

MD/PhD Programme of the Faculty of Biology of the University of Duisburg-Essen

Initial Interest

Any medical candidate seriously interested in pursuing this academic path should make a preliminary appointment with Prof. Dr. Ralf Küppers (ralf.kueppers@uk-essen.de, tel. 0201-723 3384) to ensure he/she meets the requirements for admission to the Faculty of Biology's doctoral proceedings.

Requirements

As laid down by the University of Duisburg-Essen's Faculty Board of Biology, medical candidates wishing to submit a doctoral thesis to the Faculty of Biology for examination to be awarded a PhD in biology/biomedical science must have completed the following:

Requirement	Grade
Preliminary Medical Examination (<i>Physikum</i>), or, if already passed, the 2nd <i>Staatsexamen</i> (or equivalent)	1 or 2 [#]
Doctor of Medicine (MD)	magna or summa cum laude
A total of 300 hours of academic training on one of the following programs officially recognized by the Faculty of Biology's Doctoral Committee:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full three-year participation as an associate member on one of the graduate programs (<i>Graduiertenkolleg</i>) which are accepted by the PhD committee for obtaining the qualification points (see PhD guidelines)* 2. Full three-year participation as a full member on one of the BIOME courses, which are listed on the BIOME homepage (https://www.uni-due.de/biome/): 	*Successful pass of four 15-30 min oral examinations on selected biomedical themes by an examiner who is a member of the Faculty of Biology, a lecturer in a graduate program/BIOME, and/or official supervisor of PhD students. Possible in either the German or English language.

"Transplantation Medicine" and "Clinical Research" are one-year courses. Two further years of training can be acquired by joining one of the other BIOME cores thereafter.

[#]The PhD committee decides on justified exceptions.

October 2025