



2026 – 2027 BIOPHYSICS ROTATIONS

ROTATION	APPROVAL DEADLINE	DATES	BIPH699
1	August 31, 2026	September 8 – November 13	Fall Grade
2	November 9, 2026	November 16 – January 29	½ Spring Grade
3	January 18, 2027	February 1 – April 9	½ Spring Grade

Rotation presentations will be held at the end of each rotation period.

EXPECTATIONS

Biophysics students must complete three research rotations during their first academic year to gain exposure to various research topics, lab tools, and methodologies while also honing their laboratory skills and, ultimately, identifying a Ph.D. advisor.

Students are responsible for arranging each rotation with Biophysics faculty members and securing approval from the Program Co-Directors by the corresponding approval deadline. (One rotation may occur with a faculty member outside of the Biophysics program subject to approval from both the Biophysics Program Co-Directors.)

By the end of the third rotation, students are expected to select a Ph.D. advisor who can ensure a Research Assistantship (RA) from the summer through the completion of the Ph.D.

If desired, a student may opt out of their third rotation, choosing to continue in their second or return to their first rotation, subject to approval from both the Biophysics Program Co-Directors and Lab PI. If any two rotations take place in the same lab, it is expected that the PI will be the student's Ph.D. advisor and will support the student with an RA starting in the summer.

Rotations typically demand a minimum commitment of about 10 hours per week in the lab/office. Each rotation lasts 8-10 weeks and concludes with student presentations and evaluations from rotation advisors.

PROCESS

1. The student contacts faculty members to discuss the possibility of doing a rotation.
2. Once a rotation is agreed upon by the faculty member and student, both complete the ***Biophysics Rotation Agreement***.
3. The student emails the completed ***Biophysics Rotation Agreement*** to biophysics@umd.edu and copies the faculty member.
4. Biophysics Program Co-Directors reply to the student and faculty member to approve or decline the rotation arrangement.

DISCUSSING FUNDING

Here is a sample script you can use when approaching rotation advisors about funding. We encourage you to be direct!

“I really enjoyed my rotation in your lab and am interested in joining your research group. As you may know, the Biophysics program expects first-year students to find a PhD advisor who can provide an RA starting this summer, through the completion of their PhD. If you are open to me joining your lab, would you be able to provide me with a Research Assistantship starting this summer?”

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FACULTY

The following faculty indicated that they are interested in taking BIPH students for rotations. **This is not a comprehensive list of interested faculty members, and students are welcome to reach out to faculty members who are not on this list.**

ROTATION 1

- Daniel Butts
- David Fushman
- Jeffery Klauda
- Wolfgang Losert
- Maria Mukhina
- Srini Raghavan
- Pratyush Tiwary
- Nan Xu

ROTATION 2

- Daniel Butts
- David Fushman
- Jeffery Klauda
- Yanxin Liu
- Wolfgang Losert
- Silvina Matysiak
- Maria Mukhina
- Srini Raghavan
- Pratyush Tiwary
- Nan Xu

ROTATION 3

- Daniel Butts
- David Fushman
- Jeffery Klauda
- Yanxin Liu
- Wolfgang Losert
- Silvina Matysiak
- Maria Mukhina
- Srini Raghavan
- Pratyush Tiwary
- Nan Xu