

Applications for the IQ Biology program are due December 15 each year for admission to the program the following fall.

(Note that requests for your recommenders to submit their letters will not be sent out until you officially submit your application – make sure you do this several weeks before December 15 in order to leave enough time for your recommenders to submit their letters by December 15.)

Required for your Application

- 1) [Online IQ Biology Survey, including any Supplementary Information](#) (*Please note you need to complete a IQ Biology letter of intent.*)
- 2) [Online Graduate School Application](#)
- 3) [Indicate IQ Biology on Graduate School Application](#) (under "Specialization/Subplan")
- 4) [Official GRE Scores: Verbal, Quantitative and Analytical Writing](#)
- 5) [TOEFL Scores](#) (only for international students)
- 6) [3 letters of recommendation](#)
- 7) [Personal Statement](#)
- 8) [CV](#)
- 9) [2 unofficial copies of all post-secondary transcripts](#)
- 10) [Tuition Classification Form](#) (only for students claiming in-state Colorado residency)
- 11) [\\$60 application fee \(\\$80 for international students\)](#)

It might be helpful to print out these instructions for reference as you are filling out the application.

Online IQ Biology Survey and Supplementary Information

After following the link on the [Apply Now](#) page, you will be asked to create a login and password for the IQ Biology Survey and Supplementary Information portion of your application. You will be able to use this login to return to the site to work on and then formally submit the IQ Biology Survey and Supplementary Information necessary for your application.

Once you are logged in, you will be asked to create an “IQ Biology Survey” to start the application process. Please create just one survey;; you will be able to save and edit your responses to this survey until you formally submit it.

On the survey, a short number of questions will be asked, including your name, birthday, and email. **Next you will be asked to submit a brief letter of intent as that directly addresses your interdisciplinary interests and your interest in IQ Biology. This is NOT intended to be a repeat of the information you submit in your personal statement submitted with your CU Boulder application. In your IQ Biology letter of intent, please describe (in a maximum of one-- page) why you are interested in pursuing an interdisciplinary graduate education from the IQ Biology program at CU-- Boulder.** In this statement you can address which disciplines and approaches intrigue you and why. You could also address your future research interests depending on each of the degree programs you are interested in. This is completely optional, but might be a good suggestion for applicants who could envision doing slightly different research depending on which degree program they choose. Please leave specifics about why each of your chosen degree programs interest you for the “Departments of Interest” section below.

You will also be asked to indicate faculty whose research interests you and how you heard about this program (see the [Faculty](#) page for a list of IQ Biology faculty).

Please enter all the information for your undergraduate and graduate degrees. Please list the names of all the institutions you have attended—beginning with the degree--granting institution. If you attended more than one institution, please enter your degree, major/minors and GPA only from the most recent degree granting institution. We do request that you submit PDFs of unofficial transcripts for each institution that you attended.

Please enter your GRE scores (both raw and percentile) and your TOFEL scores if applicable. If you’ve taken these tests more than once, please enter your highest scores regardless of test date.

Letters of recommendation—Please enter the names, email addresses, relationship (i.e. research advisor or course instructor) and telephone number for each person submitting a letter of recommendation.

At this point you will also select your three degree programs of interest (it is mandatory to choose two programs;; the third is optional). Each degree program of interest will review your application and consider you for pre-approval in that program. After your first year in the program you will be able to pursue your PhD in any of the degree programs that pre-approved your application. For each degree program of interest, please indicate whether you would like to be considered independently by the department if you are not chosen for IQ Biology and provide a brief statement as to why you are interested in getting a PhD from that program (feel free to mention specific faculty of interest, skills and knowledge that you feel will be vital to your studies and

career pursuits, and how your background prepares you for this degree choice).

Note: You will be asked to fill out an application for the degree program you indicated as your “First Degree Program of Interest” on the Graduate School Application website. *(Note: The order in which you designate your degree programs of interest does not need to indicate a ranked order of your personal preference. When it comes time to choose a PhD program you are free to choose between any programs that pre-approved your application. This is just a mechanism to ensure each applicant only has to fill out a single application and pay a single fee. IQ Biology will circulate your application to the other degree programs of interest you indicated.)*

In addition to the general application on the Graduate School Application website, some degree programs require applicants to provide some Supplemental Information. These questions will appear on the IQ Biology Survey portion of your application. After saving your initial work, you may use your login to return to your application and answer these questions at any time prior to December 15. (Please note that in order for your application to be considered by IQ Biology you must “Finalize” your IQ Biology Survey by selecting “finalizing” and then pressing the submit button at the bottom of your survey.)

Some degree programs require supplemental information as part of the application process. We have compiled the most common questions as part of the IQ Biology survey. We realize that this information may duplicate information you have provided elsewhere in the IQ Biology Survey and the CU application—feel free to cut and paste!

Please remember that your application is not complete until the IQ Biology Survey and Supplementary Information are filled out, “finalized”, and formally submitted.

Online Graduate School Application

After filling out the IQ Biology Survey, you need to go to [CU Boulder’s Graduate School Application](#) website for entering your full application. Once you have begun your application on the Graduate School Application website, please proceed to fill out an application for your “First Degree Program of Interest” only.

You will also be asked to create a login and password for this portion of your application so that you may return to the site to work on and then formally submit the Graduate School Application. ***(Note that requests for your recommenders to submit their letters will not be sent out until you officially submit your Graduate School Application – make sure you do this several weeks before December 15 in order to leave enough time for your recommenders to submit their letters by the December 15 deadline.)***

Indicate IQ Biology on Graduate School Application

Under “Background Information” on the Graduate School Application, there is a place to write in a “**specialization/subplan**”. Please use that place to type in “IQ Biology”.

GRE Scores

Official GRE Scores for the general GRE are required: Verbal, Quantitative and Analytical Writing. Results from GRE subject exams are optional.

Official test scores must be reported by the testing service directly to the University of Colorado Boulder. The institution code for the GRE exams is 4841.

If you are asked to list a department code for sending your GRE scores, please use the department code from your “first degree program of interest” to keep your entire application in one place.

TOEFL Scores

Official TOEFL scores are required for international students (read instructions for international students for exceptions). The graduate school guidelines have set a minimum TOEFL score of 75. Official test scores must be reported by the testing service directly to the University of Colorado Boulder. The institution code for the TOEFL exam is 4841. See above about departmental codes.

International students should read these [instructions for international students](#) before starting your application to find out more about TOEFL and other application requirements specific to international applicants.

Letters of Recommendation

Three letters of recommendation are required. Contact information for your references should be entered into the Graduate School Application. Once you submit your application, an email will be sent out to your recommenders asking them to submit an online evaluation. We also are asking that you send IQ Biology your letters of recommendation. Please ask your recommenders to send them to iqbiology@colorado.edu or mail them to our address. **Make sure that you submit your application early enough to allow your recommenders to submit their recommendations prior to the application deadline of December 15.**

Personal Statement

A personal statement (in essay form) is required for each applicant. Please upload your statement in the “Upload Documents” section of the Graduate School Application. Please remember that your single personal statement will be read by up to three departmental admissions committees (based on those you indicated as “programs of interest”), it is possible for you to also include information and perspectives germane to each degree program you are interested in.

CV

Please leave the following sections of the Graduate School Application blank and instead include that information as part of a CV: Employment History, Post-Secondary

Education, Honors and Awards, and Affiliations.

Your CV should include: Name, Contact Information, Educational History, Employment History, Honors & Awards, Affiliations, and Publications. You will upload your CV in the "Upload Documents" section. For each of the below sections, be sure to include the following information.

Name: Full legal name, matching your name entered elsewhere in the application.

Contact Information: provide addresses, email and phone numbers for your current address and permanent address. Also indicate when we should use each address to contact you.

Educational History: Please include any academic information for all post-
secondary institutions you have attended (including institutions you are currently attending). Be sure to include the following information for each institution listed. From institutions where you have completed a degree: Institution, From Date, To Date, Degree/Diploma, and GPA. Please use a 4.0 Scale to report your Cumulative GPA. Consider A as 4 points, B as 3, C as 2, D as 1, and F as 0. From institutions where you have **not** completed a degree: Institution, From Date, To Date, Catalog Number and Course Title (for each course).

Employment History: Please include information on any additional nonacademic, industrial, or professional experiences from start of undergraduate work to present. Be sure to include the following information for each position listed: Employer, Job Title, Start Date, End Date, City, and State.

Honors and Awards: Please include any scholarships, prizes, honors, or other special recognitions you have received. For each item be sure to include the Honor/Award and Award Date.

Affiliations: Please list any additional honor societies and learned professional societies of which you are a member, as well as positions held. For each affiliation be sure to include the Activity, Start Date, End Date and Position.

Transcripts

For review and decision purposes you are required to upload an unofficial copy of your transcript(s) in the online application. We require one copy of the scanned transcript from each undergraduate and graduate institution that you attended. This includes community colleges, summer sessions, and extension programs. While credits from one institution may appear on the transcript of a second institution, unofficial transcripts must be submitted from each institution, regardless of the length of attendance, and whether or not courses were completed. **Failure to list and submit transcripts from all institutions previously attended is considered to be a violation of academic ethics and may result in the cancellation of your admission or dismissal from the university.**

ONLY after you are recommended for admission will you need to provide official transcripts.

Domestic students should send their transcripts to: IQ Biology, BioFrontiers Institute, University of Colorado, 596 UCB, Boulder, CO 80309.

Tuition Classification Form

If you are claiming in-state residency, you will be required to fill out the “[Tuition Classification Form](#)” and attach it in the “Upload Documents” portion of the Graduate School Application.

Application Fee

A single \$60 application fee (\$80 for international students) is required for each IQ Biology applicant. You will be able to pay by credit card or electronic check online through the Graduate School Application website, or you can mail in a check or money order to the address indicated on the Graduate School Application.