

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

## Additional Requirements

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### Residence

#### On-Campus Degree Program

In partial fulfillment of the residence requirement for the degree of Master of Science, the student must complete 9 resident credit hours during one regular semester or one 10-week summer semester in resident study at Texas A&M University. Upon recommendation of the student's advisory committee, department head or chair of the interdisciplinary program, if appropriate, and with approval of the Graduate and Professional School, a student may be granted exemption from this requirement. Such a petition, however, must be approved prior to the student's registration for the final 9 credit hours of required coursework.

Students who are employed full-time while completing their degree may fulfill total residence requirements by completion of less-than-full time course loads each semester. In order to be considered for this, the student is required to submit a Petition for Waivers and Exceptions along with verification of his or her employment to the Graduate and Professional School.

See Residence Requirements (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/academic-expectations-general-degree-requirements/#degreerequirementstext>).

#### Distance Education Degree Program

The distance education modality does not have a residence requirement.

### Continuous Registration

#### On-Campus and Distance Education Degree Programs

A student in the thesis option of the Master of Science program who has completed all coursework on his or her degree plan other than 691 (Research) is required to be in continuous registration until all requirements for the degree have been completed.

See Continuous Registration Requirements (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/academic-expectations-general-degree-requirements/#registrationandacademicstatustext>).

### Time Limit

#### On-Campus and Distance Education Degree Programs

All degree requirements must be completed within a period of seven consecutive years for the degree to be granted. A course will be considered valid until seven years after the end of the semester in which it is taken. Graduate credit for coursework which is more than seven

calendar years old at the time of the final examination (oral or written) may not be used to satisfy degree requirements.

A student who has chosen the thesis option must have the final corrected copies of the thesis cleared by the Graduate and Professional School within one year of the semester in which the final exam is taken, or a final exam exemption petition was approved. Exams taken in between terms will expire at the end of the term that ended prior to the exam. For example, a final exam taken and passed during the Fall 2022 semester will expire at the end of the Fall 2023 semester. A final exam taken in the time between the Summer and Fall 2022 semesters will expire at the end of the Summer 2023 semester.

### Foreign Languages

#### On-Campus and Distance Education Degree Programs

No specific language requirement exists for the Master of Science degree.

### Capstone Portfolio

An additional degree requirement for the Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences non-thesis degree program is a capstone experience that is documented in a professional portfolio that is intended to serve as a blueprint for success in the program. Under the direction of the student's faculty mentor, this portfolio will be further refined into a document showcasing the accomplishments and personal and professional growth of the student in preparation for further professional education. In addition to successfully completing coursework in fundamental biomedical sciences, the student will be coached by the mentor to improve their competitiveness for professional school admission. Common areas of focus include experiential learning (such as professional shadowing, internships, and directed studies), the identification and grooming of professional track references, and strategic preparation for professional school standardized admissions test requirements. The capstone portfolio document must be submitted to the School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences Office of Research and Graduate Studies by the last day for non-thesis option master's students to take the final examination in the term of graduation as defined by Texas A&M Graduate and Professional School calendar.