

Clemson University (Clemson) – Medical University of South Carolina
(MUSC)

Accelerated Pathway to the Master in Health Administration Degree

Student Intent to Participate Form

Part A – Description and requirements

Program purpose and description: Clemson and MUSC (through its College of Health Professions) have developed the *Accelerated Pathway to the Master in Health Administration (MHA) - residential degree* program aimed at reducing students' overall educational cost from undergraduate education through graduate school while retaining the most talented students in South Carolina. Clemson students, meeting all program requirements, may apply for admittance to MUSC's MHA degree after completing 90 semester hours of undergraduate education at Clemson. These 90 hours include all general education courses and pre-requisite courses required by the MHA program. If admitted to the MHA program, Clemson accelerated students are held to the same standards and progress guidelines as other students in the MHA program. After successful completion of the first year of the MHA curriculum (as defined by MUSC's academic standards), Clemson will award the student an earned baccalaureate degree subject to student's satisfying all applicable requirements outlined in the Clemson University Undergraduate Announcements and completion of the formal application for graduation. This '3+2' agreement affords Clemson students a more accelerated route to entering the workforce and reduces their education-related debt.

This Accelerated Pathway is unique in that students are provisionally accepted into the MUSC MHA program when they meet the GPA requirement and file their *Intent to Participate* form. The provisionally accepted students remain in that status as long as they meet all progression criteria. They will receive formal program admission when all progression requirements have been satisfied and approved by MUSC.

Student progression requirements – per MUSC:

Clemson accelerated program students, provisionally accepted into the MHA program, must meet or exceed all of the following progression requirements to remain in the program:

- a. As prerequisite to provisional admission in the accelerated program, Clemson students must hold a cumulative GPA of ≥ 3.5 . Students must maintain this GPA expectation throughout their instruction at Clemson University.
- b. Clemson students must take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) and achieve the minimum required score as outlined below on or before January 1st of the junior year. If taking the GRE, students must score $\geq 50^{\text{th}}$ percentile. In 2017, this translates to a 151 score in verbal, 153 score in quantitative, and 4.0 in analytical sections. If taking the GMAT, students must score ≥ 500 . Students who take either test early, and score below the required thresholds, are encouraged to retake the examination prior to January 1st, which is of the junior year. There is no penalty or negative connotation associated with multiple GRE or GMAT attempts.

- c. Students must complete a minimum of 90 semester credit hours at Clemson (not including any AP credits, IB credits or transfer credits) prior to matriculating at MUSC.
- d. Earn a grade of B or higher in ECON 2110 Principles of Microeconomics (or equivalent course), typically taken during the freshman year.
- e. Earn a grade of B or higher in an introductory statistics course (e.g. STAT 2300, STAT 3090) typically taken during the sophomore year.
- f. All Clemson General Education requirements must be completed prior to matriculating at MUSC.
- g. Successfully complete a formal internship experience pursued in the summer between the student's sophomore and junior year. For B.S. in Health Science students, this is HLTH 4200 Health Science Internship course. Students in other majors should coordinate this experience through their academic advisor.
- h. Complete a successful interview with MUSC's MHA program faculty to be held during the fall or spring of the junior year.

Application process

Clemson students, in their freshman (after grades are posted for one semester) or sophomore academic years, interested in this Accelerated Pathway are expected to meet with the BS-MHA Program Coordinator, a faculty member in the Clemson University Department of Public Health Sciences. The Coordinator will interview the student to assess interest and preparation, review progression requirements, and discuss the application process.

Following the student interview with the Clemson BS-MHA Program Coordinator, students who meet the GPA requirement above may file their *Intent to Participate Form* with the Registrar's Office (with copy to the Clemson BS-MHA Program Coordinator) any time during their freshman or sophomore academic years. Once properly submitted, the Clemson accelerated student will be provisionally admitted to the MUSC MHA program.

Clemson accelerated students that have been provisionally admitted must complete a formal MUSC MHA application between July 1st following their sophomore year and before March 1st of the junior year. In addition to the application, the Clemson student must complete supplemental reference materials specific to the MHA program. These forms are available within the application and are also sent through email once an application is submitted. Applicants are required to submit official transcripts from each post-secondary school attended and all materials must be received by March 1st of the junior year.

Clemson accelerated students will be scheduled for their interview with MUSC MHA program faculty in either the fall or spring of their junior year. Interviews will be scheduled once the student's complete application and supplemental application (with GRE or GMAT scores) are properly submitted.

Following successful interview by MUSC MHA program faculty and continued achievement of progression requirements, Clemson Accelerated students will be formally accepted into the MUSC MHA program.

Interaction between MUSC and Clemson accelerated students and faculty

MUSC MHA program faculty will try to travel to the Clemson campus and meet with the provisionally accepted students at least once per year. Provisionally accepted students are expected to meet with the MHA program faculty member during his/her visit.

The academic progress of each provisionally accepted student will be reviewed each summer by the Clemson BS-MHA Program Coordinator and a MUSC MHA faculty member. Provisionally accepted students who fail to meet progression requirements will be removed from the accelerated program and the provisional status will be terminated. The designated MUSC MHA faculty member may, at his/her discretion, waive a progression requirement should an unusual and extenuating circumstance present.

Once provisional acceptance has been terminated, the student cannot reapply through the accelerated pathway program. However, the student may apply or reapply through the normal MUSC MHA admissions process.

Student responsibilities – per Clemson:

1. The student must complete this *Intent-to-Participate* form and file it with the Clemson Registrar's Office in room 104 Sikes Hall. Student should also notify their academic advisor that the student has submitted this Intent-to-Participate form.
2. If after filing this *Intent-to-Participate* form the student decides to withdraw from the program or attend another college or university, the student must notify the Registrar's Office that he/she is withdrawing from this program.
3. Be responsible for understanding and following the requirements for the Clemson and MUSC degrees, and the specific requirements for their intended major at Clemson.
4. Meet all eligibility requirements for the accelerated pathway program as outlined above.
5. Follow all MUSC application for admission processes and timelines.
6. Keep their Clemson academic advisor updated on their status in applying or participating in the accelerated program.
7. If the student is accepted to MUSC and completes the first year of study at MUSC, a formal application for Clemson graduation must be completed; a certified MUSC transcript fully documenting completion of the first year of the MHA program will need to be sent to Clemson at student's cost.
8. Graduation from Clemson is not guaranteed and is subject to the student meeting all applicable requirements of the Clemson University Undergraduate Announcements and successful completion of the formal application for graduation with the Registrar's Office. If all of these requirements are met, a degree will be awarded no earlier than the August graduation after completion of the first year of the MHA program.

9. If a student is admitted to MUSC but leaves MUSC before successfully completing the first year of the MHA program, the student may seek to transfer completed MUSC credits on a course-by-course basis using Clemson's credit transfer processes. There is no guarantee that any credits will be transferred.

Part B – Request and Advisor Acknowledgement

Student request: By signing below, I ; CU identification # - indicate my intent to participate in the *Accelerated Pathway to the Master in Health Administration degree* program. I understand that I must meet and maintain all student eligibility requirements in order to participate. I also understand that upon provisional admission into the MUSC MHA program, I must continue to achieve all progression guidelines or will be removed from the program.

Part C – FERPA Permission

I agree that Clemson University has my permission to share this *Intent to Participate* form, my name and contact information, my GPA and other academic records with MUSC as part of my participation in the program and for program evaluation purposes. I understand that I can request a copy of records provided to MUSC by contacting the Clemson University Registrar's Office. This FERPA permission remains in place until I revoke this permission in writing.

Student Name:

Student Signature:

Date:

Student's Academic Advisor Acknowledgement:

I understand that the student identified above desires to participate in the *Accelerated Pathway to the Master in Health Administration degree* program. Upon provisional admission into the program, the student must achieve all progression guidelines or could be removed from the program.

Academic Advisor's Name:

Advisor's Signature:

Date: