

# PhD in Genomics and Precision Medicine

كلية العلوم الصحية والحيوية  
College of Health & Life Sciences

جامعة حمد بن خليفة  
HAMAD BIN KHALIFA UNIVERSITY



# PhD in Genomics and Precision Medicine

The PhD in Genomics and Precision Medicine (GPM) program is multidisciplinary and designed to prepare the next generation of professionals and leaders, who will help implement the use of precision and personalized medicine in the healthcare system.

The PhD in GPM offers students advanced knowledge and training in state-of-the-art information gathering and analysis technologies in order to integrate “omics” – the branch of biology that deals with data on global changes at the molecular level in patients – with clinical data.

## Program focus

- ▶ The exploration of a rigorous curriculum and practical training designed to provide a strong foundation, as well as cutting-edge knowledge, in both theoretical and applied aspects of genomics and precision medicine.
- ▶ Students will be exposed to the latest advancements in the field of genomics and precision medicine, and will explore state-of-the-art basic, clinical, technological, computational, and legal and ethical aspects of a fascinating, rapidly expanding sector of the life sciences.
- ▶ Throughout their studies, students will examine aspects of the four main pillars of genomics and precision medicine: clinical aspects, technology, “omics”, and bioethics.

## Curriculum

**A program with a minimum of 60 credits, taught in English, typically over 3.5 years, which includes:**

- ▶ One mandatory foundation course
- ▶ A minimum of five elective courses
- ▶ Participation in departmental seminars
- ▶ Participation in the GPM journal club
- ▶ Dissertation and laboratory training (minimum of six semesters)

PhD students are required to pass a qualifying examination after their second semester, and a candidacy examination after their fourth semester.



## Admission and Application Requirements

Applicants seeking admission to the CHLS graduate programs at HBKU should have a strong academic record (minimum 3.0 GPA out of 4) from a recognized university. Applicants to the Master of Science programs should have a bachelor’s degree, while applicants to the PhD programs should have a master’s degree.

Applicants to PhD in Genomics and Precision Medicine should have a strong background in science and evidence of coursework in biological or medical sciences.

Applicants are required to submit a valid IELTS score of 6.5 or TOEFL score of 79 to demonstrate their proficiency in English. Further details about the language proficiency requirement and the process to seek exemption (if applicable) are available from [admissions.hbku.edu.qa](https://admissions.hbku.edu.qa)

Applicants with prior research experience are preferred, especially for the PhD programs.

Further information about admission requirements is available: [admissions.hbku.edu.qa](https://admissions.hbku.edu.qa)

## Application requirements

A completed online application form:

[admissions.hbku.edu.qa](https://admissions.hbku.edu.qa)

### Academic transcripts

Official electronic copies of transcripts should be submitted as part of the online application. Final transcripts and graduation statements are required for all previous university studies. All transcripts submitted should include an explanation of the grading system. For those who have not completed their current studies, transcripts must include results from the last completed semester of coursework. Transcripts in languages other than English or Arabic must be accompanied with an official translation. Applicants who are admitted to the program based on copies of or incomplete transcripts will be required to provide original transcripts upon enrollment in order to register for courses.

### Standardized test results

Official copies of standardized test results must be sent directly to HBKU. Please refer to the institutional codes below:

- ▶ TOEFL: 4981
- ▶ IELTS: No code required. Students should ask the IELTS center where they tested to send the IELTS TRF to Hamad Bin Khalifa University.

Applicants should also submit copies of their test scores with the online application.

### Letters of recommendation

Applicants should submit at least two letters of recommendation, preferably from academic referees. Please visit [admissions.hbku.edu.qa](https://admissions.hbku.edu.qa) for further information about the submission process.

### Personal statement of interest

Applicants should submit a personal statement (300-500 words) as part of the online application. The statement should explain why the candidate is applying to the program and how their studies will contribute to the achievement of their personal objectives, including information about the applicant's research interests and achievements.

### Resume/Curriculum vitae

Applicants should submit a copy of their current resume or curriculum vitae as part of the online application.

#### This should include the following information:

- ▶ Academic qualifications
- ▶ Professional experience
- ▶ Publications
- ▶ Research projects
- ▶ Academic awards or honors
- ▶ Conference presentations

### Identification document

All applicants should submit an electronic copy of their passport as part of the online application. Nationals and residents of Qatar should also submit their valid Qatari ID.

### Student funding

CHLS provides opportunities for funding on a competitive basis. Further information will be provided to applicants who are admitted to the program.

### Admission inquiries

[admissions.chls@hbku.edu.qa](mailto:admissions.chls@hbku.edu.qa)