

# Biology & Biomedical Sciences

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## Policies

The Vagelos Division of Biology & Biomedical Sciences has more than 600 students with access to nearly 650 faculty mentors with whom they may perform their dissertation work. This unparalleled flexibility results from the joint governance of DBBS by the Washington University School of Medicine (<https://medicine.wustl.edu/>) and the School of Arts & Sciences (<https://artsci.wustl.edu/>) — a 50-year-old model that fosters the most impactful science executed at the boundaries of fields, programs, disciplines, schools and departments. This collaborative, interdisciplinary approach that transcends traditional boundaries is a hallmark of DBBS, and our training programs routinely rank among the top PhD programs nationally and internationally.

In this interdisciplinary environment, graduate students are governed by policies established by the university, the Office of Graduate Studies, Arts & Sciences, the School of Medicine and DBBS. The policies identified here and elsewhere in this *Bulletin* are not to be considered a complete list. However, every attempt has been made to identify the location of those policies that affect most or all students in DBBS.

In this *Bulletin*, the University Policies (<http://bulletin.wustl.edu/washu/policies/>) page covers many of the policies that apply to both graduate and undergraduate students, specifically in the areas of nondiscrimination, student health, student conduct, academic integrity, intent to graduate, and academic records and transcripts. In addition, it refers to the university's Compliance and Policies (<https://wustl.edu/about/compliance-policies/>) page. Graduate students should follow that page's links to the Information Technology, Computers and Internet Policies and to the Intellectual Property Policies and the Research Policies; most of the former and many of the latter will apply to all graduate students.

All DBBS students must follow the University PhD Policies & Requirements (<http://bulletin.wustl.edu/grad/phd-policies-requirements/>) as set forth by the Provost's Office.

Degrees in DBBS are conferred by the School of Arts & Sciences; hence, students must follow the policies and procedures as set forth by the school. The website of the Office of Graduate Studies, Arts & Sciences, has a Policies & Procedures page (<https://gradstudies.artsci.wustl.edu/graduate-school-policies-and-procedures/>) that includes links to the full text of several of its policies, including those related to the following:

- Academic and Professional Integrity for Graduate Students
- Access to Student Academic Records
- Alcohol Service (at events sponsored by graduate students and organizations)
- Bias-Related University Policies

- Change of Student Status
- Confidentiality
- Consensual Faculty-Student Relationships
- Courses & Grades
- Dissenting Votes (at a dissertation defense)
- Enrollment & Registration
- Interdisciplinary Opportunities
- International Travel
- Leaves (Leave of Absence, Medical Leave of Absence, Involuntary Leave, New Child Leave)
- Part-Time Employment
- Probation & Dismissal for Academic Reasons
- Reinstatement
- Residency Requirement
- Student Grievance Procedures
- Time Off
- Transfer of Credit
- Tuition and Fees
- Withdrawal

Students should abide by the Professionalism & Conduct Policies (<http://bulletin.wustl.edu/medicine/policies/wusm-professionalism-conduct/>) and the Student Mistreatment Reporting and Monitoring Policy (<http://bulletin.wustl.edu/medicine/policies/student-mistreatment/>) as set forth by the School of Medicine. The Student Mistreatment Reporting policy includes information on Supporting a Fair Environment (SAFE (<https://safereporting.wustl.edu/>)).

In addition, Student Health Services (<https://studenthealth.med.wustl.edu/students/>) provides efficient, accessible, high-quality medical care to DBBS students.