immunofluorescent image of mouse small intestinal track showing proliferating cells (light green) climbing up from the intestinal stem cell compartment to replace rotavirus-infected, damaged cells (red). Blue color marks cell nuclei.

Learn about research advances made by our faculty and students, find details about our curriculum, discover faculty whose research interests match your own, and more on our website bcm.edu/immunology-microbiology

I chose to pursue graduate work in immunology and microbiology because I am very interested in host/pathogen interactions and using this knowledge to develop vaccines. The I&Y program allows me to explore all of my research interests, with a translational focus that could one day improve the health and lives of people.
I entered neuroscience because I was fascinated by our ability to learn and recall someone’s name based on a single encounter. I soon became more intrigued by how memory declines in Alzheimer’s disease and have studied this disorder ever since.

The Next Frontier in Biomedical Science: Understanding the Human Brain.

Our program focuses on the nervous system from its most basic ion channels to its most advanced computations. The core curriculum is designed to provide you with a broad foundation in modern neuroscience, including current laboratory techniques, genetics, cell biology, developmental neuroscience, neurophysiology, neuroanatomy, systems and computational neuroscience, and neurological disease.

Faculty research interests span a wide range of neuroscience fields from molecular and cellular neurobiology to circuits, systems, and theoretical modeling. Student research interests are equally broad yet a sense of community characterizes interactions across the program. Students participate in cutting-edge research starting in their first year rotations and go on to successful careers in academia, industry, teaching, and law where their strong graduate training plays a key role.

Baylor College of Medicine is regularly ranked as one of the top institutions receiving neuroscience funding from the National Institutes of Health. Our work is supported by state-of-the-art research facilities for molecular neurobiology, neurophysiology, microscopy, and functional human brain imaging, in addition to college-wide core laboratories offering the latest instrumentation for experimental work.

CAREER PATHS
Positions currently held by BCM neuroscience alumni who graduated in the last five years include:
Assistant Professor, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Postdoctoral Fellow, Stanford University
Scientist, NanoString Technologies
Senior Research Engineer, ARM
Flight Surgeon, KBRwyle/NASA Johnson Space Center
Ophthalmology Residency Program, Johns Hopkins University
Patent Agent, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
President and Co-Founder, Vathes LLC
Assistant Professor, University of Texas Medical Branch
Technology Transfer Manager, Parker Institute in Technology Commercialization, the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
This image shows distinct neural populations in the retina which comprise the first synapses in the visual system. BCM investigators are studying the signaling pathways which help neurons connect properly during development to support vision throughout life.

Image courtesy of Melanie Samuel lab.
The intersection of computer science and biology is where data gets translated into insight. I wanted to work at that nexus and doing so has allowed my research to have a real impact on human disease.

Develop new quantitative modeling methods and advanced computational approaches to further understanding of biological systems and improve human health.

The Quantitative and Computational Biosciences program will bring you to the new frontiers of biomedical research where you will make discoveries and improve human health through quantitative modeling, advanced computing, and data science.

With leading researchers from seven institutions, we bring together the resources of the Texas Medical Center—the world’s largest complex of biomedical research institutions and hospitals, Rice University and neighboring institutions—to discover new biomedical knowledge and improve human health.

The overall philosophy of the course requirements is to prepare you in both the specialized area of research in which you choose to focus and in cell and molecular biology. Because our students come from a variety of academic backgrounds we will design your curriculum based on your individual needs.

CAREER PATHS
Positions currently held by BCM alumni whose research focused on quantitative and computational biology include:

- **Assistant Professor**, BCM
- **Assistant Professor**, Cornell University
- **Assistant Professor**, Yale University
- **Associate Professor**, Purdue University
- **Bioinformatics Scientist**, Gene By Gene, LTD
- **Chief Technology Officer**, Normal Modes
- **Country Head of Indonesia**, Novartis Diagnostics
- **Founder and Director**, Alzheimer’s Care Companies
- **Imaging Expert**, Visualization Sciences Group, Inc.
- **Patent Clerk**, Hunton & Williams, LLP.
- **Portfolio Manager**, Millenium Partners
- **Principal Statistic Analyst**, MD Anderson Cancer Center
- **Publications Planning Manager**, Affymax, Inc.
- **Senior Scientist**, Warp Drive Biosynthetics
- **Software Engineer**, Google
- **Vice President/Global Business Leader**, Translational Genomics
This is an annotated 3-D electron tomogram of a neuron-like culture cell determined by cryo-electron tomography. Researchers use cryo-electron tomography to visualize macromolecules frozen in action and details of structures inside of cells. Looking to increase the efficiency of the time-consuming process of annotation, Baylor researchers developed an automated method that requires less human participation.
The vision of Baylor College of Medicine is to improve health through science, scholarship and innovation.

Realizing this vision requires providing the next generation of translational research leaders with the knowledge, skills, and experience necessary to apply the knowledge gained from the basic sciences to address clinical and community healthcare needs.

Baylor graduate students in their first or second year who are interested in a career focused on translating biomedical discoveries into molecular medicine advances to benefit human health are invited to apply for the Clinical Translational Research Certificate of Added Qualification (CTR-CAQ) program. Participants will acquire the foundational knowledge and professional skills required of effective leaders of translational research teams.

YOU WILL:

• Gain knowledge of the ethics, regulatory aspects, and practical conduct of clinical research
• Conduct hands-on work with peers in small groups to use this knowledge in simulated scenarios
• Master the skills necessary to work in and lead teams of researchers
• Participate in clinical/translational conferences and meetings where you will learn from and interact with experts in translational research
• Complete a capstone project with mentorship from your chosen clinical translational research mentor who will introduce you to clinical research

ADMISSIONS
Admission to the CTR-CAQ is open to BCM Ph.D. candidates in their first or second year.

Each year, 30 students will be selected to participate.

The two-year program is run in coordination with our seven interdisciplinary Ph.D. programs so that it will not slow down your progress with your thesis research. You and your mentor will design your CTR-CAQ work so that it integrates with or complements your thesis research.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
Rashieda Hatcher
Program Administrator
ctrcaq@bcm.edu
YOUR MENTORS

Baylor College of Medicine Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences is embedded within a leading health sciences university with a top-ranked medical school and located in the heart of the world’s largest medical complex. This provides access to many exceptional clinical translational research mentors for our students. You will have the opportunity to select mentors from the:

Asthma Clinical Research Center
BCM adult outpatient clinics
Center for Cell and Gene Therapy
Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center
Dan L Duncan Institute for Clinical and Translational Research
Lester and Sue Smith Breast Center
Texas Children’s Hospital Fetal Center
Texas Children’s Hospital pediatric clinics
Tropical Medicine Clinic
USDA Children’s Nutrition Research Center
Vaccine Research Institute
And many more clinical research centers and clinics.

For a full listing of BCM research centers, visit bcm.edu/research/centers
For a full listing of BCM healthcare clinics and centers, visit bcm.edu/healthcare/care-centers
PHYSICIAN-SCIENTISTS TRAINING PROGRAMS

BCM offers two programs designed to prepare graduates with passions for discovery and patient care to become independent investigators in both basic research and clinical investigation.

MEDICAL SCIENTIST TRAINING PROGRAM (MSTP)
The MSTP provides integrated scientific and medical training leading to the dual M.D./Ph.D. degree to highly motivated students with outstanding research and academic potential seeking a career as a physician-scientist. Students may pursue the Ph.D. portion through one of the seven interdisciplinary programs offered at Baylor College of Medicine or through the Rice University Bioengineering Graduate Program. Currently in its 42nd year of funding from the National Institutes of Health, the program has trained more than 250 physician scientists.

CLINICAL SCIENTIST TRAINING PROGRAM (CSTP)
The CSTP is designed for junior faculty and senior residents or sub-specialty fellows at Baylor College of Medicine. The program offers Ph.D. (for faculty only) and M.S. (for faculty and senior residents and fellows) degrees in clinical investigation. Both the Ph.D. and M.S. programs are designed for academic clinicians with a significant commitment to clinical research. The Ph.D. degree takes four to five years to complete, and the M.S. should be completed within three years. The CSTP also offers a one-year program leading to a Certificate of Added Qualification in Clinical Investigation.

“JULIA WANG
STUDENT

When I was looking at schools at which to pursue my M.D. and Ph.D. degrees, the structures and administrative support of the different programs was one of the key factors I investigated. At many schools, the M.D./Ph.D. program is located in either the medical or the graduate school. At Baylor, the program is equally and closely linked to both so that the administration can help students navigate every step of their educational journey.”
I had experience in research, but had no idea whether or not I was ready to commit to graduate school or continue with my original plan to earn an M.D. While exploring the BCM website, I stumbled upon the PREP program website. I rushed to apply before the deadline. The program helped me realize that I could do whatever I wanted with this degree and never be restricted to just one career path.
YOU WILL BE ABLE TO HAVE A LIFE OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM AND THE LAB DURING GRADUATE SCHOOL. WHETHER YOU OPT FOR PARTICIPATING IN COLLEGE-RUN INTRAMURAL SPORTS, SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS ORGANIZED BY THE GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL, OR EXPLORING THE HOUSTON RESTAURANT SCENE, YOU WILL FIND PLENTY TO OCCUPY YOUR TIME.

FOR MORE INFORMATION bcm.edu/gradschool
ABOUT BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

MISSION
Baylor College of Medicine is a health sciences university that creates knowledge and applies science and discoveries to further education, healthcare and community service locally and globally.

VISION
Improving health through science, scholarship and innovation.

VALUES
Respect
Integrity
Innovation
Teamwork
Excellence

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE:
Ranked 22nd for research and 4th for primary care by U.S. News & World Report, Baylor College of Medicine’s School of Medicine is the least expensive private medical school in the U.S. Exceptionally diverse clinical affiliates set BCM apart as a leader among the world’s best medical schools.

Many clinician-scientists within the School of Medicine also serve on the faculty of the graduate school, bridging the clinic and the laboratory to provide graduate students with a clear perspective of the impact of their research on health.

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS:
At BCM, health professions education include genetic counseling, nurse anesthesia, physician assistant, and orthotics and prosthetics.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice-Nurse Anesthesia program is ranked second in the nation and the Physician Assistant Program is ranked 3rd in the nation by U.S. News & World Report.

NATIONAL SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE:
Baylor is home to one of the first-of-its-kind schools in North America devoted to the neglected diseases that disproportionately afflict “the bottom billion,” the world’s poorest people.

Researchers from Tropical Medicine also serve on the faculty of the graduate school, through which students can conduct research on neglected tropical diseases.

Baylor College of Medicine is also co-owner of Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center and Baylor Genetics.

“Carlos Cristobal
Student
My lab mates are Chinese, Indonesian and Mexican-American and I’m from the Philippines. Everyone’s opinions are valued. It doesn’t matter where you come from or where you are now, all that matters is what you can bring to the table.”
Accreditation
Baylor College of Medicine is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award masters and doctorate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097 or call 404.679.4500 for questions about the accreditation of Baylor College of Medicine. The commission should be contacted only if there is evidence that appears to support Baylor’s significant non-compliance with a requirement or standard.

Public Safety
The Texas Medical Center Police/Security Department provides the medical center campus with security patrol. Baylor College of Medicine’s Security Office is responsible for security within BCM. In accordance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act), BCM issues an Annual Security Report that reflects campus crime statistics, policies, and safety information. All prospective students, faculty, or staff may view this report online at https://www.bcm.edu/about-us/our-campus/compliance/crime-reporting or by contacting a BCM security administrator at 713.798.3000.

Baylor College of Medicine Diversity and Inclusion Policy
Baylor College of Medicine fosters diversity among its students, trainees, faculty, and staff as a prerequisite to accomplishing our institutional mission, and setting standards-for-excellence in training healthcare providers and biomedical scientists, in innovation, and in providing patient-centered care.

- Diversity, respect, and inclusiveness create an environment that is conducive to academic excellence, and strengthens our institution by increasing talent, encouraging creativity and ensuring a broader perspective.
- Diversity helps position Baylor to reduce disparities in health and healthcare access and to better address the needs of the community we serve.
- Baylor is committed to recruiting and retaining outstanding students, trainees, faculty, and staff from diverse backgrounds by providing a welcoming, supportive learning environment for all members of the Baylor community.

Notice of Nondiscrimination
Baylor College of Medicine is committed to a safe and supportive learning and working environment for its learners, faculty, and staff. College policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, veteran status, disability or genetic information. Harassment based on any of these classifications is a form of discrimination and also violates College policy (02.2.25, 02.2.26) and will not be tolerated. In some circumstances, such discriminatory harassment also may violate federal, state, or local law.