



CENTRE OF BIOMEDICAL ETHICS AND CULTURE  
Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplantation

# Graduate Admissions Policy

## Master's in Bioethics- MBE

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Centre of Biomedical Ethics and Culture (CBEC)  
Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplantation (SIUT)  
Sindh Institute of Medical Sciences (SIMS)

### Preamble

This policy outlines the admissions process for the Master's in Bioethics (MBE) program offered by CBEC through SIMS, Karachi.. The purpose is to ensure fairness, transparency, and equal opportunity for all applicants, while upholding the academic standards of SIMS and CBEC.

### Aims of the Policy

- To provide clear guidelines for applicants seeking admission into the MBE program in Bioethics.
- To establish a transparent and merit-based framework for faculty and administrators overseeing admissions.
- To ensure that admissions processes are free from discrimination and aligned with institutional values.

### Scope of the Policy

This policy applies to all applicants to the MBE program at CBEC, offered through SIMS, Karachi. It encompasses applicants from Pakistan and abroad and includes all stages of the admissions process, from dissemination of information to final selection by the Admissions and Selection Committee.

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CENTRE OF BIOMEDICAL ETHICS AND CULTURE

## Dissemination of Program Information

At the commencement of the admission cycle, information regarding the admissions process will be displayed on the CBEC website. Additionally, information will be disseminated through newspaper advertisements, social media platforms, email lists, and other suitable means.

## Program Objectives

The primary objective of the two-year Master's in Bioethics (MBE) is to provide professionals from relevant disciplines a strong foundation in the multidisciplinary field of bioethics, within a developing world context. The MBE aims to produce academic leaders by giving students the opportunity to conduct bioethics-related research and writing, enabling them to enhance relevant aspects of bioethics within their field and workplace.

## Admissions Criteria

- Open to Pakistani and foreign applicants holding at least a graduate (equivalent to Bachelor of Arts/Science, etc.) degree in relevant fields such as healthcare, social sciences, philosophy, law, and education.
- Sixteen years of education are required to become eligible to apply for the MBE program
- Preference will be given to those who have previously published in peer-reviewed journals
- Applicants should possess basic competency in computer and web-based skills.

## Admission test

Applicants must pass the CBEC Admission Test. The test will assess English comprehension and expression ability.

## Applications Requirements

Applicants are required to submit electronic copies of the following supporting documents by the given deadline:

- Completed electronic application form on CBEC website
- Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Scanned copies of qualifications (graduate/postgraduate)
- Letter of support from the relevant institutional head (only for applicants working full-time)
- Essay on a given topic
- Two samples of written material such as reports, articles, or preferably academic publications

- Two letters of recommendation emailed in confidence by referees directly to the Chairperson of CBEC
- Scanned passport-sized photograph

If selected, applicants will be asked to show original copies of all required documents to the admissions office and submit attested hard copies of the documents along with two passport-sized photographs. Incomplete applications will not be processed.

### Conversion to PGD Track

Some applicants may be considered by the Admission and Selection Committee (ASC) to be more suitable for the Postgraduate Diploma in Biomedical Ethics (PGD) track than for the MBE program. The electronic application form will contain an option for applicants to indicate willingness to be considered for transfer to the PGD program. However, an offer to shift to the PGD track does not imply automatic selection into the PGD program.

### Concurrent Enrolment

Applications from individuals already enrolled in another program that partly or fully overlaps with the MBE program will not be entertained.

Students enrolled in the MBE program are not allowed to enroll in a concurrent program until they have completed all requirements for completion of the degree, including submission and approval of the MBE thesis.

### Admissions Procedure

CBEC follows a merit-based admissions policy with no discrimination based on gender, age, religion, or ethnicity. Applicants from disadvantaged areas of Pakistan who meet the eligibility criteria may be given weightage. Shortlisted applicants are required to sit for the Admission Test. Following review of the test results, applicants are invited for interviews with the Admission and Selection Committee. Interviews are conducted at CBEC in Karachi and may also be arranged in other cities or conducted online.

### Admission and Selection Committee (ASC)

ASC constitutes CBEC faculty and may include external members. The Committee oversees the admissions process, including examinations, interviews, and final selection of applicants. Appeals regarding Committee decisions may be made to the Chairperson of CBEC, whose decision will be final.

## Review of Policy

The policy will be reviewed every four years for revisions and/or amendments, unless the faculty determines that a review is required earlier.

## Appendices

### Appendix 1 – Sample Letter of Support

This letter is written in support of (applicant's name)'s application to the Master's in Bioethics program. As the (writer's designation), I confirm that (institution) fully supports the applicant in acquiring this degree and will facilitate their attendance at all modules at the Centre of Biomedical Ethics and Culture, Karachi, and completion of coursework and thesis requirements. The support of the institution is non-financial, and any expenses required for the educational program will be the responsibility of the applicant. (The last sentence may be added if required.)

### Appendix 2 – Letter of Recommendation Requirements

Two letters of recommendation emailed in confidence by referees directly to the Chairperson of CBEC

The letters, preferably on institutional letterhead, should be from individuals in responsible positions familiar with the applicant. They should specify the referee's relationship with the applicant, duration of acquaintance, and assessment of the applicant's suitability for pursuing formal education in bioethics, highlighting relevant skills, qualities, and qualifications. Generic letters of recommendation will not be entertained.