

# Doctor of Medicine

## Admissions

### Admission Requirements for the Study of Medicine

Entrance requirements for the School of Medicine include the following:

1. Evidence of superior intellectual ability and scholastic achievement;
2. Completion of at least 90 semester units 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; 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 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.

*The admission requirements for the study of medicine were last reviewed by the Committee on the Oversight Medical Education on May 2, 2022.*

## Technical Standards Statement

Washington University welcomes diverse applicants, including those with physical, sensory, learning, psychological, and chronic disease-related disabilities. The School of Medicine is committed to advocating for its students with disabilities and to educating a medical workforce that mirrors the diversity of the national population. We aim to be leaders in accessibility and inclusion.

Individuals seeking to graduate from Washington University with a Doctor of Medicine degree are expected to gain broad competence in the skills that underlie the practice of medicine and surgery. With or without accommodations, they must have the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to meet the School of Medicine's educational program objectives and meet the Technical Standards outlined in the Washington University School of Medicine Technical Standards for the Medical Program (<http://bulletin.wustl.edu/medicine/policies/md-technical-standards/>), which is available in the Policies & Guidelines section (<http://bulletin.wustl.edu/medicine/policies/>) of this *Bulletin*.

## Application Procedure

General information for prospective medical students and instructions for 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 (<https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/applying-medical-school-process/applying-medical-school-amcas/>), which is 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 November 30 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 7. 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.

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 15, 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, failing 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.

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## 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://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/article/application-and-acceptance-protocols-applicants/>) established by the Association of American Medical Colleges and encourages students to use the accompanying AMCAS Choose Your Medical School Tool (<https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/article/amcas-choosing-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.

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## 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 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/>) of this *Bulletin* for further details.

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## 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.

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## Important Dates

- AMCAS application (<https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/applying-medical-school-process/applying-medical-school-amcas/>) deadline: November 22, 2023
- WUSM supplemental application (<https://mdapply.wustl.edu/>) deadline: November 30, 2023
- “Plan to Enroll” required: April 30, 2024

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

## Advanced Standing Transfers

Due to the specifics of the new Gateway Curriculum, Washington University School of Medicine does not accept advanced standing (transfer) students from other medical schools. For more details of this policy, please refer to the Washington University School of Medicine Advanced Standing Transfers Policy for Medical Students. (<http://bulletin.wustl.edu/medicine/policies/md-advanced-standing-transfers/>)

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

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