WMED START EARLY DECISION PROGRAM

WMED Start is an early decision program designed for Western Michigan University and Kalamazoo College students during their junior year of undergraduate education for admission to WMed for the academic year following completion of their baccalaureate education. The program is open to all students in their junior year, and eligible students in their senior year.

Experiences typically include a combination of volunteer service, community service, leadership roles or research.

Why WMedStart?

An early decision for admission to medical school means you can focus on learning and successfully completing your undergraduate studies. Successful applicants are notified of acceptance to WMed toward the end of their junior year, which allows for a stress-free senior year without the need to incur the expense—energy, time and money—of applying, traveling and interviewing at multiple medical schools.

Does applying for WMedStart affect my chances for admission to WMed if I am not accepted through WMedStart?

No. There is no adverse impact if you are not accepted through WMedStart and then apply to WMed through the regular application process.

Who is eligible to apply for the WMedStart?

Students from Western Michigan University and Kalamazoo College are eligible to apply to WMedStart in the junior year of their undergraduate studies. Students who are in their senior year who are planning extended studies for an additional year before entering medical school may apply if they have not previously applied to any medical schools. Students are advised to contact Jean Shelton, Director of Admissions, with questions concerning eligibility.

What is my obligation if I accept admission through WMedStart?

Students who accept an offer of admission to WMed through WMedStart must maintain their academic status and successfully complete the remainder of their undergraduate studies as described in their application. All WMed prerequisite course requirements must be completed by the time of matriculation. Students will be required to sit for the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) prior to matriculation. Students who accept an offer of admission to WMed must agree not to apply to other medical schools since they are officially admitted to medical school.

PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK

At the time of your application, we strongly recommend that you've completed a minimum of:

- one year of general chemistry with labs
- one year of organic chemistry with labs
- one year of biological sciences
- one year of physics

All WMed prerequisite course requirements must be completed by the time of matriculation.

TO APPLY, STUDENTS AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE:

- an overall undergraduate GPA of 3.7 or higher
- a GPA of 3.5 or higher in science coursework (biology, chemistry, physics and mathematics)
- an ACT score of 30 or higher, or an SAT score of 1900 or higher. Applicants who have taken the exam more than once must submit all of their scores. An ACT or SAT score from an exam taken after the student has matriculated to college will not be considered.
- United States citizenship or permanent resident status (e.g., a permanent resident Green Card)
How do I apply to the WMedStart Program?

The WMedStart application opens November 1 for consideration for the medical school class beginning in 2016. The deadline to submit a WMedStart application and receipt of all supporting materials is January 31, 2015. The application can be found at med.wmich.edu/Admissions/WMedStart.

In order for your file to be considered for admission through WMedStart, we must receive the following information no later than January 31:

- **COMPLETED WMedStart Application**
  Including two personal essays.

- **ACT/SAT Score**
  A copy of the score report provided by the testing service or an official high school transcript reporting the score.

- **Citizenship**
  To be eligible for the WMedStart program, applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the United States.
  You will need to submit a photocopy of your passport or driver’s license if you are a U.S. citizen; if you are a permanent resident, a copy of the front and back of your permanent resident card is required.

- **Transcripts**
  Official transcripts from all colleges or universities you have attended that show all coursework completed through December.

- **Letters of Recommendation**
  Letters of recommendation must be sent directly from the recommenders to the WMed Admissions Office or submitted in a sealed envelope with the recommender’s signature across the seal.
  A maximum of four letters may be submitted; at least two must be from faculty members who can comment on your academic achievements and personal qualities.

- **Résumé**
  Current résumé that lists all work experiences, extracurricular activities, research activities, community service or volunteering experiences, awards, honors, and publications. Please include the number of hours spent in each experience.

- **Application Fee**
  A $75 non-refundable application fee must be submitted with your application. Please include a check or money order made payable to WMU School of Medicine.

PLEASE SEND THESE ITEMS TO:

WMU Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine
Office of Admissions
1000 Oakland Drive
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-8023