

ADMISSION

(A) Admission to the Master's programme in Psychobiology is based on an oral entrance interview. During the interview, the admissions committee assesses the applicant's academic and professional background, interests, developmental potential, and motivation.

The aim of the admission procedure is to select students who demonstrate a high level of interdisciplinary scientific interest in the field of psychobiology, a research-oriented mindset, and an affinity for biomedical sciences.

(B) The admission procedure is conducted in English. The duration of the entrance interview is 20–40 minutes.

(C) During the entrance interview, the applicant presents their academic and professional background and motivation for applying and discusses their thoughts on a topic selected by the admissions committee from the predefined thematic areas.

To support preparation for the interview, a preselected reading list is available on the website of the Institute of Behavioural Sciences: [Psychobiology Master Program – Institute of Behavioural Sciences](#).

The purpose of the interview is to assess the applicants' knowledge about the topics listed below based on their readings and experiences, how well they are able to interpret core concepts and findings from more distant scientific disciplines, integrate them with knowledge previously acquired in their own field, and critically evaluate them.

(D) The thematic areas of the entrance interview are:

- i) biological foundations of behaviour and mental processes;
- ii) structure and functioning of the central nervous system, basic neuroanatomical and neurophysiological concepts;
- iii) integration of psychological and biological perspectives, interdisciplinary approaches;
- iv) basic knowledge of experimental and study design, data processing, and statistics;
- v) principles of research ethics and scientific integrity;
- vi) computational and systems-level approaches (data and information processing, modelling, network-theoretical and algorithmic foundations).

(E) During the entrance interview, a maximum of 90 points can be obtained based on the following evaluation criteria:

- i) Motivation and professional goals (alignment with the profile of the programme);

- ii) Academic background and prior education: relevance of previous studies;
- iii) Research and scientific interest: ability to identify and formulate scientific problems, critical thinking, hypothesis generation;
- iv) Cognitive and analytical thinking: complex interpretation of phenomena, understanding causal and functional relationships;
- v) Interdisciplinary perspective: theoretical and methodological openness;
- vi) Reflective and communication skills;
- vii) Ethical and scientific attitude;
- viii) Innovation and creativity: formulation of novel research questions, problem-solving skills;
- ix) Basic methodological competence: assessment of foundational knowledge in research design, statistics, and data analysis.

(F) During the interview, the admissions committee assigns scores by consensus in accordance with the specified professional evaluation criteria.

(G) The admissions committee consists of at least two members, representing the fields of psychology, neuroscience, and/or biology/physiology. At least one member of the committee must be a faculty member of Semmelweis University. The other committee member may be an external lecturer affiliated with the programme.

(H) Documents required to be submitted in a single PDF for application are the following:

- Curriculum vitae
- Motivation letter
- Diploma copy
- Proof of language proficiency
- Documents supporting eligibility for additional points

Additional points: 0–10 points.

Within the total of 100 points defined for admission to the Psychobiology Master's programme, applicants may receive additional points for the following scientific activities:

Participation in a Student Scientific Conference (TDK): +1 point

Award at a Student Scientific Conference / participation in the National Student Scientific Conference (OTDK): +2 points

Award at the National Student Scientific Conference (OTDK): +3 points

Conference presentation or poster: +2 points

Peer-reviewed scientific publication in English:

- English-language publication as first author: +5 points
- English-language publication co-authorship: +3 points
- Other language publication authorship: +2 points

Research assistant experience (minimum 3 months, documented): +2 points

Language proficiency (in addition to the language of admission):

Additional intermediate-level certificate: +1 point

Additional advanced-level certificate: +2 points

Points awarded on social or other grounds (maximum of 5 points in total):

disability: +1 point;

child-rearing: +1 point;

social disadvantage: +1 point.