Fisk-Vanderbilt
Master’s-to-Ph.D. Bridge Program

Who should apply
• Students with undergraduate majors in physics, biology, chemistry, computer science, math, and other science disciplines
• Students motivated to pursue the Ph.D., but who require additional course work, training, and/or research experience

How the program works
• Earn a master’s degree at Fisk University, with full funding support.
• Along the way, receive valuable research experience with caring, dedicated mentors.
• Get fast-track admission to one of the participating Vanderbilt Ph.D. programs, with full funding support.

Nothing worthwhile is ever easy.
We just help make it possible.

Reach for the Ph.D.
tú puedes

www.physics.vanderbilt.edu/bridge

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Areas of Study

All students in the Master’s-to-Ph.D. Bridge program begin by working toward a master’s degree in physics. Thus all students complete a common core of graduate-level physics courses. In addition, electives are chosen in consultation with the student’s Fisk and Vanderbilt advisers based upon the intended area of Ph.D. study. The areas of Ph.D. study currently available to Bridge program students are listed here, along with the Vanderbilt department, program, or research center corresponding to each:

Physics and Astronomy Department
- Astronomy, astrophysics, cosmology
- Biological physics
- Condensed matter physics
- Nuclear and particle physics
- Medical and health physics

Interdisciplinary Program in Materials Science and Nanophysics
- Carbon nanostructures
- Cellular-nanostructure interface

Biomedical Sciences Research and Education Training Program
- Functional and structural neuro-imaging
- Cellular and molecular imaging
- Cancer and cardiovascular imaging
- Structural biology
- Molecular biology and physiology
- Computational biology
- Biophysics
- Linear and non-linear optical properties
- Spintronics in nano-structured materials
- Nanoscale devices and nanocrystals
- Nanoscale devices and nanocrystals
- Linear and non-linear optical properties
- Functional and structural neuro-imaging
- Medical and health physics
- Molecular biology and physiology
- Structural biology

How to Apply and Whom to Contact

Admission to the Master’s-to-Ph.D. Bridge program begins with an application to the master’s degree program in physics at Fisk University. We urge all prospective Bridge applicants to contact one of the program coordinators before applying. We will gladly speak with you about the program, answer any questions you may have, help you determine whether the program is right for you, and guide you through the application process.

An application to the Master’s-to-Ph.D. Bridge program consists of the following:
- Fisk master’s degree application form
- Undergraduate transcript(s)
- Personal statement
- General GRE scores

Application forms and instructions are available online from the Bridge program Web site: www.physics.vanderbilt.edu/bridge

Primary faculty contacts:
- Professor Keivan Stassun
  Vanderbilt University
  keivan.stassun@vanderbilt.edu
  (615) 322-2828
- Professor Arnold Burger
  Fisk University
  aburger@fisk.edu
  (615) 329-8516

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Life in Nashville

Nashville has emerged as a vibrant, progressive, modern city, dubbed variously as “Music City USA” and “Athens of the South.” The city boasts fourteen colleges and universities, attracting some 30,000 students from the United States and around the world. Nashville has been consistently ranked one of America’s most liveable cities.

The city claims one of the largest urban parks and greenway systems in the United States.

The arts flourish, too. The Frist Center for the Visual Arts presents exhibitions of the world’s greatest art. The Tennessee Performing Arts Center hosts perform-