

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

Accelerated Pathway to Medical School

Student Intent to Participate Form

Part A - Description and requirements

Program purpose and description: Clemson and MUSC have developed the *Accelerated Pathway to Medical School* program aimed at reducing students' overall educational cost from undergraduate education through medical school while retaining the most talented students in South Carolina. Clemson students, meeting all program requirements, may apply for admittance to MUSC's doctorate in medicine (MD) degree after completing 90 semester hours of undergraduate education at Clemson. Admission to the MD program is not guaranteed; admissions decisions will be made solely by MUSC. If admitted into the MD program, Clemson accelerated students are held to the standards and progress guidelines as all other students in the MD program. After successful completion of the first year of medical school (as defined by MUSC's academic standards), Clemson University will award the student an earned baccalaureate degree subject to students satisfying all applicable requirements outlined in the Clemson University Undergraduate Announcements and completion of the formal application for graduation.

Student eligibility requirements - per MUSC:

- a. Clemson students must take the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) prior to June 30 following completion of the sophomore year (for Early Decision applicants) or prior to July 30 following their sophomore year (for Regular Admission applicants).
- b. The current minimum score accepted by MUSC on the MCAT is 508 (which may change annually, but the standard is that the score falls in the top quartile).
- c. Student's unadjusted GPA at the time of application to medical school must be ≥ 3.5
- d. 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.
- e. All Clemson general education requirements must be completed prior to matriculating at MUSC.
- f. It is recommended, but not required, that students complete two semesters of the following courses prior to applying to MUSC: general biology, general chemistry, organic chemistry, and physics.
- g. Other suggested courses that are valuable in preparing for the MD curriculum are anatomy, biochemistry, cell biology, embryology, genetics and physiology. The following courses are also suggested to support preparation for the MCAT: two semesters of introductory biology, introductory physics, general chemistry, organic chemistry, biochemistry, sociology and psychology.

- h. All applicants are expected to complete significant experiences providing clinical exposure to inform their decision to enter medicine. These experiences, ideally, should be attained through participation in a formal Clemson internship (or similar) supervised course and independent student planning. The latter would demonstrate a personal commitment to explore this career path.
- i. **A recommendation from the appropriate Faculty Advisor or Department Chair at Clemson endorsing the accelerated student is required.** The letter should outline the student's special characteristics that demonstrate that s/he is prepared, both academically and developmentally, for the rigors of medical school. The letter should be included in the student's medical school application materials and should be sent directly to the MUSC College of Medicine Admission Office at the following address: College of Medicine Admissions Office, 96 Jonathan Lucas Street, Suite 601, MSC 617, Charleston, SC 29425. The student is responsible for identifying the individuals to write the letters and providing them with the necessary information to complete and submit the letters.

Student responsibilities - per Clemson:

- a. The student must complete this *Intent-to-Participate* form and file it with the Clemson University 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.
- b. 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.
- c. Be responsible for understanding and following the requirements for the Clemson and MUSC degrees, and the specific requirements for their intended major at Clemson University.
- d. Meet all eligibility requirements for the accelerated pathway program as outlined above.
- e. Follow all MUSC application for admission processes and timelines.
- f. 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 medical school will need to be sent to Clemson at student's cost.
- g. 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 medical school.
- h. If a student is admitted to MUSC but leaves MUSC before successfully completing the first year of medical school, 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 Medical School program. I understand that I must meet and
maintain all student eligibility requirements in order to participate. I understand that
admission to MUSC and graduation from Clemson University is not guaranteed.

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 Medical School* program. He/she must meet requirements including a formal
letter, at time of application to medical school, from me.

Academic Advisor's Name:

Advisor's Signature:

Date: