

A Review of the Biomathematics Program at Illinois State University: Benefits of Pursuing a Graduate Degree at an IBA Institution

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At the intersection of biology and mathematics exists a forthcoming field - biomathematics. The necessity of biomathematics is exemplified by how biology serves as inspiration for mathematical development and how the powerful tool of mathematics is employed to support biological research. From these observations, the need for well-supported academic programs arises to equip students for success. Illinois State University, as the founding institution of the Intercollegiate Biomathematics Alliance (IBA), has cultivated such resources to ensure this success. The university itself presents opportunities in the form of funding (via assistantships), comprehensive course offerings, access to interdisciplinary projects, and a community of motivated individuals. IBA adds to this rich environment by supplementing a network of diverse professionals that students can work with, creating access to interdisciplinary projects (via the PEER program), and mentorship through the summer CURE conference.