

# 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; taking BIOT 5990 will not automatically waive you from taking the lab course.*

### INSTRUCTIONS - READ THOROUGHLY

**Step 1:** 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 to the form as a single PDF file with a maximum of five pages in length that shows your knowledge and background (course description/ syllabus, transcript, resume, etc.).

**Step 2:** If approved for the lab waiver you must still complete 10 course units (11, if your entry into the program was prior to Fall 2024). Therefore, you must check the box acknowledging that you will work with their advisor to select an alternate course during course selection time.

**Step 3:** Submit the completed form with all supporting documentation as a single PDF file to the Google Form in the MBIOT Student Resources Google Folder. Once reviewed, you will be notified via email of the decision. If approved, you are responsible for working with an advisor on the replacement course and registered yourself for that course during course selection.

---

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

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

Check here to acknowledge the following: "I understand that I will need to take an alternate course in place of my lab course. I understand it is my responsibility to work with my advisor on this during the course selection period. I will use my advising form to select options for the alternate class."

Describe why you feel you should receive a waiver:

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

---

Approve

Deny

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

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