

CALL FOR PRE-APPLICATIONS
for the graduate/masters program
“BIOTECHNOLOGY FOR THE LIFE SCIENCES”
for academic year 2025/2026

Study program

“Biotechnology for the Life Sciences” is a graduate/masters research program, being run by the University of Rijeka, Faculty of Biotechnology and Drug Development. The program runs for two years (four semesters) and begins at the start of October each year.

The requirements for the course are completion¹ of an appropriate undergraduate degree course (minimum three years full time or equivalent), in which 60% of the content is in biology, chemistry and/or relevant subdisciplines (including, but not limited to, molecular biology, biochemistry, cell biology, microbiology or pharmacology). Students must have a strong command of the English language, which will be assessed at the interview.

Tuition fees for the course are 4500 EUR per year².

Application procedure

Students interested should complete the attached form and sent it to life.sci@biotech.uniri.hr, along with copies of all the documents requested by this form. Applications must be submitted before midnight on **28th February 2025**.

Applicants from any country and of any citizenship may apply.

These pre-applications will initially be assessed based on the applicant’s previous degree and grades, personal letter of motivation and letters of recommendation (see application form for details). The 20 eligible students whose pre-applications are rated most highly will then be invited to interview (to be conducted by video conferencing software) which will focus on student motivation and English language skills. All applicants will be informed of the results of their applications, at the latest by 30th April 2025. Results will also be published on the webpage of the Faculty (www.biotech.uniri.hr).

(A short online application must also be sent later in the year – we will inform all students in the pre-application procedure about this at the appropriate time)

In total 10 students will be accepted to the course to begin in academic year 2025/2026, assuming sufficient applications from qualified applicants.

If places remain, then a second call may be issued, under the same conditions, with a provisional deadline of **13th September 2025**. Please note, however, that this second call will not be suitable for individuals who require visas to enter the European Union/Republic of Croatia, due to the time required to get a visa, and will only be issued if it is decided that sufficient places are available to warrant it.

Degree recognition and enrolment

Students who are accepted to the course will need to have their undergraduate degrees officially recognised before enrolling³, at a cost of 60 EUR depending on the University at which the degree was acquired⁴.

Enrolment for successful applicants is on 30th September 2025, at the University of Rijeka, Faculty of Biotechnology and Drug Development, Radmile Matejčić 2, 51000 Rijeka, Croatia. Please note that there is a standard enrolment fee per year, which is currently 55.50 EUR.

Further information can be found at biotech4lifesci.uniri.hr, or by contacting life.sci@biotech.uniri.hr

Students from countries outside of the European Union should contact their local Croatian Embassy as soon as possible, to confirm whether or not they will need a visa to travel to and study in the Republic of Croatia.

¹ Students currently in their final year of undergraduate study can apply, however, enrolment to the program will only be possible if they subsequently send proof of completion of their course and official grades (transcript), no later than 31st August 2025. This is due to the need for formal recognition of degrees acquired abroad. For students doing undergraduate study in a Croatian institution, this recognition is not required, and so the deadline is extended to 23rd September 2025.

² By default, payment is due before the start of the academic year (October 1st) and is required to enrol. Students may also opt to pay in two instalments for year, with half due before each of the two academic years. In this case, the student must provide a promissory note, signed in the presence of a public notary, when paying the fee for the first semester.

³ Students whose undergraduate studies were awarded by Croatian institutions are exempt from this.

⁴ Under an incoming law, degrees from some Universities will be automatically recognised and therefore carry no fee. At the time of writing, we are waiting for confirmation of who this will apply to.