

DEPARTMENT: Office of Admissions
POLICY NAME: Deferment
POLICY NUMBER:
OWNER: Office of Admissions
EFFECTIVE DATE: 06.30.2025

SCOPE

The scope of this policy applies to accepted students to the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree program at Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine (MSOM).

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance and a clear process for admitted students seeking to defer enrollment for one academic year due to extenuating circumstances, while ensuring that the integrity of the admissions process and matriculation requirements is maintained.

POLICY

A. Eligibility

1. Deferments are considered on a case-by-case basis.
2. Only admitted students who have submitted their enrollment deposit are eligible to request a deferment.
3. A student will be granted only one deferment. Additional deferments will not be permitted.

B. Request Process

1. Students must submit a written deferment request to the Office of Admissions, clearly stating the reason for the request and anticipated enrollment year.
2. Requests should be submitted as soon as the need for deferment is known, but no later than 60 days before matriculation.
3. Supporting documentation may be requested to substantiate the deferment request.

C. Consideration and Approval

1. Deferment requests are reviewed by the Office of Admissions.
2. Approval is granted by the discretion of MSOM and may be contingent on the nature of the reason provided.
3. Approved deferments allow matriculation to the following academic year only.

D. Financial and Enrollment Obligations

1. Enrollment deposits for the following cycle are required to secure a student's place in the class.
2. Any additional conditions or requirements may be communicated at the time of approval.

E. Notification

1. Students will be notified in writing of the decision regarding their deferment request within two weeks.
2. Approved deferments will include instructions on how to matriculate for the following year.

F. Limitations

1. Deferment is not guaranteed and is granted at the sole discretion of MSOM.
 2. Failure to meet the conditions outlined above may result in forfeiture of the admission offer.
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POLICY MANAGEMENT

The Office of Admissions is responsible for the development and maintenance of the Deferment Policy. This policy is reviewed annually and is housed in the electronic policy management system. Questions regarding this policy should be directed to the Office of Admissions.