

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

SCOPE

The scope of this policy and set of procedures applies to applicants to the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree program at the Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine (MSOM).

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to define the minimum requirements to be considered for admission to the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree program at MSOM. The purpose of these procedures is to provide a fair and consistent framework for admitting students to MSOM.

POLICY

I. Minimum Requirements for Admission

- A. To be considered for admission, applicants must meet the following minimum requirements:
 - 1. The most competitive candidates will have a minimum overall GPA of 3.5, a science GPA of at least 3.5, and an MCAT score at or above the 50th percentile.
 - 2. Applicants must complete the AACOMAS application.
 - 3. Applicants must request that all official transcripts from all U.S. institutions be sent to AACOMAS.
 - 4. Applicants must have completed a Bachelor of Arts or Science from a U.S. college /university accredited by a U.S. Department of Education-recognized national institutional accreditation agency by the end of June 2026.
 - 5. Applicants must have successfully completed all of the following courses with a grade (or equivalent) of "C" or better prior to matriculation:
 - a. English
 - b. Biology (with laboratory)
 - c. General Chemistry (with laboratory)
 - d. Physics (with laboratory)
 - e. Organic Chemistry (with laboratory)

6. MSOM strongly recommends the following elective courses: Anatomy & Physiology, Behavioral Science, Biochemistry, Genetics, Immunology, Microbiology, Molecular Biology, Multicultural Studies, Public Health/Epidemiology, Pathology, and Pharmacology.
7. Applicants are required to submit scores from the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT). For the 2025-2026 application cycle, MCAT scores from exams taken on or after January 1, 2022, will be accepted.
8. Applicants must submit two letters of recommendation, preferably from an osteopathic physician (D.O.) or an allopathic physician (M.D.), or from a premedical advisory committee or science faculty member with a terminal degree in a relevant science discipline at the institution where the applicant received their bachelor's degree who is familiar with the academic work of the applicant.
9. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or U.S. permanent residents.

Courses with equivalent content will be reviewed for acceptance at the discretion of MSOM. At MSOM, the MCAT is considered in connection with grades, personal qualities, and the student interview. Applicants are required to meet the technical standards for admission and continued enrollment and affirm that he or she meet the standards. Any falsification or misinformation regarding the ability to meet technical standards is a reason for rescinding the offer of admission or, after matriculation, dismissal from the school and the D.O. program.

Applicants must submit all required admissions materials by the deadline. If admissions materials are not submitted as required, an offer of admission may be rescinded.

II. Procedures

Admissions Applicant

A. Initial Application

1. MSOM will participate with other osteopathic colleges in a centralized application processing service called the AACOMAS. An application may be submitted online at <https://aacomas.liaisoncas.com> or may be obtained by contacting:

AACOMAS
P.O. Box 9137
Watertown, MA 02474
Telephone (617) 612- 2889

2. To initiate the application process, applicants must apply directly to AACOMAS. AACOMAS is available to students for the entering class from May 2025 through April 2026 of the year of application. Applicants must request all official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended be submitted directly from the institution(s) to AACOMAS according to the AACOMAS instructions. Students must also ensure that all MCAT scores are forwarded directly to AACOMAS from the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC).

B. Secondary Application

1. After receiving the verified AACOMAS application, students will be invited to submit an online Secondary Application. Students are responsible for ensuring they have met MSOM's admission requirements (e.g., specific letters of reference, prerequisites, minimum MCAT score) prior to submitting a Secondary Application.
2. Complete the MSOM Secondary Application and pay the \$100 non-refundable secondary application fee. MSOM will waive the secondary application fee if the applicant has an approved AACOMAS fee waiver document. Students will be required to provide documentation of the AACOMAS fee waiver in the Secondary Application.

C. MSOM Applicant Selection Process

1. The MSOM Admissions Committee seeks individuals who will be a good match for our mission and are capable of meeting our academic and professionalism standards. Applicants are screened for academic achievement, clinical involvement, interpersonal skills, leadership qualities, service, perseverance, maturity, grit, and knowledge of the osteopathic profession. Applicants who pass this screening will be invited for an interview. The interview day is designed to be a two-way process to help the Admissions Committee determine if the applicant is a good fit for MSOM while enabling the applicant to determine if MSOM is a good fit for the applicant. Interview day attendance is mandatory for admission.
2. Following the interview day, the Admissions Committee will review the applicant's entire packet and recommend a disposition of the application to the Dean. The Admissions Committee will recommend to accept, reject, or place candidates on the waitlist. Applicants are notified of the Committee's decision within 2-4 weeks after the Dean finalizes the recommendations. Admitted applicants must accept their offer and pay two non-refundable enrollment deposits within the specified timeframe.
3. Admission after acceptance is subject to the satisfactory completion of all academic requirements. Admission to MSOM may be revoked for fraud, misrepresentation, or other violations of MSOM professionalism standards.

D. International Student Applicants

1. MSOM does not accept applications from students requiring F-1 student visa status until such time that approval is granted by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). MSOM is presently not seeking approval to accept International Students.
2. MSOM requires applicants who have completed coursework at foreign institutions to be evaluated for U.S. equivalence. The evaluation service must verify that coursework completed at an institution outside of the U.S. is comparable to a U.S. college/university degree at a U.S. Department of Education recognized nationally accredited institution. MSOM requires verification of an applicant's

credentials from a college or university outside of the United States which have met the equivalency for the minimum requirements for admission as determined at the discretion of MSOM.

POLICY MANAGEMENT

The Office of Admissions, in consultation with the Office of the Dean, is responsible for the development and maintenance of the Admissions Policy and Procedures. 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.