

University of Pennsylvania, Biotechnology Master's Program  
**Laboratory Requirement Waiver**

*Students of the Biotechnology Master's Program are required to complete one credit unit (1 cu) of an approved graduate level laboratory course. In certain situations, students may waive this requirement due to prior experience. Generally, the lab requirement has been waived due to laboratory work experience, an independent study that takes place in a lab, or previously completed graduate level laboratory courses. This decision is made by the Biotechnology Office on a case by case basis and must be accompanied by supporting documentation. Please note this form is the ONLY way to request a waiver.*

**INSTRUCTIONS - READ THOROUGHLY**

**Step 1:** Please fill out this form on the computer. When completing the section describing why you feel the lab requirement should be waived, please be as thorough as necessary and attach supporting documentation that shows your knowledge and background (course description/syllabus, transcript, resume, etc.).

**Step 2:** Students who are approved for the lab waiver still must complete 11 course units. Therefore, students must provide an alternative course (to be placed on the "Replacement Course" lines below) that they will be taking in place of the lab requirement.

**Step 3:** Submit the completed form to the Biotechnology Office in 311A Towne Building or by email [vfrew@seas.upenn.edu](mailto:vfrew@seas.upenn.edu) with all supporting documentation. Once reviewed, you will be notified via email of the decision. If approved, you are responsible for registering yourself for the replacement course you have listed below through Penn-in-Touch.

**APPROVAL OF THIS WAIVER PERMITS YOU TO TAKE ONLY THE REPLACEMENT COURSE YOU INDICATED BELOW INSTEAD OF A LAB COURSE.**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Penn Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Program Track: \_\_\_\_\_

Replacement Course Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Replacement Course ID (ex: BIOL-402-001): \_\_\_\_\_ Semester/Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe why you feel that your lab requirement should be waived:

**WARNING: Your form will not be reviewed without all required supporting documents (see 'Step 1' above)**

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Approve

Deny

Biotech Approval Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Return form with all supporting documents to the Biotechnology Program Office or via email [vfrew@seas.upenn.edu](mailto:vfrew@seas.upenn.edu)*