Qualification Policy for Catalog Year 2014-15

The Department of Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology (MCD) has a qualification policy that applies to the Biology BS, Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology BS, Neuroscience BS, and Human Biology BS majors.

To qualify for any of these majors, students must pass, and achieve a cumulative GPA of 2.30 or greater, in the following courses or their equivalents:

Chem 1B, General Chemistry
Chem 1C, General Chemistry
Biol 20A, Cell and Molecular Biology
Bioe 20B, Development and Physiology

Students with two or more grades of NP, D, or F in the policy courses are not qualified to declare.

When calculating grades to determine cumulative GPA in policy courses:

- All courses must be taken for a letter grade. Students with non-grades (I, IP, DG, etc.) in any of the policy courses will not be eligible to declare until a grade has been assigned.
- Students with AP credit for Biol 20A and Bioe 20B, may base their cumulative GPA on three grades: a single “A” for AP Biology and their grades in Chem 1B and 1C.
- Every student who satisfies the major admission requirements and who petitions to declare the major by the campus major declaration deadline will be admitted to the major.
- Students enrolled in the last course(s) required for qualification may submit a petition to declare by the quarterly declaration deadline date. This option is only available to students who have reached the quarter in which they are required to declare. The campus declaration deadline is before a student enrolls in their 3rd year or the equivalent; for most students, this will be the declaration deadline in spring quarter of their sophomore year. Declaration petitions will be evaluated at the end of the quarter to determine if the qualification criteria has been met.
- Students who satisfy the major admission requirements, but who petition to declare the major after the campus major declaration deadline will be considered on a case-by-case basis for admission to the major; admission is not guaranteed.

Students who have completed the four qualification courses with grades of C or better, but do not meet the qualification policy criteria may appeal by writing a letter to the MCD Faculty Undergraduate Advisor. See Appeal Process for further information.