



2026 – 2027 CHEMICAL PHYSICS ROTATIONS

ROTATION	APPROVAL DEADLINE	DATES	CHPH718I
1	August 31, 2026	September 8 – December 4, 2026	Fall Grade
2	January 27, 2027	February 1 – April 30, 2027	Spring Grade

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

EXPECTATIONS

Chemical Physics students must complete two research rotations during their first academic year to gain exposure to various research topics and methodologies, and, ultimately, to identify a Ph.D. advisor.

Students are responsible for arranging each rotation with faculty members and securing approval from the Program Director by the corresponding approval deadline. Students are welcome to complete rotations with faculty members outside of the Chemical Physics program, with Director approval.

By the end of the second 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 a student joins the lab of – and secures a Research Assistantship with – the first rotation advisor, they may petition to opt out of their second rotation. In this case, it is expected that the PI will be the student's Ph.D. advisor and will support the student through the completion of their Ph.D.

Students who are already part of a research group upon entering the Chemical Physics program must complete their first rotation in their current lab and, if completed successfully, can petition to opt out of their second rotation.

Rotations typically demand a minimum commitment of about 10 hours per week in the lab/office. Each rotation lasts 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 **Chemical Physics Rotation Agreement**.
3. The student emails the completed **Chemical Physics Rotation Agreement** to chemphysics@umd.edu and copies the faculty member.
4. Chemical Physics Program Director replies to the student and faculty member to approve or decline the rotation arrangement.

DICUSSING 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 Chemical Physics program expects first-year students to find a PhD advisor who can provide RA support 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 CHPH 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

- Leah Dodson
- Avik Dutt
- Wendell Hill
- Oded Rabin
- Srini Raghavan
- Pratyush Tiwary
- Hongzhou Ye

ROTATION 2

- Leah Dodson
- Avik Dutt
- Wendell Hill
- Christopher Jarzynski
- Yanxin Liu
- Silvina Matysiak
- Oded Rabin
- Srini Raghavan
- Pratyush Tiwary
- Hongzhou Ye