

EARLY SELECTION PROGRAM GUIDELINES
for Contractual Colleges
2026

INTRODUCTION

The study of medicine is enriched by diversity, including interests and educational experiences. A broad liberal arts education offers a student wider opportunity to develop academic and inter and intra personal competencies.

The Early Selection program is guided by the Mission of the GWSMHS. We will educate a diverse workforce of tomorrow's leaders in medicine and improve the health and wellbeing of our local, national and global communities. We will pursue a culture of excellence through inclusive service and advocacy.

This program requires that each member actively pursue scholarship, leadership and service. Students have multiple opportunities to fulfill the AAMC competencies necessary to succeed in medicine. Early Selection students will be expected to pursue not only scientific excellence but also non-science coursework. All Early Selection students are required to pursue a non-science major or minor.

PURPOSE

The Early Selection Program of The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences gives talented and committed students who have achieved academic distinction and present significant clinical experience the ability to pursue non-science coursework in more depth, as well as the opportunity for more focused high impact experiences. Students will also receive provisional early assurance of admission to our M.D. program. All students **must** have a letter of presentation from their premedical advisor, in addition to three individual letters of recommendation. We require that students who are chosen for Early Selection creatively modify the traditional premedical curriculum during their last two years of college. Students interested in science can take more difficult courses. Additionally, students **must** pursue a non-science major or minor. Students already intending on a non-science major will have the freedom to pursue a rigorous, liberal education, while completing the minimal premedical requirements. We hope that undergraduates will find these less-typical premedical curricula exciting and beneficial to them long after they have completed medical school.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATION

- It is required that applicants are reviewed and presented by their premedical advisor. It is assumed that applicants have a focused interest in GW's Early Selection Program and in particular the GW M.D. Program. Applicants are expected to only submit an Early Selection application to GW. The application will be disqualified if the applicant is applying to other programs.
- ***Residence:*** Applicants must be in the second semester of their sophomore year. Applicants are required to have spent two years (4 semesters) in an undergraduate program of the contractual college and to have completed approximately 60 semester hours of course work by the end of the semester during which they apply. Coursework at other universities will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, as will AP/IB credit. After application and acceptance to the program students must be committed to spend the remaining intervening 2 years at current school regardless of how many credits they have accumulated. Students transferring into their sophomore year at the contractual college are ineligible; students transferring into their freshman year at the contractual college will be reviewed.

on a case-by-case basis. If you are in a community college guaranteed program you are not eligible. Those with less than 60 hours at the contractual college will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Students are required to have two more years of full-time undergraduate academics to complete at their contractual college. This is not an accelerated program. Only students who are U.S. or Canadian Citizens or hold U.S. Permanent Residency at the time of application are eligible to apply.

- **Courses:** During the first two years of college, students are encouraged to independently pursue their educational goals, while meeting the curricular requirements of their undergraduate program. We require that applicants have completed a minimum of two semesters of chemistry **and** two semesters of biology or physics by the end of the semester during which they apply to the Early Selection Program.

Applicants must have a minimum 3.5 overall GPA to apply, with no grade below a B- in science coursework.

- **College Entrance Exam Scores:** SAT or ACT scores are required. Students must self-report SAT or ACT scores on the application and submit high school transcripts. If SAT/ACT scores are not on the high school transcript, official scores must be sent from the College Board directly to the GW SMHS electronically to medsp@gwu.edu. Scores must be competitive.
- **Application:** In addition to the application, the student will be required to submit a description of academic goals for the last two years of college. Please include a two-year projection of specific coursework. Students must explain how their coursework and academic plans will change if they are accepted. An honest and complete statement of planned courses (including course names and numbers) and projects will be expected. The application, three letters of recommendation (at least one letter should be from a science professor) and other materials must be submitted to the contractual college's Advisor/Advisory Committee for review. After this screening, the contractual college's Advisor/Advisory Committee will submit completed applications of successful candidates to The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences Committee on Admissions with a letter of presentation. The complete file will be reviewed for interview. Those applicants chosen for interview will be invited in April/May. The School of Medicine's Committee on Admissions will review applications and make final decisions by July.

SELECTION

The School of Medicine and Health Sciences is committed to selecting gifted and altruistic students who can be expected to have distinguished careers as physicians. The Committee is looking for students who will take advantage of the opportunities in this program, as well as the unique opportunities in the M.D. program. Criteria will include high school performance, grades in the first two undergraduate years, highly competitive performance on the SAT or ACT, extracurricular activities, healthcare experiences, service, or research experiences, letters of recommendation, content and presentation of the application. Please note you must have completed significant patient-related health care experience by the time of application.

This is a very competitive program. Selected applicants will be those academically gifted students who appear to have, in addition to the maturity necessary to make a career decision at this stage, the ability to make the best use of the broad range of undergraduate educational opportunities that selection for this program will encourage. An important consideration for selection will be the student's planned educational program during the remainder of the 2 undergraduate years. We require continued academic rigor.

We regret that due to the large numbers of well-qualified students, not all can be chosen. All decisions are confidential and final. There is no appeal process.

Applicants must disclose any on campus infractions to their Advisor. The Advisor must address this issue in their letter.

PREPARATION FOR MATRICULATION IN MEDICAL SCHOOL

It is our intent to matriculate all students selected under this program. However, to ensure that our medical students are of the highest caliber, both academically and personally, acceptance into the M.D. program is provisional. All stated requirements on the M.D. Admissions website must be met, as well as those indicated here and on the Early Selection acceptance contract. Early Selection students must complete an AMCAS and secondary application in early summer prior to matriculation. Students will be required to have a criminal background check before matriculation into the M.D. program. M.D. students are subject to drug screening.

Each semester the Associate Dean of Admissions will review semester grades. In addition, the students **must submit** changes in their course schedules for review by the Associate Dean of Admissions. Early Selection students must complete the competencies listed on the M.D. website. Students are **required** to take an MCAT and submit score of 514 or higher to the Associate Dean of Admissions by January of the year student would matriculate to medical school, as well as PREview. In extremely rare circumstances, students may retake the MCAT with the Associate Dean of Admissions' permission. Completion of planned courses, completion of degree, meeting all requirements for admission to medical school, maintaining a minimum GPA of 3.6, no Cs or below in science coursework, competitive MCAT scores (to be determined at time of application), and having had no substantiated allegations of inappropriate academic or personal comportment will be required. If a student leaves the contractual school, no matter the reason, the Early Selection acceptance contract is null and void. If questions arise suggesting that a student may not be acceptable to the medical school, the student will be warned in writing of a review of the student's file.

Students must maintain their relationship with their undergraduate academic advisors. Advisors will provide updates to GW as requested.

A grade below a B-, a grade of incomplete, or a semester GPA below 3.6 will be grounds for review and can be grounds for the student being dismissed from the program. All study abroad coursework must have grade equivalents reported. If there is a concern, the student will be reviewed by the Early Selection committee before a decision about his/her suitability for medical school is made. An Early Selection student who is admitted to the program is expected to have a strong interest in attending The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences. The University asks that the student solidify his/her commitment by applying to The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences via the AMCAS Early Selection Program during the summer following the junior year. Students will apply to AMCAS in the summer before senior year as an Early Selection Student only applying to GW.