



## Bachelor in Biological Sciences FAQ Guide

1. What are the admission requirements for the program?

**The admission requirements for the BS in Biological Sciences degree include an Associate Degree with a 2.5 overall GPA and completion of required prerequisite courses.**

**Note - a 2.0 (C) or greater required for all science and math prerequisite courses.**

**To view prerequisite courses visit the SGSC Catalog -**

**[http://www.sgsc.edu/skins/userfiles/files/Academic%20Core%20and%20Program%20Information\(1\).pdf](http://www.sgsc.edu/skins/userfiles/files/Academic%20Core%20and%20Program%20Information(1).pdf)**

- AS in Biology (SGSC Catalog - page 18)
- AS in Chemistry (SGSC Catalog - page 20)

**Candidates must complete an application for admission and submit official transcripts to the Admissions Office. Current SGSC students are not required to submit these items. For more information or to apply, contact Dr. Kimberly Hunt at 912-260-4443 or via email at [kimberly.hunt@sgsc.edu](mailto:kimberly.hunt@sgsc.edu).**

2. How many credit hours are required to graduate?

**120 credit hours of coursework for the complete four-year program are required.**

3. Will these courses satisfy the requirements for professional programs?

**Yes. However, each school's requirements are unique. Those interested in pursuing an advanced degree beyond this program should be mindful of expectations at the next level and plan accordingly.**

4. On which campus are the courses offered?

**The initial offerings for the program will be established at the Douglas Campus. Offerings on the Waycross Campus will be dependent upon having an adequate number of eligible students.**

5. What is the cost of tuition and fees?

**As an access institution, SGSC's tuition is in the lowest category of tuition rates for all University System of Georgia institutions. The tuition for the BS in Biological Sciences will remain at the**

associate degree level, thus making the SGSC program less expensive than most University System of Georgia institutions.

6. What core courses are required for admittance to the BS Biological Sciences program?

The core courses required for admittance are the same as the courses required to complete an Associate of Science degree in Biology at SGSC. Please refer to the curriculum information found in the SGSC Catalog -

[http://www.sgsc.edu/skins/userfiles/files/Academic%20Core%20and%20Program%20Information\(1\).pdf](http://www.sgsc.edu/skins/userfiles/files/Academic%20Core%20and%20Program%20Information(1).pdf) for further details.

7. Is there a difference for transfer student requirements verses students who completed their AS at SGSC?

Transfer students who do not have an A.S. degree in Biology must complete all courses listed in Areas A, D and F of the Associate of Science in Biology at SGSC. Students who do not meet these requirements but desire to be admitted to the degree program may be granted provisional acceptance\* to give them time to complete required courses. Please refer to the curriculum information on <http://www.sgsc.edu/academics/biologicalsciences.cms> for further details.

8. What are the entrance GPA requirements for transfer students and those who completed their AS at SGSC?

**A 2.5 overall GPA with 2.0 (C) or greater required for all science and math courses**

9. What financial aid/scholarship opportunities are available for the program?

SGSC provides a range of financial aid options for students. Grants, loans, and a number of scholarships are available to help pay for your educational expenses here at SGSC. The Office of Financial Aid should be your first stop if you are looking for information on: aid eligibility, direct loans, the PELL grant, the HOPE Scholarship, the Federal Work Study program or the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). The Office of Financial Aid is located on the first floor of Engram Hall on the Douglas Campus and may be contacted by email at [finaid@sgsc.edu](mailto:finaid@sgsc.edu) or by phone at 912-260-4282.

Plus, The South Georgia College Foundation has endorsed this degree program and is offering scholarships to qualifying BSBS candidates.

SGC Foundation Scholarship applications may be located at <http://www.sgsc.edu/academics/biologicalsciences.cms> or by contacting External Affairs at 912-260-4269.

10. Is there a provisional entry pathway for those who do not have the minimum GPA or a completed AS in Biology?

Students will be admitted to the program as juniors providing they hold an associate degree, have met the prerequisite courses and have a 2.5 GPA. Students must make a formal application, submit official transcripts and demonstrate they have met all the prerequisite

**course requirements for full admission. Transfer students who do not have an A.S. degree in Biology must complete all courses listed in Areas A, D and F of the Associate of Science in Biology at SGSC.**

**If a student has less than the 2.5 required they may bring up their GPA by completing additional relevant coursework with a 3.0 or better. Students may petition for acceptance\* and advance, if approved, with a prescribed program of study.**

11. Are there specific requirements for pre-professional degrees?

**There is a pre-professional track. All students interested in a pre-professional program are encouraged to follow the Biological Sciences pre-professional track.**

12. Are there provisions for switching from BS biology (Nature and Ecology) to BS biology (pre-professional) if necessary and vice versa?

**Students can switch from BS Nature and Ecology to BS Pre-professional (or vice versa) but prior to graduation each student must fulfill all requirements for the selected track for graduation.**

13. For those who commenced a science major at Waycross College prior to the creation of South Georgia State College, must the student need to successfully complete eight hours of Organic Chemistry before applying for the Bachelor of Science in Biology (BSB) program?

**Yes, students who do not meet the program requirements but desire to be admitted to the degree program may be granted provisional acceptance\* to give them time to complete required courses.**

14. If there is only one or two courses that have not been completed that are required for entry into the BSBS program, must the student wait for another year to enter the program, or could the student be accepted the current fall semester into the BSBS program on a probationary or provisional basis?

**Students who do not meet these requirements but desire to be admitted to the degree program may be granted provisional acceptance\* to give them time to complete required courses.**

15. If a student has already successfully completed some of the courses of the BSBS program in the core curriculum program, can those same courses be included in the BSBS program of study?

**The degree program follows a 2 plus 2 format totaling 120 credit hours of which 60 is granted for the Associate of Science degree and 60 for the Bachelor of Science degree. Courses used to satisfy the 60 hours for your Associate of Science degree cannot also be used toward the 60 hours for the Bachelor of Science degree.**

16. Must a student enroll in courses for the BSBS program in precisely the prescribed sequence? Can a student enroll in a course that is recommended for the spring of the third year in the spring of the fourth year?

**Classes must be taken in recommended order as some courses will only be offered at specific times during a 2 year period.**

17. Does SGSC offer on-campus housing?

**Yes - SGSC offers two modern residence halls on the Douglas Campus. Features include semi-private furnished suites, computer labs with high-speed internet access, private and group study rooms, multi-purpose entertainment spaces, laundry/vending, and 24-hour security. To learn more about the benefits of living on campus, contact Residence Life at 912-260-4429 or email [housing@sgsc.edu](mailto:housing@sgsc.edu).**

\*Note - An admissions committee will review all applications and determine acceptance. Provisional acceptance is on a case by case basis and will only be approved in limited circumstances.

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