

## Big on biotech

**I am a second year B.Sc (biotechnology) student interested in further studies in the field of biotech. Can you tell me what options are available for me to take up after B.Sc and whether I can take up M.Sc in animal biotechnology, as I am studying botany in my B.Sc? What are the different entrance exams I will have to appear for getting into M.Sc.**

**Hafiza Firdauz**

Obvious options after B.Sc (biotech) is to take up M.Sc biotechnology or PG diploma course in bioinformatics. First I will brief you with regard to all- India level entrance exams for M.Sc and then for PG diploma course. To take up M.Sc biotech from the university wherever, you are studying is normal without any entrance exam. Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi-110067, on behalf of participating universities holds a Combined Biotechnology Entrance Examination, during May every year for admission to M.Sc (Biotechnology), M.Sc Agricultural/MVSc (Biotechnology) and M.Tech (Biotechnology) programmes. Candidates with bachelor's degree under 10+2+3 pattern of education in physical, biological, agricultural, veterinary and fishery sciences, pharmacy, engineering technology, four-year B.Sc (physican assistant course) or

medicine (MBBS) or BDS with at least 55% marks are eligible to apply for M.Sc (biotechnology) programme, being offered at: Banaras Hindu University (Varanasi), Birsa Agricultural University (Randi), Calicut University (Kerala), Devi Ahalya Vishwavidyalaya (Indore), G B Pant University of Agriculture & Technology (Pant Nagar), Goa University (Goa), Guru Nanak Dev University (Amritsar), Himachal Pradesh University (Shimla), Jawaharlal Nehru University (New Delhi), M S University of Baroda (Baroda), Madurai Kamaraj University (Madurai) Punjab University (Chandigarh), Pondicherry University (Pondicherry), Punjabi University (Patiala), Tezpur University (Assam), Jammu University, University of Allahabad (Allahabad). Gujarat University (Ahmedabad), Gulbarga University (Gulbarga), Guru Jambheshwar University (Nainital), University of North Bengal (Siliguri), Thapar Institute of Engineering & Technology (Patiala), Utkal University (Bhubaneswar).

For further details, you can visit <http://www.jnu.ac.in>.

Animal biotechnology is part of M.Sc Biotechnology.

● Joint Admission Test to M.Sc Biotech (JAM) conducted by IIT, Bombay: You can also register online on the website <http://www.iitb.ac.in/jam> and send completed registration form along with DD for requisite fees amount.

Admission is made on all-India merit rank of JAM. Candidates who

qualify in any test paper of JAM are eligible for admission to the academic programmes corresponding to that test paper, provided they also satisfy the minimum educational qualifications and the essential eligibility requirements, as specified by the institutes in which the admission is sought. Last date is to apply is March and test will be in May. Further details can be had from the office of the Organising Chairman, JAM, IIT Bombay, Powai, Mumbai-400076 (Website: <http://www.iitb.ac.in/jam>).

\*The Institute of Bioinformatics and Applied Biotechnology (IBAB), G-5, Tech Park, White Field Road, Bangalore 560066 (website <http://www.ibab.ac.in>) offers eighteen month (three semesters) post-graduate programme in bioinformatics, eligibility for which is a recognised bachelors degree in any branch of science or engineering or medicine with a minimum of 55% marks. Students awaiting their results can also apply provided their average percentage of previous semesters/years is at least 55%. Selection is made on the basis of objective type written tests held at five centres—Bangalore, Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Kolkata. Interview is held at Bangalore. Last date to apply is August and the written test will be in September. Course starts from November.