

DECLARING A MARINE BIOLOGY PREMAJOR AND ADMISSION TO THE MARINE BIOLOGY MAJOR

A student may declare Marine Biology as a premajor at any time after admission to the university. Advancement from premajor to major status is a competitive process because of limited space in the courses at the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology.

Before applying for admission to the marine biology major, a student must complete either the Biology Honors sequence (BI 281H/282H/283H) or the General Biology sequence (BI 211/212/213/214), passing each course with a C- or better. Students are encouraged to apply for admission to the major as soon as they have completed the biology core sequence.

To apply for admission, a student submits a brief “statement of purpose” essay that articulates reasons for choosing the major and gives the faculty an idea of the student’s career goals and plans. Guidelines for this essay are below. Students with a GPA of 3.5 or higher in Foundations or General Biology courses are guaranteed admission to the major and need not submit the statement of purpose.

Admission screening by the OIMB faculty takes place each term. The postmark deadline for applications is Feb 1 for spring-term admission, April 1 for summer term, August 1 for fall term, and Nov 1 for winter term. Students will be notified of their acceptance to the major no more than 2 weeks after applications are due.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE FOR ADMISSION TO THE MARINE BIOLOGY MAJOR

Please write an essay no more than two pages long that includes answers to the following questions:

- Why do you want to major in marine biology?
- What sort of career or advanced education are you considering after you have obtained your degree?
- What, if anything, do you think marine biology might contribute to society and to the solution of world problems?
- Are there particular areas of marine biology that you find especially interesting? Why?

Please include your name and UO student number on the first page and send your essay to MARB Admissions Committee, Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, P.O. Box 5389, Charleston OR 97420 or email to oimb@uoregon.edu