



A GUIDE TO NUHS'
BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
DEGREE PROGRAM

The *Standard of Excellence* in Integrative Medicine

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Introduction to Biomedical Science

We created this guide for those of you who are considering pursuing a degree in biomedical science. You have a lot to think and learn about before you decide if, when and where to pursue such a degree. This guide was created to bring you real insight into exploring NUHS' Biomedical Sciences degree program and the careers available to those with a biomedical science degree. This guide will be divided into three main sections:

A LOOK AT THE INDUSTRY'S STATISTICS

Students usually choose to study biomedical sciences for one of the following reasons:

1. As preparation for an advanced health care degree. Biomedical science puts you on the path toward a career in health care, and while you're completing your degree, you can continue to explore your next health care move. NUHS gives you the option of combining your BS degree with a graduate degree in **CHIROPRACTIC MEDICINE** (DC), **NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE** (ND), or one of several ACUPUNCTURE (**DAc**, **MAc** or **MAc-HM**) programs. Other graduate degree options include a wide variety of health care specialties, such as MD, DO and more.
2. As the precursor to a career in research or lab work as a biomedical scientist.
3. As a jumpstart toward other exciting jobs in the scientific field.



About National University of Health Sciences

Founded in 1906, National University of Health Sciences (NUHS) is a leader in the growing field of integrative medicine and is respected worldwide for success in balancing healing arts and science, combining broad-scope integrative medicine with patient-centered care. With campuses in Illinois and Florida, the university offers programs in chiropractic medicine, naturopathic medicine, acupuncture and herbal medicine and biomedical science.

NUHS is an established champion of high admission standards, accreditation and academic excellence for its professions. That's why students from across the globe choose NUHS to pursue higher education in health care.

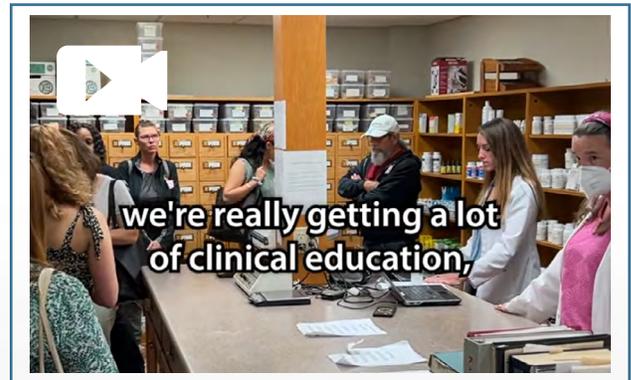


What Are the Benefits of Pursuing a Formal Degree in Biomedical Science?

One of the advantages of a BS degree is that it combines basic science courses such as microbiology, physiology, chemistry and anatomy with medical school courses like pathology, nutrition, immunology, epidemiology and pharmacology. Some programs even allow you to build your own curriculum by choosing the kinds of courses you want to focus on, thus personalizing your degree.

Introductory courses in biomedical science allow you to explore various health care careers. This means you do not have to commit to a specialty before you know exactly what career you want to pursue. Studying biomedical science also provides beneficial knowledge and understanding for other positions in health care or lab science, even if you decide not to pursue further studies after completing your undergraduate degree.

Completing the biomedical science degree on the NUHS campus grants you several advantages. Given that National University is a health sciences institution, our students are able to study with graduate-level faculty in graduate-level facilities. Additionally, students have the opportunity to gain exposure to and interact with other health sciences programs and students.



Our students are able to study with **graduate-level faculty** in **graduate-level facilities**



Career Outlook with a Biomedical Science Degree

You might be surprised by the variety and number of **CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION** opportunities available to someone with a biomedical science degree.

According to the **U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS**, health care and social assistance is projected to have the largest growth and be the fastest growing industry sector (+8.4 percent annually). Employment growth in the health care and social assistance sector is expected to be driven by both the aging population and a higher prevalence of chronic conditions, such as heart disease, cancer and diabetes.

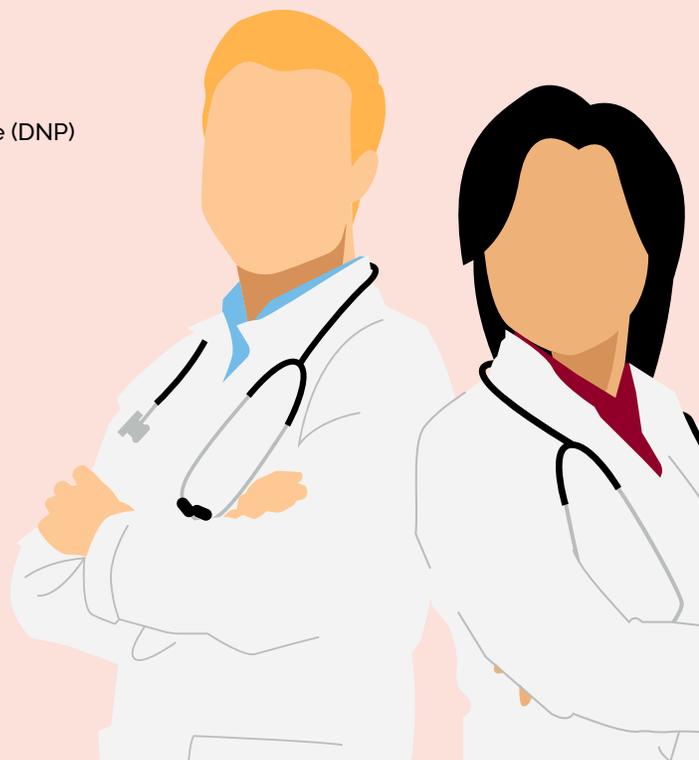
Upon graduation, many students pursue a graduate health science degree. NUHS gives you the option of combining your BS degree with a graduate degree in **CHIROPRACTIC MEDICINE** (DC), **NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE** (ND) and ACUPUNCTURE (**DAc**, **MAc**, or **MAc-HM**).

Aside from pursuing a graduate health sciences degree, here are some of the potential occupations to give you a sense for just how versatile biomedical science is:

Biomedical Science Career Options

PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

- ▶ Doctor of Chiropractic Medicine (DC)
- ▶ Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine (ND)
- ▶ Doctor of Acupuncture (DAc)
- ▶ Doctor of Medicine (MD)
- ▶ Doctor of Osteopathy (DO)
- ▶ Doctor of Psychiatry (MD/DO)
- ▶ Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM)
- ▶ Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)
- ▶ Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD)
- ▶ Doctor of Ophthalmology (MD/DO)
- ▶ Doctor of Optometry (OD)
- ▶ Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (DPM)
- ▶ Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)
- ▶ Doctor of Psychology (PsyD)
- ▶ Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD)
- ▶ Biomedical Engineer
- ▶ Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
- ▶ Occupational Therapist
- ▶ Physiotherapist
- ▶ Genetic Counselor
- ▶ Medical Imaging & Radiography Specialist
- ▶ Registered Nurse (APRN)
- ▶ Nurse Practitioner
- ▶ Advanced Practice
- ▶ University, Hospital or Industry Research
- ▶ Physician Assistant



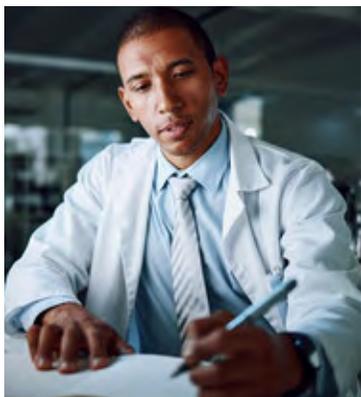


FORENSIC TECHNOLOGIST

In order to provide impartial evidence and testimony regarding crimes to legal officials, **FORENSIC TECHNOLOGISTS** need to be well-versed in analysis of bodily fluids, DNA, hair, etc. A biomedical science degree prepares you to study and practice forensic science because of the wide range of course offerings, including anatomy, physiology and human genetics.

The 2024 reported median pay for a forensic scientist/technologist is \$67,440 per year, with a predicted job growth of 13% from 2024 – 2034, which is much higher than average.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



SCIENCE JOURNALISM

Do you have a gift for writing as well as a passion for science? Consider using your biomedical science degree to pursue a career in science journalism, where you will be asked to communicate complex scientific information, discoveries and other news to the general public.

Median pay for technical/science writers is \$91,670 per year, with a predicted job growth rate of 1% from 2024 – 2034.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



SCIENCE MUSEUM ARCHIVIST, CURATOR/ MUSEUM WORKER

While some biomedical science graduates go on to teach high school or pursue a graduate degree in order to teach at the college level, did you know that a BS degree equips you to do something as unique as curate a science museum?

Archivists and curators oversee institutions' collections, including scientific/medical or historical items. Overall employment of archivist, curators and museum workers is projected to grow 6% from 2024 – 2034, which is faster than the national average.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



Competitive Compensation

STEM Median Wage

\$103,580 *per year*

In 2025, the median annual wage for STEM occupations was **\$103,580, or 115.7% higher than non-STEM occupations.** The median annual wage for non-STEM occupations was \$48,000.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

About NUHS' Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences Degree

National University is unique in that it is designed particularly for students who already have a few of years of undergraduate education under their belts. The program is not a typical four-year undergraduate degree. Instead, it is designed for students looking to finish their degree. Students complete general education credits elsewhere and then come to National University to complete the upper level science coursework. You can earn a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences degree in as little as 16 months of convenient evening classes.

Because NUHS is passionate about students from different fields of study interacting with one another, learning from each other, and sharing access to graduate level facilities and faculty, you will be better prepared for a career or to pursue an advanced degree in medicine or science.

The 124-credit-hour Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences Program provides a solid foundation in the basic sciences in courses such as microbiology, physiology, chemistry and anatomy. There are also medical school courses such as pathology, nutrition, immunology, epidemiology and pharmacology.

Learn more about more exciting, emerging [CAREER PATHS HERE](#), and see how a **BS degree in biomedical science can be a gateway to working in one of today's most exciting fields!**

Growth of STEM occupations



Employment in STEM occupations is **expected to grow 10.4% between 2022-2033**, much faster than the 4 percent average for all occupations.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

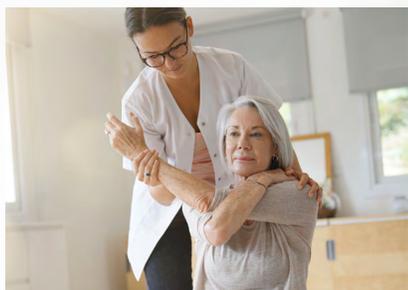
What Makes This Program Unique Compared to Other Biomedical Science Programs?

UNIQUE COURSE ACTIVITIES



KINESIOLOGY

Kinesiology is the study of the physics of the human body: how the body functions when it is in motion. In a kinesiology course at NUHS, you'll learn which muscles are active in what types of movements, how they coordinate together, which muscles contract and which muscles lengthen when you step forward, and how these different actions stabilize each other.



EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY

In this course, you'll have the opportunity to study what happens to the human body during exercise. It combines metabolic biochemistry, cellular and organ system physiology, as well as anatomic structure and function in order to understand and explain physical and athletic performance and how the body adapts to it.



NUTRITION

At NUHS, you have the opportunity to take courses in nutrition as part of your biomedical science degree. This is especially valuable if you're considering a career in patient care—such as naturopathic medicine, nursing, chiropractic medicine and osteopathic medicine, or careers in science education, food science, nutrition or public health.

For additional career ideas visit the [FUTURE OF INTEGRATIVE HEALTH BLOG](#).



ABILITY TO DESIGN YOUR OWN CURRICULUM

National University offers a variety of **ON CAMPUS COURSES AND ONLINE COURSES**. If you are working part-time or full-time while earning your degree, you will have more convenience and flexibility than in a traditional bachelor's program.

MEDICAL SCHOOL FACULTY AND FACILITIES

National University prides itself on providing a campus that helps students excel. Our facilities include:

- ▶ A Top of the line **GROSS ANATOMY LAB** where students learn human anatomy through observation of full cadaver dissection.
- ▶ A Life-size 3-D interactive **ANATOMAGE TABLE** offers students, faculty and clinicians access to an advanced digital visualization system to augment anatomy education.
- ▶ A **BIOCHEMISTRY LAB** where students learn basic sciences using latest equipment and technology.
- ▶ A comprehensive **LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER**, one of the largest medical libraries in the area that houses a huge collection of books, print and electronic journals, ebooks, bibliographic databases and more.
- ▶ A **WHOLE HEALTH CENTER** clinic on campus where BS students can receive complementary care as students, and where they may intern if they pursue a first professional program (chiropractic, naturopathic, or acupuncture and herbal medicine) at NUHS. The clinic is a comprehensive facility which also houses a hydrotherapy suite and herbal dispensary.

Building on the foundation of strong basic sciences and **hands-on learning** in all of its programs.

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING



National University is unique in that it offers a campus dedicated to integrative medicine and collaborative learning.

You'll study and work alongside students and faculty from its chiropractic medicine, naturopathic medicine, and acupuncture and herbal medicine programs.

Additionally, as one of few schools in the U.S. to offer programs in chiropractic medicine,

naturopathic medicine, and acupuncture and herbal medicine all on one campus, our students have a rare opportunity to earn **MULTIPLE DEGREES** and save both time and money in the process.

ADVANCED SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Speaking of earning multiple degrees, if you distinguish yourself in biomedical science at NUHS, you may qualify for early entry into the doctor of chiropractic or doctor of naturopathic medicine programs through our Advanced Scholars Program (ASP). This means that you can finish the last year of your BS degree while enrolled in the first year of your DC or ND program. The science courses you'll take in your first year of graduate school will be applied toward your BS program—meaning you'll save both time and money.

VETERAN BENEFITS

Through NUHS' Yellow Ribbon program, students who are veterans can receive financial assistance which covers any remaining tuition not already covered under the Post-911 GI Bill.

IDEAL LOCATION

National University offers its biomedical sciences program in suburban Chicago, less than one hour from the city by train. With its numerous hospitals, clinics and universities, Chicago is an excellent city in which to begin a career in science or medicine.



NUHS Students Testimonials

Students have many reasons for pursuing a degree in biomedical science. If you would like more information from student perspectives, check out these [BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE](#) blogs.



FELICIA BELLINGER

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES STUDENT



VANESSA STEPHENS

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES STUDENT

“Our versatile bachelor’s program is designed to provide you with a strong foundation in science, equipping you with rewarding knowledge and skills needed to excel in a variety of health care and research fields. We will work with you to customize your course pathway toward the achievement of your career or academic goals. Pursuing a degree in biomedical sciences can open the doors to a world of discovery and innovation!”

– Dr. Kathryn Rioch, Dean, College of Allied Health Sciences & Distance Education



What Are the Traits of Successful Biomedical Science Students at NUHS?



APTITUDE FOR SCIENCE

A curious mind and an interest in problem-solving will help you succeed in a biomedical science program. It will also give you the ability to pursue further study in the sciences or medicine, if that is your goal. Obtaining a BS degree can easily be used as a gateway to working in many fields, such as education, research, sales, medical practice and institutional work.



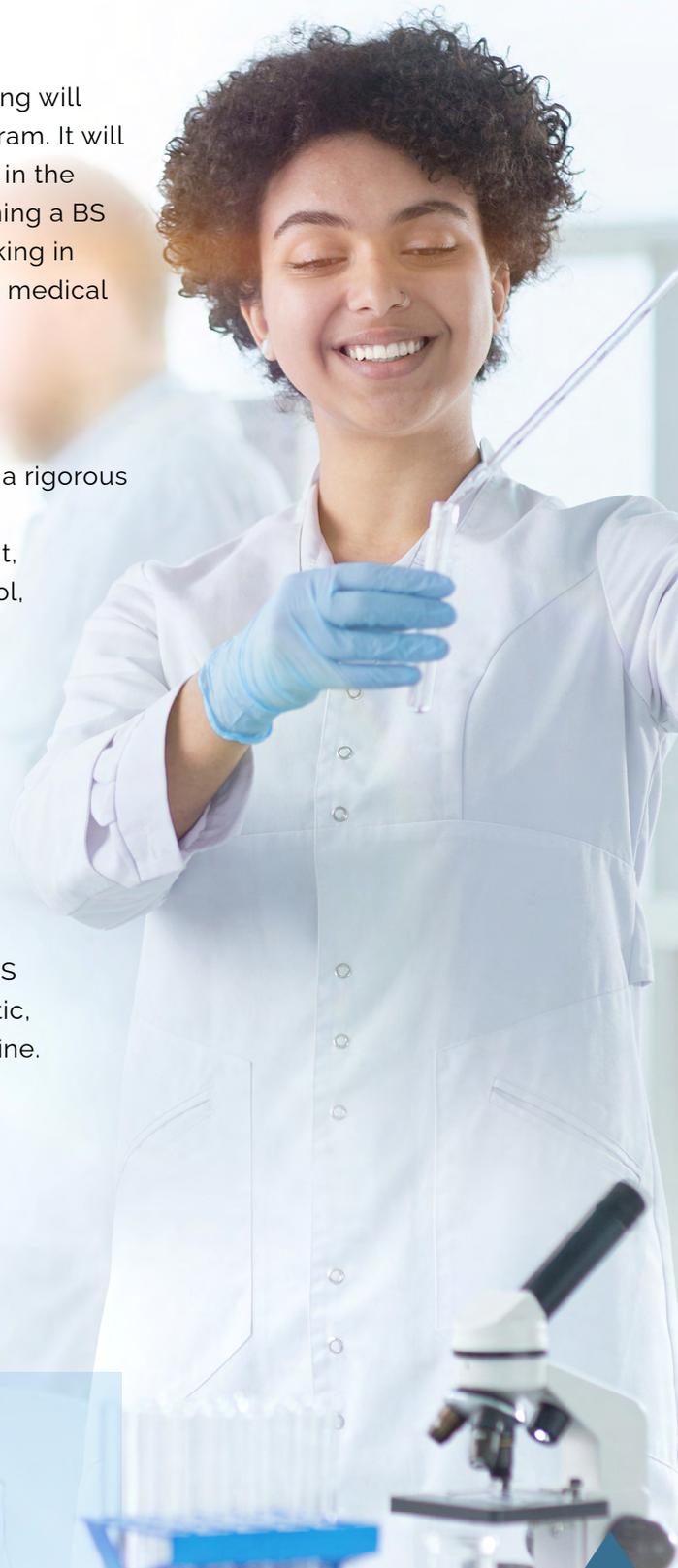
EXCELLENT WORK ETHIC

You must be willing to do the work required for a rigorous science program. Time management and study skills will serve you well as a biomedical student, especially if you are working and going to school, as most of our biomed students do.



PASSION FOR HELPING OTHERS

A degree in biomedical science serves as an excellent foundation for a career in medical science or an advanced health care degree. Students should be interested in working in the health sciences or pursuing a professional degree. At NUHS, students can combine their BS program with an advanced degree in chiropractic, naturopathic, or acupuncture and herbal medicine.



Questions Regarding the Application Process

GPA AND PREREQUISITES

Students interested in pursuing a bachelor of science degree are required to have completed a minimum of 60 semester hours (90 quarter hour credits), including the following specific prerequisites:

- ▶ **6 SEMESTER HOURS IN ENGLISH**
- ▶ **3 SEMESTER HOURS IN SPEECH/PUBLIC SPEAKING**
- ▶ **9 SEMESTER HOURS IN SOCIAL SCIENCES** (courses may be taken from the following areas: anthropology, economics, history, political science, psychology and sociology)
- ▶ **9 SEMESTER HOURS IN ARTS/HUMANITIES** (courses may be taken from the following areas: language, history, literature, philosophy, religious and cultural studies, performing arts, e.g. music/dance/theater appreciation or history, or visual arts)
- ▶ **3 SEMESTER HOURS IN PSYCHOLOGY**
- ▶ **30 ELECTIVE SEMESTER HOURS IN ANY GENERAL EDUCATION, LIBERAL ARTS, LIFE OR PHYSICAL SCIENCE**



WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE ALL THE PREREQUISITES?

Even if you think you don't have everything needed to apply to the biomedical sciences program, call an admissions counselor to consider your options. They may be able to help!

WHAT DOCUMENTS WILL BE REQUIRED?

- ▶ An **ONLINE APPLICATION** and submittal of a **\$55 APPLICATION FEE**
- ▶ All **OFFICIAL COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS**

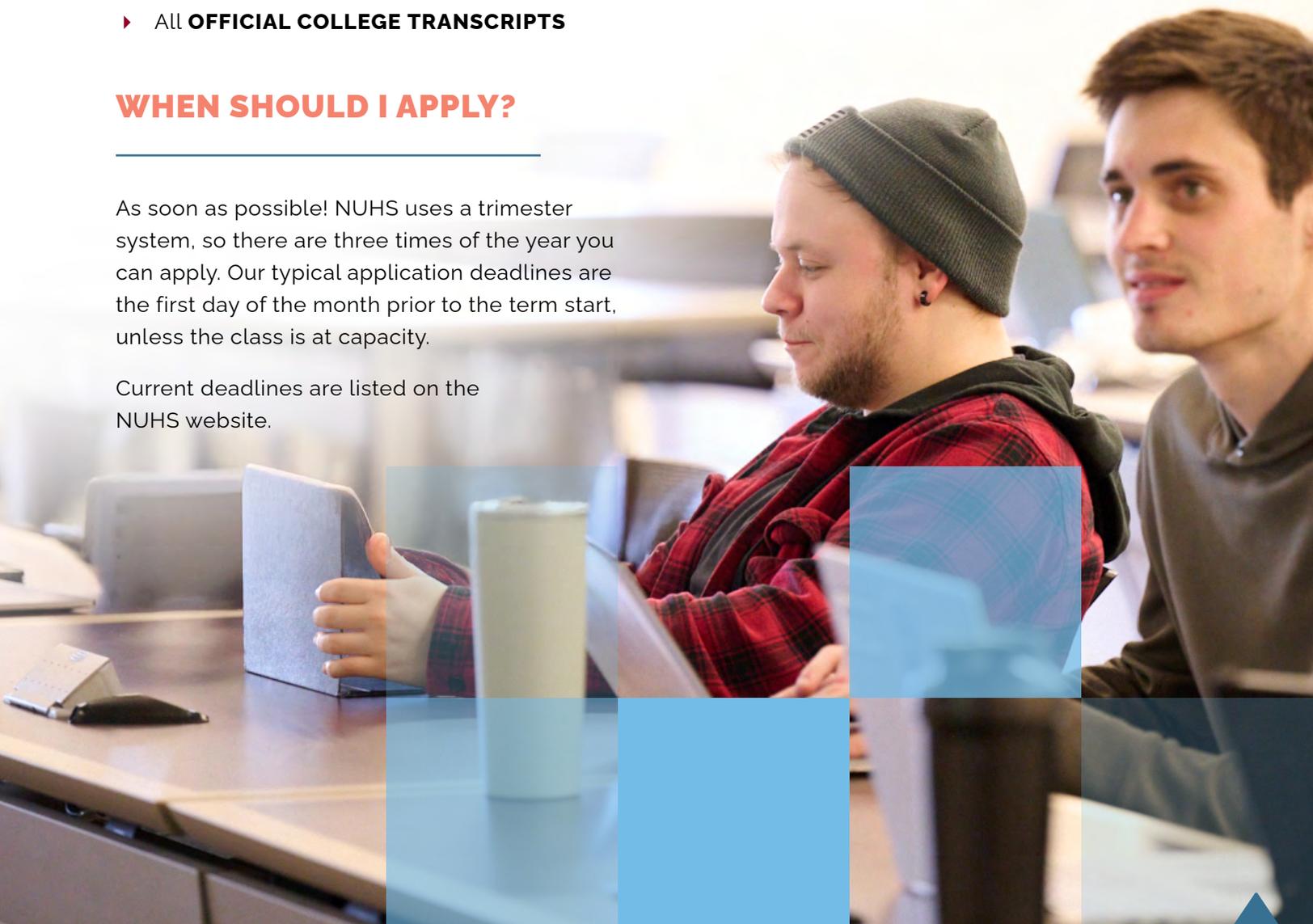
WHEN SHOULD I APPLY?

As soon as possible! NUHS uses a trimester system, so there are three times of the year you can apply. Our typical application deadlines are the first day of the month prior to the term start, unless the class is at capacity.

Current deadlines are listed on the NUHS website.

HOW IMPORTANT IS VISITING THE CAMPUS?

Since many students will go on into NUHS' professional programs, they will be spending years on the NUHS campus and should understand the facilities and surrounding area. Many students also live on campus, so seeing the residential living options is helpful. Also, it is important to understand that this is not a traditional undergraduate campus with typical facilities such as athletic stadiums, but rather one dedicated to health science with impressive labs and clinics.



Understanding the Real Cost of This Program

Although your personal expenses may vary, the cost of the tuition of the biomedical sciences program is about \$29,500, plus books and fees. We know most students need financial aid when coming to NUHS. Our financial aid office is here to help you figure out what type of aid is best for you.

TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID

Even if you think you don't have everything needed to apply to the biomedical sciences program, call an admissions counselor to consider your options. They may be able to help!

LOAN AND GRANTS

LOAN PROGRAMS:

The primary source of financial aid obtained by National University students is federal student loans. NUHS participates in the **FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM** whereby students borrow these federal loans through the U.S. Treasury. Credit-Based Private Loans are also available and are exactly what they sound like: **NON-GOVERNMENT LOANS** that are issued by banks, credit unions or other financial companies. Unlike federal loans, private lenders offer both **FIXED AND VARIABLE INTEREST RATE LOANS**.

GRANT PROGRAMS:

Unlike loans, grants are only given to those students who are in the greatest financial need. Examples include the Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) and the Illinois State Grant Monetary Award Program (MAP).

SCHOLARSHIPS

Some students may qualify for certain scholarships, such as:

PHI THETA KAPPA SCHOLARSHIP:

National University has recently established a scholarship fund for Phi Theta Kappa community college honor students. The scholarship is available to PTK members who choose to enroll in the university's bachelor degree completion program in the biomedical sciences.

PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS - NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES:

National University offers several types of scholarships to students of all programs. Some scholarships reward academic achievement, some programs recognize Illinois residents or children of alumni and other programs assist minority and international students.

INSTITUTIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CURRENT NUHS STUDENTS:

National University is proud to offer institutional scholarships, many of which are awarded each trimester. These special scholarships are made possible by the many friends, alumni and supporters of the University. Each scholarship has different criteria and may be awarded based on an evaluation of a student's financial need, academic achievement, character, extracurricular participation or special area of interest.



Additional Resources for Aspiring Professionals in Biomedical Science

If you're interested in learning more about biomedical science, the program at NUHS, or our students' experience, we encourage you to check out our Biomedical Science Blog.

CHECK OUT OUR BLOG!

OTHER RESOURCES WE SUGGEST:

The [SCIENCEMAG CAREERS SECTION](#) and the [AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES - CAREERS](#) so you can learn more about the many different career paths you can pursue with a biomedical science degree.



7 Careers You Didn't Know You Could Pursue with a Biomedical Science Degree

READ POST



Kickstart a Health Care Career with a Biomedical Science Degree

READ POST



Accreditation of the College of Allied Health Sciences and Distance Education Programs

The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of Illinois, through the Advisory Council of Degree Granting Institutions, has approved National University of Health Sciences as an academic degree-granting institution, as well as a professional degree-granting institution.

All academic programs at NUHS are approved for accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). In 2016, NUHS received a full 10-year reaffirmation for accreditation from HLC. Additional accreditation and approvals can be found on the NUHS website at: <https://www.nuhs.edu/about-us/our-profile/accreditation/>.





WE HOPE THAT THIS GUIDE WAS HELPFUL AS YOU DECIDE TO PURSUE A BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE DEGREE. PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO REACH OUT TO US IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS OR THE NUHS STUDENT EXPERIENCE.

CALL THE OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS AT **1-800-826-6285** OR EMAIL US AT ADMISSIONS@NUHS.EDU.

