Early Medical School Selection Program

Program Summary

The Early Medical School Selection Program (EMSSP) was developed with a consortium of historically black colleges and universities in 1982 in an effort to increase diversity in the physician workforce. Since that time the program has expanded to include partnerships with schools which have large Latino and Pacific Island populations.

The program provides an early, gradual transition into the medical school curriculum through emphasis on study skills and early exposure to graduate-level coursework during the summer terms after sophomore and junior years and the final undergraduate year, all of which are spent at Boston University. EMSSP is an early assurance program and students who meet all program requirements can expect to be promoted to the School of Medicine upon completion of their undergraduate education.

Undergraduate Study

Students accepted into the program will remain at their undergraduate colleges through the junior year, but spend summers taking classes at Boston University. They are encouraged to complete the maximum number of required science courses prior to entering the senior year at Boston University. During the senior year at Boston University, students will retain their degree candidacy at their undergraduate institutions. Students will take modular medical courses and participate in individualized programs of study in the senior year that will satisfy their undergraduate academic requirements while providing a gradual transition into the medical school curriculum.

BU School of Medicine

The August following graduation from their undergraduate institutions, students who have performed at the prescribed level will matriculate into the School of Medicine at Boston University. Students who have fulfilled requirements for selected medical school courses may pursue a decompressed medical school curriculum. All students matriculating through EMSSP benefit from prior exposure to first-year medical school coursework. Upon completion of the School of Medicine requirements, the degree of Doctor of Medicine will be granted by Boston University.

Requirements for Admission

U.S. citizens are eligible to apply during the sophomore year of college, with the support and recommendation of their premedical advisors. Admission to the program is based on the academic record, letters of recommendation, scope and quality of college and community activities, and such factors as personality, character, and maturity of the applicant. Requirements include Biology (1 year) with laboratory and General Chemistry (1 year) with laboratory.

In addition to the normal distribution of courses in the humanities and social sciences, applicants are strongly urged to complete the equivalent of one full year of physics (with laboratory) prior to beginning the senior undergraduate year at Boston University. Students are required to spend the senior year in residence in Boston University housing.
must take the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) while in the program, and are required to file an AMCAS application in the fall of the senior year.

Applications for the Early Medical School Selection Program may be obtained from the Diversity & Multicultural Affairs Office, Boston University School of Medicine, 72 East Concord Street, Room A206, Boston, MA 02118.

Related Bulletin Pages

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- Abbreviations and Symbols

Beyond the Bulletin

- School of Medicine Admissions
- Student Financial Services

Programs

BUSBM Curriculum
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Modular Medical Integrated Curriculum
Early Medical School Selection Program
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MD/PhD Combined Degree
MD/MPH
MD/MBA

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School of Medicine

Accreditation

Boston University is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).