



Policy Title:
Student Selection

Policy Identifier:
USCSOMC - Adm – 1.05

Prepared by: Office of Admissions	Creation Date: 3-21-24
Reviewed by: Admissions Committee	Review Date:
Approved by: MD Program Policy and Procedures Committee	Effective Date: 8-16-24
Category: Admissions/Registrar	

LCME Standards

- 10.3 – Policies Regarding Student Selection
- 10.4 – Characteristics of Accepted Applicants

Scope

University of South Carolina (USC) School of Medicine Columbia students, faculty, and staff.

Policy Statement

Applicants admitted to the University of South Carolina School of Medicine are selected by an admissions committee. The committee is comprised of current and retired faculty members of the School of Medicine, administrators, medical students, and area clinicians. In making selections from each year’s group of applicants, members of the Admissions Committee recognize that they are selecting future physicians. The admissions procedure is therefore an effort to select applicants who possess the individual characteristics required for both the study and practice of medicine.

The Admissions Committee considers all aspects of an applicant’s application in the decision-making process. We use a holistic process to review each application, taking into account an applicant’s unique academic and professional background. As a South Carolina-based school, we prioritize applicants who are residents or who have a significant connection to South Carolina.

Preparation

While the School of Medicine does not have any prerequisite requirements, for most applicants a strong preparation in the natural sciences is highly recommended including general biology, general chemistry, organic chemistry, and biochemistry. Further advanced studies in the biological, physical and/or chemical sciences are encouraged.

Preference is given to applicants who will, upon enrollment, hold a bachelor’s degree. Applicants occasionally are admitted on the basis of 90 semester hours of outstanding undergraduate achievement.

As a matter of policy, the School of Medicine can accept applications only from those individuals



who are currently citizens of the United States or who are permitted by the Immigration and Naturalization Service to reside permanently in the United States.

The School of Medicine can accept applications only from those individuals who have completed their undergraduate premedical education at a college or university in the United States or Canada.

Reason for Policy

The LCME expects that a medical school selects applicants for admission who possess the intelligence, integrity, and personal and emotional characteristics necessary for them to become competent physicians and that the faculty of a medical school establish criteria for student selection and develop and implement effective policies and procedures regarding, and make decisions about, medical student application, selection, admission, assessment, promotion, graduation, and any disciplinary action. The medical school should make available to all interested parties its criteria, standards, policies, and procedures regarding these matters.

Procedures

Application Procedures

Inquiries concerning admission should be addressed to:

admissions@uscmed.sc.edu

Office of Admissions and Enrollment Services
School of Medicine
University of South Carolina
School of Medicine VA Campus Bldg. 3
Columbia, SC 29208
803-216-3625

How to Apply

The American Medical College Application Service® (AMCAS®) is the AAMC's centralized medical school application processing service. We use the [AMCAS application service](#) as well as a secondary application for the School of Medicine Columbia.

It takes AMCAS four to six weeks to verify all applicant information before turning it over to USC SOMC. Please use this valuable interim to prepare for the interview and continue any clinical or volunteer opportunities. Be sure to review our [Admissions Timeline](#) and ensure all supplementary materials are submitted. Additional information can be found in our [Frequently Asked Question \(FAQ\) located here](#).

Technical Standards for Admission, Retention, and Graduation

We are dedicated to student success, with standards in place to help ensure all our accepted students are physically and mentally prepared to take on the rigor of our academic program. The [USC SOMC Technical Standards can be found here](#).



Contacts

Office of Admissions

History

Date of Change	Change
3-21-24	Policy drafted in new template