BIOS FAQs

What is the difference between BIOS and CHEMIS?
Only the specific course lectures and exams differ between the two. All other academic and social portions of the boot camp are combined. You will be enrolled in BIOS unless you indicate on your application form that you are a Chemistry Major or another major that requires CHEM 1201 but not BIOL 1201. If you have questions about this selection, contact program administrators at bios@lsu.edu.

Can I participate in BIOS even if I don’t intend to take BIOL 1201 in the fall?
No, enrollment in BIOL 1201 is a prerequisite for participation in BIOS. The week is designed to help incoming students with the beginning of Introductory Biology and will not be as helpful to non-Biology students. EXCEPTION, if you intend to enroll in BIOL 1201 in the spring because you must take CHEM 1201 prior to enrolling in BIOL 1201, you may participate in BIOS.

Can I participate in CHEMIS even if I don’t intend to take CHEM 1201 in the fall?
No, enrollment in CHEM 1201 is a prerequisite for participation in the CHEMIS part of BIOS. The week is designed to help incoming students with the beginning of Introductory Chemistry and will not be as helpful to non-Chemistry students.

Can I apply for BIOS/CHEMIS before I register for fall classes?
Yes, you may apply for BIOS any time. In fact, we recommend applying early as interest in the program increases every year and our program may fill up.

Can I participate in BIOS/CHEMIS as a sophomore?
No, BIOS and CHEMIS are only offered to freshmen, as the program is geared toward making the transition to college.

Will I need housing for BIOS/CHEMIS?
Campus housing is optional for the week of BIOS and CHEMIS. Please refer to the “Housing FAQs” link for all housing information. There is an additional fee for students who opt for campus housing.

Will I need a parking permit for the week of BIOS/CHEMIS?
Yes, if you will be parking on the LSU campus for the week of the program you will need a special permit. There is a place on the BIOS application for you to request a parking pass. We will have the passes available at the BIOS Check-in on Sunday, but only if you have requested one in advance. Your fall permit is not valid until the next week.

Will I receive course credit for participating in BIOS/CHEMIS?
No, this is an optional orientation program. No official LSU credit will be given for BIOS or CHEMIS.
Will meals be provided during BIOS/CHEMIS?
Yes, students will receive 3 meals a day during the program week. All meals except the Welcome Dinner will be served in one of the campus dining halls. There will be multiple options to accommodate food allergies and other dietary restrictions. Light appetizers will be served at the closing reception on Friday.

Will there be a final awards celebration that parents can attend?
Yes, we will have a celebration and awards on Friday afternoon around 12:30. This will include the closing ceremony and reception.

How do I pay for BIOS/CHEMIS?
The program fees will be posted to your LSU billing statement beginning in May, and you may pay the same way you pay your other university fees. For more information on payment options, contact the Bursar’s Office at bursar@lsu.edu.

Is there any financial aid available for BIOS/CHEMIS?
Yes, we have need-based financial aid that will cover all but $100 of the program fee. This does not include housing fees. For more information, please see the “Financial Aid” section under “For Students” on the BIOS homepage.

Is the Introductory 1201 textbook included in the program fee?
As part of your program fee you will receive the Biology or Chemistry 1201 electronic textbook and the access code for any other online companion material. The hardcopy textbook is not part of the program fee but can be purchased from the LSU Bookstore or another source.

How Do I cancel my BIOS/CHEMIS registration?
You may cancel your BIOS or CHEMIS Registration by emailing the program administrator at bios@lsu.edu before the published deadline date. You will receive a full refund if you cancel before the deadline, but not nothing after that date. Please Note that you must officially cancel to have the charges removed.