University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences

Amherst · Boston · Dartmouth · Lowell · Worcester

An Intercampus Graduate Program

Application for Admission to the University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences

Dear Prospective Applicant,

Welcome and thank you for considering the University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences (SMS) as your graduate school. The SMS is an intercampus graduate program with faculty at the Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, and Lowell campuses. The foundation of SMS is based on the efforts of numerous faculty at four diverse UMass campuses across the state of Massachusetts. SMS builds upon this critical mass of four-campus assets and greatly expands it, crafting a complex, multidisciplinary school to match the complex, multidisciplinary nature of marine science today. The SMS is a vibrant entity drawing on the expertise of over 80 faculty, who in the time period from 2002-2007 won over one hundred awards, published some 450 papers in peer reviewed journals, were responsible for over 47 million dollars in external grant funding, and gave over 400 invited talks and presentations.

The application process is currently handled by the UMass Dartmouth campus as a service to the four participating campuses. Don't let this confuse you. There are opportunities awaiting you at each campus. You will find descriptions of the academic program, admissions criteria, and individuals you can contact regarding specific aspects of the SMS program on the http://umassmarine.net web site. Contact the campus coordinators for information about the program, courses, or curriculum at each campus. Questions and concerns about your application can be directed to the Dean's Office or the Office of Graduate Studies or at UMass Dartmouth Office of Graduate Studies. Both addresses are given below.

In order to expedite the application process, it would help if you would assemble all of the requested materials such as applications forms, academic transcripts and recommendation letters and mail them to the Office of Graduate Studies at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth as directed. Separate submission of these materials can delay the process. The recommended timeline for application is given on the SMS web site.

We will check each application for completeness and will attempt to contact you about any problems in a timely manner. An official decision can be given only after all materials have been received and evaluated. The SMS Admissions Committee, which is comprised of faculty from the four campuses, will evaluate your application as soon as possible.

Sincerely,
Robert R. Gamache, Dean
University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences
University of Massachusetts Lowell
Olney Science Center
265 Riverside Street - Room 201
Lowell, MA 01854-5045

Application to the University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences

University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences
University of Massachusetts Lowell
Olney Science Center
265 Riverside Street - Room 201
Lowell, MA 01854-5045
e-mail: Erin_Jenkins@uml.edu

The Office of Graduate Studies
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
285 Old Westport Road
North Dartmouth, Massachusetts 02747-2300
For assistance —
Voice: 508-999-8604
fax: 508-999-8183
e-mail: graduate@umassd.edu

Program Information:
http://www.umassmarine.net

Application Information, e-mail:
graduate@umassd.edu

Application Instructions and Criteria

Note: For your convenience we repeat here the information on the School of Marine Sciences website at http://umassmarine.net. We strongly advise you to refer to that website for not only additional information but in case requirements or procedures have been modified since this form was created.

Admission Standards
Successful applicants will generally have completed an undergraduate or graduate degree with a GPA of 3.00 or better and will have an undergraduate major in one of the basic scientific disciplines or engineering, or will have strong multidisciplinary training with completion of at least six semesters of coursework in the natural sciences, generally to include biology, chemistry, and/or physics. Preparation in mathematics at least through integral calculus is strongly encouraged. Students who do not meet these criteria need to identify a faculty advocate who must bring a request for exception before the Admissions Committee. At the discretion of the Admissions Committee applicants may make up deficiencies in prior coursework either before or after admission is granted to the SMS. Consideration will be on a case-by-case basis, and the recommendation of the committee will be forwarded to the Dean for approval.

Candidates may apply for admission at either the Masters or Doctoral level. Students admitted directly into the Doctoral Program are expected to have exceptional academic credentials and/or work experience. Students entering with a Bachelor's degree may be required to complete the requirements of a Masters degree before admission to the Doctoral Program. Students entering with a Masters can be admitted at the Doctoral level provided the degree, coursework and research experience warrant such a decision by the Admissions Committee.

Application Criteria

The Admissions Committee will evaluate a number of additional criteria in its consideration of applications. The following five items must be submitted for consideration by the UMass School of Marine Sciences (SMS):

Application to the University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences

A single application form has been prepared for the use of applicants for admission to the UMass School of Marine Sciences. It is available in the graduate admissions offices of each participating campus. The Application for Admission to the UMass School of Marine Sciences is also available in PDF format (78Kb). Viewing a PDF requires the free Adobe Acrobat Reader. An HTML version for talking browser users is also available. This form must be filled out entirely.

Three letters of recommendation from those familiar with the applicant's academic and/or work experience are required.

Official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate coursework.

Graduate Record Examination (GREs) scores and The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL, if the applicant is not a native English speaker). Typically, for the GREs students should have a combined score 1200 or greater. For TOEFL, a minimum of 600 (or 213 on the computer based exam) is highly recommended.

Statements of interest and intent are also requested. The statement of interest should provide reviewers an indication of the motivation of the student for pursuing graduate work. The statement of intent should describe how graduate training would address the student's career goals.

**It is imperative that prospective students take an active role in contacting faculty member(s) who could potentially advise them, as well as making an effort to seek funding before applying to SMS. Students must also understand that we have a limited number of TA positions, so to be considered they must get their applications in before the deadline.

Admissions Procedures

Applications for admission to the graduate programs of the UMass School of Marine Sciences are currently being processed by the Office of Graduate Studies at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. You will send your application and its associated materials and should address any inquiries about your application to that campus.

The recommended timeline for application can be found at http://www.umassmarine.net/admissions/

Checklist for Completeness of Application

A decision on your application cannot be made until it is complete. This checklist will help you remember to enclose all required
items and take care of transcripts and test scores.

[ ] Application form filled out completely and signed to certify that information is complete and accurate and the records are correct and official
[ ] Personal Statements — Statement of Interest and Statement of Intent
[ ] Application fee enclosed with your application ($40 if a Massachusetts state resident; otherwise $60)
[ ] Official transcripts of all post-secondary study sealed in official envelopes
[ ] Three original letters of recommendation using our form and sealed in envelopes by the authors of the recommendations
[ ] Official GRE test scores to be sent by the testing company
[ ] International applicants: (a) official TOEFL test scores to be sent by the testing company; (b) affidavit of support and accompanying documents

Remember to refer not only to the explanations and instructions on this form but also to the information describing the academic program and requirements of the University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences.

Application to the University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences

Term/year of intended entrance —
Check one and enter year

[ ] January _____
[ ] September _____

Choice of Study Plan
Check one

[ ] Full-Time
[ ] Part-Time

Personal data

Full name (family name first, given name, initial/middle name if any) _____
Other last name which might appear on credentials _____ Social security number (US) _____
Date of birth _____ Sex: Male/Female _____
Permanent address _____
City/state/zip _____
Permanent phone number _____
Local address if different _____
City/state/zip _____
Local daytime phone number if different _____
If you give local and permanent addresses, which should we use in corresponding with you, and on which dates?

E-mail address — give only if regularly and frequently used _____

Graduate program

I am applying for entrance to a degree program of the UMass School of Marine Sciences.

[ ] Marine Science and Technology MS
[ ] Marine Science and Technology PhD

Note: Depending on qualifications, we may offer some who request PhD admission MS admission instead.

Graduate campus

Each student in the UMass School of Marine Sciences will have one of the four participating campuses as a main campus. If you are considering one specific campus, please indicate here, or indicate that your campus choice is undecided at this time.
[ ] No definite preference at this time
[ ] Amherst
[ ] Boston
[ ] Dartmouth
[ ] Lowell

Note: We reserve the right to offer applicants admission to a home campus other than that for which they have indicated a preference.

Other personal information

Are you a Non-Resident Alien (visa holder)? Yes__ No__ **For US Citizens and Permanent Residents:** Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes__ No__

Please check one of more of the following groups in which you consider yourself to be a member:
American Indian or Alaskan Native (including all Original Peoples of the Americas) ___
Asian from Indian subcontinent ___
All other Asian descent ___
Cape Verdean __
African-American __
Other Black (including African and Caribbean) __
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (Original Peoples) __
Portuguese __
White (including Middle Eastern) __

I am (check one):
[ ] Veteran of U.S. Armed Forces
[ ] Dependent of a Veteran
[ ] Not a Veteran

Schooling

List all post-secondary technical institutes or two- or four-year colleges/universities you have attended or are attending (even if you did not complete a degree there). List current or most recent first and use additional sheet if necessary.

Name of school	dates (from-to)	major	degree if any
Name of school	dates (from-to)	major	degree if any
Name of school	dates (from-to)	major	degree if any

Obtain official transcripts of your academic record for each of these institutions, sealed in official envelopes, and enclose them unopened with your application papers. Failure to list any post-secondary institution you attended is grounds for rejection or dismissal. We will evaluate your application only if you send us all official transcripts.

The academic records you send should indicate the institution you attended, your program of study there (major), the specific courses you attempted and completed there and your performance in them (grades), and the degree obtained from that institution, if any. If you cannot provide official post-secondary transcripts from any institution, discuss the reasons on a separate sheet and propose an alternative. We will work with you on the best means of complying with the transcript requirement.

If you are not a U.S. citizen, fill in the following:

Country of citizenship:_____ Country of birth if different: _____

[ ] I am a U.S permanent resident. If so, give registration number: _____ and enclose copy of both sides of I-551 card.
OR
[ ] I have received official asylum/refugee status in the U.S. If so, provide photocopies of documentation.
OR
[ ] I have other reasons for claiming eligibility to enroll without needing any special visa or immigration status. If so, explain here and provide any needed documentation.
OR
[ ] I am an international student who will study here under a non-resident visa. If so, please submit the "International Applicant's Only" and the "Declaration of Finances" forms along with your other application materials.

Additional information

If applicable, state the most important academic, professional, or business positions you have held, especially those held since receiving your baccalaureate degree.

Employer	dates (from-to)	type of work
Employer	dates (from-to)	type of work
Employer	dates (from-to)	type of work

Test requirements

Applicants to the School of Marine Sciences for Marine Science and Technology are required to submit official scores on the GRE General test. International students are also required to submit official scores on the TOEFL.

Indicate when you took or plan to take the examinations required for your program (month / year):

GRE General _____ TOEFL _____

Statement of interest and statement of intent

Statements of Interest and Intent are also requested.
• The Statement of Interest should provide reviewers an indication of the motivation of the student for pursuing graduate work.
• The Statement of Intent should describe how graduate training would address the student's career goals.

Letters of recommendation

At least three letters of recommendation are required. The writer of each letter should seal it in its own envelope, sign across the flap to show that the seal is unbroken, and return it to you; and you should enclose the letters unopened with your application papers. Recommendation letters should have original signatures, be on our form or on official letterhead paper, and may not be photocopies.
List each person writing a recommendation for you: _____ _____ _____

Graduate teaching or research assistantship; financial aid

[ ] I do not wish to apply for a graduate teaching or research assistantship.
[ ] I wish to apply for a graduate teaching assistantship.
[ ] I wish to apply for a graduate research assistantship.
[ ] I wish to apply for a graduate teaching or research assistantship.

You do not need to submit a separate form to apply for a graduate teaching or research assistantship. However, you should indicate any special qualifications or experience in your application essay, or you may add a page for this purpose. You may wish to apply for graduate financial assistance such as a loan or work study (neither is available to international students). In this case, you should submit a FAFSA form indicating the school code of the campus you intend as your home campus; if uncertain of an intended home campus, use UMass Dartmouth's school code number of 002210. You should do this early; do not wait for your final admission decision. The UMass Dartmouth Office of Financial Aid can send a blank FAFSA form to you; contact them at 508 999-8632. File your FAFSA or FAFSA renewal application as soon after January 1 as possible.

Massachusetts residency status — Mandatory

As a state-supported university, we must identify the state residency of our applicants. Students who are Massachusetts residents pay a lower tuition charge. You may consult the UMass Tuition Residency Statement to understand how tuition status is determined and the process for appeals. Mark the appropriate box and provide the information requested.

Residents of Massachusetts complete this section:

[ ] I have resided continuously in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts since ___/___/___ (mo/day/yr). My permanent, legal address is:
_____

Non-Residents of Massachusetts complete this section:

[ ] I do not qualify for Massachusetts residency.
[ ] Although the above do not apply to me, I still claim Massachusetts residency because (cite reason derived from UMass Tuition Classification policy):

Application fee

An application fee is required along with the application packet. The fee cannot be waived, is not refundable, and must be in U.S. dollars.
Mark the appropriate box:
[ ] Massachusetts resident — $40.00 check/money order enclosed [ ] Other — $60.00 check/money order enclosed

Signature

Please check your entire application and enclosures before signing the following statement. Any falsification or omissions may result in denial of admission or dismissal. All information will be kept confidential and will be released only to persons authorized to review it. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the information I have provided on this application is complete and accurate and the records submitted are correct and official.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
Full name printed: _____

All applications are mailed to the Dartmouth Campus regardless of one's intended SMS campus.

Mail your application materials to:
Office of Graduate Studies
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
285 Old Westport Road
North Dartmouth, Massachusetts 02747-2300

Application to the University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences

International Applicants Only

Full name: _____

Students who will be studying here under one of the types of non-resident visas must fill in and submit this form. If you are a U.S. Permanent Resident (holder of a "green card") or a student in valid asylum/refugee status, please so indicate on the regular application and do not submit this form.

I am an international student who will study here under a non-resident visa.

Country of citizenship: _____ Country of birth if different: _____

Please answer the following question:

Have you studied in the United States previously? [ ] Yes; [ ] No. If "yes" please answer the following three questions; if "no," just answer question "c" below:

a. Give us the following information for every past or present U. S. institution attended (use additional sheet if needed):

Visa type	School, College, or University	Start date	End date

b. Are you are in the U.S. now? [ ] Yes; [ ] No. Are you planning to transfer your student visa from another U.S. institution to this one? [ ] Yes; [ ] No. If you answered "yes" to either question, give details on a separate sheet and enclose photocopies of your current I-94 form and INS authorization documents; also answer question c.

c. Visa type you will need: [ ] I need UMass to issue me a student visa. (Usually this will be the F-1 visa).
OR
[ ] I have or will have a visa allowing me to study at UMass. If so, tell type and explain on separate sheet.

Indicate any special conditions that may apply to your temporary visa status on a separate sheet.

TOEFL Requirement

[ ] I understand I am subject to the requirement to submit official TOEFL scores. I have taken/will take the TOEFL examination on _____ [give date] and have ordered/will order an official score report sent to UMass Dartmouth.
OR
[ ] Explain here any special conditions concerning your English eligibility and TOEFL scores.

Financial Certification

Following this form we provide a form that you should use to document your having sufficient funding to cover your costs as a student at UMass. We will accept other, similar documentation if you choose not to use our form; but please study the form carefully, because it indicates the specific documentation that we require. Please understand that you must prove the existence of the funding you claim by supplying us with official documents — bank statements showing you or your sponsor have sufficient funds and a signed letter from your sponsor promising to provide funding.

Many international graduate students rely on an assistantship from the university for all or part of their funding. If you are to receive an assistantship, the graduate office on the campus that will offer admission to you will communicate with you about its terms, the amount of funding it offers, and whether you must also provide some funding on your own.

Application to the University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences

International Applicants — Declaration and Certification of Finances

Full name: _____

Students who will be studying here under one of the types of non-resident visas must fill in and submit this form and providethe required documentation (or submit another set of materials that provides the same information and documentation to us). Enclose it and all required documentation together with the completed application for admission. If you are a U.S. Permanent Resident (holder of a "green card") or a student in valid asylum/refugee status please indicate on the regular application and do not submit this form.

The U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) requires the university to review the financial resources of each international student applying for admission. Applicants for an F-1 visa to study at the University of Massachusetts in the United States must demonstrate that they can meet the expenses of their education, housing, meals, and personal needs.

The campus that a student is accepted to will issue the required Form I-20 and otherwise handle your visa requirements. You will be required to remain in compliance with all visa conditions if your student status is to remain valid.

1. Living arrangements (check one):

[ ] off-campus rental
[ ] on campus;
[ ] with a relative, cost free (must verify)

Will you be alone or accompanied also by (check as applicable):

[ ] a spouse;
[ ] dependent(s) —how many? _____

2. Indicate amounts available to support your studies at UMass for the first academic year. Give amount in U.S. dollars and show the type of financial support for each amount. Use whichever items apply to you, and list any additional sources on a separate sheet.

How provided	Amount provided
Your own funds	$ _____
Sponsor Name: Address: Relationship to you:	$ _____
Sponsoring agency, employer, or government Name: Address:	$ _____
Total	$ _____
Graduate assistantship, amount awarded	$ _____

3. Enclose an original, official letter (not a photocopy) from a bank for each sponsor listed as giving you funds. The letter(s) should indicate that sufficient funds are available to meet the need shown for your entire period of study. If your own funds will be used, enclose an official letter from a bank verifying the availability of funds in your own account.

4. Enclose an Affidavit of Support for each sponsor and agency listed as giving you funds. Each affidavit must (1) verify that the sponsor or sponsoring agency agrees to provide the support indicated for your first year of study and agrees to meet similar expenses in future years to enable you to complete your degree; (2) show the legal signature of the sponsor or of an official of the sponsoring agency. Each affidavit is to be an original, official letter, not a photocopy.

5. Your legal signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Application to the University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences

Graduate Recommendation

for Admission to the University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences

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Applicant:

Name of Applicant:_____

Proposed Graduate Program:_____

Under the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, I waive my right of access to this letter of recommendation; the University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences will consider it confidential.

_____ _____

Signature of Applicant (signifying the letter is to be confidential) Date:

Recommender:

1) Please rate the individual:

Applicant is in the upper	5% Outstanding	10% Superior	25% Good	50% Average	75% Weak	No Basis For Comparison
Breadth of General Knowledge						
Ability in field of study						
Ability in Oral Expression						
Ability in Written Expression						
Perseverance						
Emotional Maturity						
Imagination/Creativity						
Probability of success in graduate school						

2) On the reverse of this sheet, or on a sheet of your institution's official letterhead, give a written evaluation of this candidate.

Please comment on the applicant's ability to undertake graduate study and research and his or her general character, stability, and preparation for a successful career in the chosen field. Compare the applicant to others you have known in this field.

3) Please sign and indicate here your name, address, phone, and affiliation:

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Name: _____ Title: _____
Institution: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Country: _____
Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

4) Please seal your recommendation in an envelope and sign your name across the sealed flap, and give it to the candidate to be mailed to us. Even if it is a non-confidential recommendation, we still require it to be sealed in an envelope. Your prompt response is greatly appreciated.

Application to the University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences

Graduate Recommendation

for Admission to the University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences

---

Applicant:

Name of Applicant:_____

Proposed Graduate Program:_____

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_____ _____

Signature of Applicant (signifying the letter is to be confidential) Date:

Recommender:

1) Please rate the individual:

Applicant is in the upper	5% Outstanding	10% Superior	25% Good	50% Average	75% Weak	No Basis For Comparison
Breadth of General Knowledge						
Ability in field of study						
Ability in Oral Expression						
Ability in Written Expression						
Perseverance						
Emotional Maturity						
Imagination/Creativity						
Probability of success in graduate school						

2) On the reverse of this sheet, or on a sheet of your institution's official letterhead, give a written evaluation of this candidate.

Please comment on the applicant's ability to undertake graduate study and research and his or her general character, stability, and preparation for a successful career in the chosen field. Compare the applicant to others you have known in this field.

3) Please sign and indicate here your name, address, phone, and affiliation:

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Name: _____ Title: _____
Institution: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Country: _____
Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

4) Please seal your recommendation in an envelope and sign your name across the sealed flap, and give it to the candidate to be mailed to us. Even if it is a non-confidential recommendation, we still require it to be sealed in an envelope. Your prompt response is greatly appreciated.

Application to the University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences

Graduate Recommendation

for Admission to the University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences

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Applicant:

Name of Applicant:_____

Proposed Graduate Program:_____

Under the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, I waive my right of access to this letter of recommendation; the University of Massachusetts School of Marine Sciences will consider it confidential.

_____ _____

Signature of Applicant (signifying the letter is to be confidential) Date:

Recommender:

1) Please rate the individual:

Applicant is in the upper	5% Outstanding	10% Superior	25% Good	50% Average	75% Weak	No Basis For Comparison
Breadth of General Knowledge						
Ability in field of study						
Ability in Oral Expression						
Ability in Written Expression						
Perseverance						
Emotional Maturity						
Imagination/Creativity						
Probability of success in graduate school						

2) On the reverse of this sheet, or on a sheet of your institution's official letterhead, give a written evaluation of this candidate.

Please comment on the applicant's ability to undertake graduate study and research and his or her general character, stability, and preparation for a successful career in the chosen field. Compare the applicant to others you have known in this field.

3) Please sign and indicate here your name, address, phone, and affiliation:

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Name: _____ Title: _____
Institution: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Country: _____
Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

4) Please seal your recommendation in an envelope and sign your name across the sealed flap, and give it to the candidate to be mailed to us. Even if it is a non-confidential recommendation, we still require it to be sealed in an envelope. Your prompt response is greatly appreciated.

UMass | Dartmouth

OFFICE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
285 Old Westport Road
North Dartmouth, Massachusetts
02747-2300 U.S.A.

508.999.8604 voice • 508.999.8183 fax
graduate@umassd.edu

Personal disclosure documentation

Family Name | First (Given) name | Middle name/initial

Previous or maiden last name | Previous first name

Social security number (U.S.) — —

1. Have you ever been found responsible for a disciplinary violation at an educational institution you have attended from 9th grade (or the international equivalent) forward, whether related to academic misconduct or behavioral misconduct, which resulted in your probation, suspension, removal, dismissal, or expulsion from the institution?

❑ Yes ❑ No

2. Have you ever been convicted of a felony or other crime?

❑ Yes ❑ No

If you answered "yes" to either or both questions, please submit a separate sheet that gives the approximate date of each incident and explains the circumstances.

Mark the envelope CONFIDENTIAL and mail directly to:

Office of Graduate Studies
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
285 Old Westport Road
North Dartmouth, MA 02747-2300

We will carefully review the circumstances surrounding your situation. A "yes" answer does NOT necessarily disqualify you for consideration for admission to UMass Dartmouth.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the information I have provided above is complete and accurate, and any records submitted are correct and official. I understand that failure to disclose any required information could result in the denial of admission or retroactive administrative withdrawal from the university without refund or course credits.

Signature | Date