

# Doctor of Medicine

## Admissions

### Admission Requirements for the Study of Medicine

Entrance requirements for WashU 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.

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.

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

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## Technical Standards Statement

Washington University welcomes diverse applicants, including those with physical, sensory, learning, psychological, and chronic disease-related disabilities. WashU 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 WashU Medicine 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 WashU Medicine's educational program objectives

and meet the Technical Standards outlined in the Washington University School of Medicine Technical Standards for the Medical Program, which is available in the Policies & Guidelines section of this *Bulletin*.

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## Application Procedure

General information for prospective medical students and instructions for how to apply can be found on the Medical Student Admissions website.

WashU 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, 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 October 17 of the year prior to that in which they want to matriculate. In addition, applicants must complete a supplemental application, submit letters of recommendation, and pay a nonrefundable application fee of \$100. These materials must be received no later than October 31. The Committee on Admissions will only evaluate an application when it is complete. Fee waivers are available for participants in the AMCAS Fee Assistance Program.

Selected applicants are invited to interview. 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 will be notified whether they are accepted, not accepted, or offered a place on the alternate list.

Accepted applicants are encouraged to visit the WashU Medicine campus. Visiting the campus or attending a WashU Medicine Admissions event provides extensive opportunities for applicants to meet and talk with students and faculty members.

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 WashU Medicine all institutional judicial or academic sanctions and/or legal actions to which they have been a party prior to matriculation at WashU Medicine. Accepted applicants must report all institutional judicial and academic charges and/or legal charges brought against them before matriculation at WashU 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 WashU 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), WashU Medicine abides by the Application and Acceptance Protocols established by the Association of American Medical Colleges and requires 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 WashU Medicine Admissions policy, applicants who have been offered admission to WashU Medicine and who intend to matriculate at WashU Medicine should indicate that they "Plan to Enroll" through the Choose Your Medical School Tool as soon as possible but no later than May 1 of the year in which they will matriculate. WashU Medicine reserves the right to rescind offers of acceptance if an applicant has not selected "Plan to Enroll" by May 1. After May 1, although applicants will maintain their "Plan to Enroll" status at WashU Medicine, they may continue to hold positions on the waitlists of other schools.

Beginning May 1, accepted applicants have the option to "Commit to Enroll" at WashU Medicine. When an applicant selects "Commit to Enroll" at WashU Medicine, 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. WashU Medicine reserves the right to rescind an offer of admission to any applicant still holding an active acceptance or waitlist position at another institution while having a "Commit to Enroll" status with WashU Medicine. WashU Medicine reserves the right to rescind offers of admission from any applicant still holding a WashU Medicine acceptance while indicating that they either "Plan to Enroll" or "Commit to Enroll" at another institution after May 1.

For applicants accepted after May 1, the timeline for selecting "Plan to Enroll" will be specified by the Associate Dean for Admissions.

All MD applicants planning to matriculate at WashU Medicine should select the "Commit to Enroll" option no later than three weeks 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 WashU Medicine 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. All accepted students are considered for merit-based scholarships without additional applications. Please consult the Financial Information section of this *Bulletin* for further details.

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## Background Checks and Screening for Controlled Substances

Students entering WashU 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 WashU Medicine-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 from study at WashU 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 at WashU Medicine.

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## Important Dates

- AMCAS application deadline: October 17
- WashU Medicine supplemental application deadline: October 31
- "Plan to Enroll" required: May 1

Visit the Important Dates page of the Admissions website for a complete list of dates and deadlines.

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## Advanced Standing Transfers

Due to the specifics of the Gateway Curriculum, WashU 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.

**Visit the Medical Student Admissions website for full admissions information and to check the status of an application.**

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