In addition to the regular four-year program that leads to the MD degree, students are permitted to spend one additional academic year in a research program. In exceptional circumstances, a further additional year may be permitted. The student may receive a stipend but may not be considered an employee of the university. The student must conduct research with a Washington University faculty member, and the research project is subject to the approval of the Associate Dean for Medical Student Research. Students enrolled in the five-year program must sign up for insurance coverage through Student Health Services (https://studenthealth.med.wustl.edu/). Students interested in this program can contact the Office of Medical Student Research and Scholarship (https://md.wustl.edu/resources/offices-and-contacts/office-of-student-research/).