There are several ways to join SGBM, namely **Track 1, Track 2, Fast Track** and **CIBSS Track**.

**TRACK 1 / Fast TRACK**:  
SGBM funding is available to support doctoral students during their doctoral work. Funding covers the rotations in three labs at the beginning of the program as well as 36 months of research on the thesis project. It also includes consumables for the lab in which the doctoral work takes place. Afterwards PhD students are financed by their supervisor's grants. Recruitment for Track 1 and Fast Track is currently closed. More precise information about the opening dates will be communicated in due course on this page.

Instructions on how to apply are detailed in the section [application procedure](#).

**TRACK 2**:  
Doctoral students who are in the very beginning of their PhD work (**first six months**) at the University of Freiburg and who have secured funding by their supervisor via other sources may apply to join SGBM as track 2. Applicants for track 2 should clearly indicate in the application form that they have funding.
Track 2 candidates can apply any time. If interested, they should contact sgbm-info@sgbm.uni-freiburg.de and will be instructed on how to proceed with the application.

CIBSS TRACK:

CIBSS — the Centre for Integrative Biology Signalling Studies is a new Excellence Cluster at the University of Freiburg. CIBSS studies signalling processes across biological scales. By integrating signalling research with synthetic biology, chemical biology, cutting-edge technologies, and the emerging field of metabolism research, the CIBSS Team aims to make fundamental discoveries in the field of signalling research and to open up new possibilities to address global challenges in biomedicine and plant sciences.

Currently there are no open positions for the CIBSS Track.

Application Requirements

Please note that the entire program is run in English so that fluency in both written and spoken English is essential. The thesis will be written in English and defense of the thesis takes place in English. Tests such as TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) and CPE (Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English), while not mandatory, are recommended for students whose first language is neither English nor German. Applicants who have taken such tests
should upload the corresponding document where indicated. Interviews will take place in English and candidates who are not fluent will not be considered.

**PhD program**

To apply to the PhD program candidates must hold an excellent recent university degree (Master or German Diploma) in either biology, biochemistry, chemistry, molecular medicine, pharmacy or biotechnology or related fields. Candidates about to obtain such a degree are welcome to apply.

**MD/PhD program**

Candidates with a medical degree (MD) are eligible for the MD/PhD program. If they are admitted to the school either as track 1 or track 2 students their affiliation to SGBM will entitle them to register for a doctoral degree (Dr. rer. nat.) at the Faculty of Biology. Participants of the MD/PhD program who have been recruited as track 1 students must carry out rotations.

SGBM closely cooperates with the MOTI-VATE program for which information can be found [here](#). We offer several courses for medical students that are interested in research. At the moment, the lectures, seminars and practical courses in molecular cell biology are only available for students in the MOTI-VATE year in order to prepare them for the MD/PhD program.

*Difference between Track 1 and Fast Track:*