Admission to the School of Medicine

This section presents information about the admissions policies for the programs and degrees offered by the School of Medicine. Refer to the MD (p. 1), Health Professions (p. 3) and Joint (p. 3) sections of this page for more information about individual programs and their admission requirements.

- Applied Health Behavior Research
- Audiology and Communication Sciences
- Biology and Biomedical Sciences
- Biomedical Engineering
- Biostatistics
- Clinical Investigation
- Genetic Epidemiology
- Medicine
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Population Health Sciences
- Public Health

MD

Admission Requirements for the Study of Medicine

Entrance requirements to the School of Medicine include the following:

1. Evidence of superior intellectual ability and scholastic achievement;
2. Completion of at least 90 semester hours of college courses in an approved college or university;
3. Completion of the Medical College Admission Test of the Association of American Medical Colleges; and
4. Evidence of character and integrity, a caring and compassionate attitude, scientific and humanitarian interests, effective communication skills, and motivation suitable for a career in medicine.

Chemistry, physics and mathematics provide the tools for modern biology, for medicine and for the biological basis of patient care. Thus, a firm grounding in these subjects is essential for the study of medical sciences. Entering students are expected to have accomplished at least the equivalent of one-year courses at the undergraduate level in physics and biology; mathematics through calculus, including integral equations and differential equations; and chemistry, including one year of general or inorganic chemistry and one year of organic chemistry. Course work in biochemistry is encouraged although not required. In addition, one semester of biochemistry can be substituted for one semester of organic chemistry. Similarly, one semester of statistics can be substituted for one semester of calculus. In selected instances, one or more of these prerequisites may be waived by the Committee on Admissions, but applicants are strongly advised to pursue their interests in these and other areas of science.

A major goal of undergraduate college work should be the development of the intellectual talents of the individual. This often involves the in-depth pursuit of some area of knowledge, whether in the humanities, the social sciences or the natural sciences. At the same time, a diversity of background is encouraged in order to provide a necessary foundation for the development of cultural awareness, sensitivity and competence. Specific courses (other than the few in the natural sciences) are not prerequisites, because a great variety of courses and life experiences may prepare students for the many roles they may play in their medical careers.

Technical Standards Statement

Graduates of Washington University with a Doctor of Medicine degree are expected to have broad competence in the basic skills that underlie the general practice of medicine and surgery. All graduates must be able to independently take a history, examine a person, and synthesize the findings into a diagnosis and plan of evaluation and treatment. Thus, medical students must possess the requisite sensory, motor, communicative and cognitive capabilities to accomplish these requirements in a reliable manner in order to be competent and safe medical practitioners.

Application Procedure

General information for prospective medical students and instructions about how to apply can be found on the Medical Student Admissions website (http://mdadmissions.wustl.edu).

Washington University School of Medicine participates in the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) of the Association of American Medical Colleges. AMCAS provides a centralized system for applying to any participating medical school with only one application and one set of official transcripts of academic work.

The AMCAS Application for Admission, common to all participating medical schools, is available online. Applicants are urged to file their applications as early as possible.

Applicants to the first-year class must submit their AMCAS application no later than December 1 of the year prior to that in which they want to matriculate. In addition, applicants must complete a supplemental application (https://mdapply.wustl.edu), submit letters of recommendation, and pay a nonrefundable application fee of $100. These materials must be received no
later than December 31. The Committee on Admissions will only evaluate an application when it is complete.

Selected applicants are invited for a personal interview as well as a tour of the School of Medicine and the Washington University Medical Center. This visit provides extensive opportunities for the applicant to meet and talk with students and faculty members.

If an applicant is planning a trip to the St. Louis area, it is appropriate for them to contact us by email (mdadmissions@wustl.edu) to find out if an interview has been authorized. The inquiry should be submitted at least three weeks in advance of the anticipated travel. The Office of Admissions is open weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central Time.

Admission decisions are made by the Committee on Admissions on a rolling schedule beginning in early November. Applicants are notified as soon as a final decision has been made on their application. By April 1, every applicant should be notified whether they are accepted, on the waiting list or not accepted.

After the applicant has been accepted, matriculation is contingent upon sustained superior academic performance as well as continued ethical, honest and mature deportment. Accepted applicants must report to the Registrar of the School of Medicine all institutional judicial or academic sanctions and/or legal actions in which they have been a party prior to matriculation at the School of Medicine. Accepted applicants must report all institutional judicial and academic charges and/or legal charges brought against them before matriculation at the School of Medicine where such charges could result in sanctions. Concealing or failing to report such sanctions and/or charges promptly and, more generally, failure to maintain high standards of moral and ethical behavior may result in rescission of acceptance, dismissal from the School of Medicine, or revocation of the Doctor of Medicine degree.

**Merit-Based Scholarships**

Merit-based scholarships are awarded in various amounts as funds allow. Recipients are selected based on their personal and academic accomplishments and on their perceived potential to lead and contribute to the profession. There are multiple full and partial awards available. All accepted students are considered for merit-based scholarships without additional applications. Please consult the Financial Information section (http://bulletin.wustl.edu/medicine/financial/#md) of this Bulletin for further details.

**Acceptance Protocols**

As a participant in the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS), the Washington University School of Medicine (WUSM) abides by the Application and Acceptance Protocols (https://studentsResidents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/article/application-and-acceptance-protocols-applicants) established by the AAMC and encourages students to use the accompanying AMCAS Choose Your Medical School Tool. Applicants holding at least one acceptance from any medical school will have the option to “Plan to Enroll” in mid-February.

Per WUSM Admissions policy, applicants who have been offered admission to WUSM and who intend to matriculate at WUSM should indicate that they “Plan to Enroll” through the Choose Your Medical School Tool as soon as possible but by no later than April 30 of the year in which they will matriculate. WUSM reserves the right to rescind offers of acceptance if an applicant has not selected “Plan to Enroll” by April 30. After April 30, although applicants will maintain their “Plan to Enroll” status at WUSM, they may continue to hold positions on the waitlists of other schools.

Beginning April 30, accepted applicants have the option to “Commit to Enroll” at WUSM. When an applicant selects “Commit to Enroll” at WUSM, they should notify all other institutions where they hold an acceptance or position on the waitlist that they wish to withdraw their acceptance or position from the waitlist of that school. WUSM reserves the right to rescind an offer of admission to any applicant still holding an active acceptance at another institution while having a “Commit to Enroll” status with WUSM. WUSM reserves the right to rescind offers of admission from any applicant still holding a WUSM acceptance while indicating that they either “Plan to Enroll” or “Commit to Enroll” at another institution after April 30.

For applicants accepted after April 30, the timeline for selecting “Plan to Enroll” will be specified by the Associate Dean for Admissions.

All MD applicants planning to matriculate at WUSM should select the “Commit to Enroll” option no later than one week before the first day of orientation.

Should an applicant have an extenuating circumstance preventing compliance with this policy, it is the applicant’s responsibility to notify the WUSM Admissions Office and seek an extension or exception.

**Background Checks and Screening for Controlled Substances**

Students entering the School of Medicine and who will have contact with patients are required to undergo criminal background checks and screening for controlled substances (e.g., THC/cannabis, cocaine, opiates, amphetamines, phencyclidine) to qualify for participation in patient care activities at WUSM-affiliated facilities. Drug screening usually will be conducted during student orientation prior to the start of classes. Incoming prematriculant students and visiting students will be disqualified to study at the School of Medicine if they do not consent to background checks, if they have significant positive findings on the background checks, or if they have illicit substances detected on drug screening without a bona fide medical indication. Disqualified prematriculant students and
disqualified visiting students will be precluded from matriculation and will not be registered as students in the School of Medicine.

**Important Dates**

- WUSM supplemental application ([https://mdapply.wustl.edu](https://mdapply.wustl.edu)) deadline: December 31, 2019
- "Plan to Enroll" required: April 30, 2020

Visit the Important Dates ([https://mdadmissions.wustl.edu/how-to-apply/important-dates](https://mdadmissions.wustl.edu/how-to-apply/important-dates)) page on the Admissions website for a complete list of dates and deadlines.

**Third-Year Class Transfer Program**

Each year, Washington University School of Medicine accepts a limited number of transfer students into its third-year class, depending on the availability of positions. Transfer applications are accepted from well-qualified second-year students who are enrolled in good standing and eligible to continue in their Liaison Committee on Medical Education-accredited U.S. medical schools. Applicants must also have a compelling personal reason for requesting a transfer, and they must have the full approval of the dean of their current school. Accepted students are required to successfully complete the USMLE Step 1 examination.

Transfer application forms for admittance into the third-year class are available after October 1 for the following academic year. The deadline for the submission of applications is March 31. Those applicants selected for an interview will be invited to visit the Washington University Medical Center. Applicants will be notified of the decision of the Committee on Admissions by May 15 or when a position becomes available.

Inquiries should be directed here:

Third-Year Class Transfer Program  
Washington University School of Medicine  
Campus Box 8077  
660 S. Euclid Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63110-1093  
Phone: 314-362-6844  
Fax: 314-362-4658  
Email: mdadmissions@wustl.edu  

Visit the Medical Student Admissions website ([http://mdadmissions.wustl.edu](http://mdadmissions.wustl.edu)) for full admissions information and to check the status of an application.

**Health Professions**

Costs, admission requirements and application procedures vary from program to program.

For additional admissions information, please consult the following sources:

- Applied Health Behavior Research ([https://crtc.wustl.edu/programs/degrees/abhr](https://crtc.wustl.edu/programs/degrees/abhr))
- Program in Audiology and Communication Sciences ([https://pacs.wustl.edu/admissions](https://pacs.wustl.edu/admissions))
- Biology and Biomedical Sciences (PhD [http://dbbs.wustl.edu/prosptstudents/PhDAdmissions/Pages/PhDDAdmissions.aspx]) or PhD/MD ([http://mstp.wustl.edu/admissions/Pages/Admissions.aspx](http://mstp.wustl.edu/admissions/Pages/Admissions.aspx))
- Biomedical Engineering ([https://engineering.wustl.edu/prospective-students/graduate-admissions/Pages/default.aspx](https://engineering.wustl.edu/prospective-students/graduate-admissions/Pages/default.aspx))
- Clinical Investigation: Clinical Research Training Center ([https://crtc.wustl.edu/apply](https://crtc.wustl.edu/apply))
- Doctor of Philosophy: Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences ([http://dbbs.wustl.edu/prosptstudents/PhDAdmissions/Pages/PhDDAdmissions.aspx](http://dbbs.wustl.edu/prosptstudents/PhDAdmissions/Pages/PhDDAdmissions.aspx))
- Occupational Therapy ([http://www.ot.wustl.edu/admissions-102](http://www.ot.wustl.edu/admissions-102))
- Physical Therapy ([https://pt.wustl.edu/education](https://pt.wustl.edu/education))
- Master of Population Health Sciences ([https://mphs.wustl.edu/admissions](https://mphs.wustl.edu/admissions))
- Master of Public Health ([https://brownschool.wustl.edu/Academics/Master-of-Public-Health](https://brownschool.wustl.edu/Academics/Master-of-Public-Health))

**Joint Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP)**

**Admission Procedures**

Individuals interested in applying to the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) must complete the MD-PhD sections of the AMCAS application ([https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/applying-medical-school-process/applying-medical-school-amcas](https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/applying-medical-school-process/applying-medical-school-amcas)) and the Washington University School of Medicine supplemental application. The MSTP requires letters of recommendation from the applicant’s research mentors. All application materials are due by 11:59 p.m. on October 31. Approximately 100 applicants will be invited to interview for 25 first-year MD-PhD slots. Interviews ([http://mstp.wustl.edu/admissions/Pages/Interview-Visit.aspx](http://mstp.wustl.edu/admissions/Pages/Interview-Visit.aspx)) are conducted on designated Fridays from October through January ([http://mstp.wustl.edu/admissions/Pages/Interview-Dates.aspx](http://mstp.wustl.edu/admissions/Pages/Interview-Dates.aspx)). Decisions are made on a rolling basis, with the first decisions being released in November.
Admissions Requirements

Only individuals who have spent the equivalent of at least two years or four semesters in research should apply to the MSTP. Applicants must meet the requirements for admission to both the School of Medicine and the doctoral program of their choice. The GRE is not accepted. Superior scholastic performance and outstanding potential for a career in research are key components of a successful application. Applications from international students (http://mstp.wustl.edu/admissions/Pages/International-Students.aspx) who have earned at least 60 semester credit units from accredited colleges in the United States or Canada are welcome.

Transfer Applicants

Although most individuals enter the program as first-year students, applications will be accepted from students who have already initiated MD or PhD training. The deadline for transfer applications is 11:59 p.m. on October 15. Please review the MSTP Transfer Policy (http://mstp.wustl.edu/admissions/Pages/MD-Transfers.aspx) for additional information.

Doctor of Medicine and Master of Science in Clinical Investigation (MD/MSCI)

Admissions

Applications are open from September 15 through November 1 for the January start date and from January 1 through April 15 for the summer and fall start dates. Applicants must submit the following:

• Application form (https://crtcapply.dom.wustl.edu)
• Current biosketch or curriculum vitae
• Career development plan
• Research plan
• Mentor letter of support
• Recommendation letter from department chair or division chief
• Official transcripts

Individuals who participate in a Clinical Research Training Center training program (i.e., Postdoctoral MTPCI, KL2, TL1 Intensive, or K12) are eligible to pursue the MSCI degree as their didactic course of study and do not need to complete a separate application.

Doctor of Medicine and Master of Population Health Sciences (MD/MPHS)

Prospective Students

Applicants should be in the process of completing a degree in a clinical training program at the doctoral level or should have completed such a degree. The pace of course work assumes students have familiarity with clinical medicine.

Application Deadlines

For the 2019-20 academic year: March 29, 2019
Notification to students of admission decision: April 19, 2019
Commitment deadline: May 17, 2019

Doctor of Medicine and Master of Public Health (MD/MPH)

Prospective Students

Applicants should be in the third year of the MD program at the School of Medicine. Prior to entering the MPH program, students should have taken courses (up to 11 credit hours) that count toward their MPH degree.

Application Deadlines for the 2019-20 Academic Year

Applicants will apply online (https://sophasexpress.liaisoncas.com).
Application deadline: December 15, 2019
Admission decisions sent: February 1, 2020
Commitment deadline: April 1, 2020