Combined Biomedical Sciences Program Podcast

Hello, my name is Maggie and I am a staff member in The Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Grand Valley's Biomedical Sciences combined degree program. A combined degree program allows students to complete their bachelor's and master's degree in as few as 5 years, thus saving both time and money compared to completing both degrees separately. Today we're going to cover the admissions process, program requirements, and the qualities that distinguish this program.

Let's start by explaining to you what this program entails. GVSU undergraduate students pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences may pursue a Master of Health Science in Biomedical Sciences at Grand Valley through this combined degree program. In the program, students will have the opportunity to enhance their skillset and refine their career goals. As I mentioned, students in Grand Valley's combined degree programs are able to complete both degrees in as few as 5 years, while a traditional pathway would require 6 or more years to complete both a Bachelor's and Master's degree.

This combined degree allows for advanced training in coursework and more importantly, experimental research. The research is valuable for future doctoral programs, profession school, or biomedical workforce. Students admitted to this program may take up to 12 credits of graduate level courses towards completion of their undergraduate degree. Students normally apply fall of their junior year. Contact the graduate program director as soon as you are interested in potentially pursuing this option. Career opportunities in biomedical sciences are expected to grow 6% in West Michigan and in the U.S. by 2025.

Admission requirements for this program include, 75 hours of academic credit completed or in progress, a GPA of 3.25 or greater, completion of BMS 208, BMS 290 and BMS 212 with a grade of B or better, a grade of C+ or better in all other science courses (e.g. BIO 120, CHM 115, CHM 116, CHM 241, CHM 242, STA 215), two letters of recommendation, one of which must be from a potential research mentor, academic transcripts (unofficial transcripts are acceptable), and a letter of intent

More details as well as the online application can be found on the Combined Degree Biomedical Sciences website, www.gvsu.edu/gs/combined-degree-programs-85.htm.

The great news about Grand Valley's graduate programs is that tuition rates do not change based on residency status. In other words, there are no extra costs for being an out of state student. Current tuition costs and information about scholarships and financial aid can be found at www.gvsu.edu/financialaid or by calling 616-331-3234. For information on graduate assistantships, please contact The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu.

The Master of Health Science in Biomedical Sciences combined degree program at GVSU is a 143-credit hour program. For a complete list of all courses, please visit www.gvsu.edu/grad/biomed/.

This program provides graduate level education in anatomy and physiology which helps to prepare students for professional school applications and to teach at the college level. There is ample room for elective courses which allows students to tailor the program to their needs or interests. The program also has a wide variety of faculty to support innovative research in the biomedical sciences.

That is just a snapshot of the Biomedical Sciences combined degree program at Grand Valley State University. We hope that you will consider applying to a graduate program at GVSU. Any questions can be directed to the Graduate Program Director, Dr. Christopher Pearl, at pearlch@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast.