



**Center of Excellence
Bachelor of Science/Doctor of Medicine (BS/MD) Program
Overview**

The Bachelor of Science/Doctor of Medicine (BS/MD) Program is a component of the Meharry Medical College Center of Excellence (COE) supported by a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The purpose of the program is to increase the number of culturally competent African American physicians serving medically underserved populations as well as to assist with alleviating health care disparities.

Meharry Medical College has formal agreements with ten selected Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) - Alabama A&M University, Albany State University, Alcorn State University, Fisk University, Grambling State University, Hampton University, Jackson State University, Southern University, Tennessee State University, and Virginia Union University. Through these agreements, students are invited to participate in a six-week program designed to enrich and enhance the students' science knowledge base.

Eligibility

Students must meet the following criteria to be eligible for the program:

- Black/African American;
- U.S. citizen or permanent resident;
- Economically and/or educationally disadvantaged;
- Express a desire to pursue a career as a physician;
- Minimum cumulative grade-point average (GPA) of 3.25 on a 4.0 scale;
- No grade less than "C" in science courses;
- Submission of an official transcript from all colleges/universities attended;
- Submission of two letters of recommendation on college/university letterhead from faculty members and/or advisors;
- Submission of 1-2 pages, double-spaced essay that describes your educational and career goals.

Each school has a site coordinator who recommends students for the program; however, the final selection is made by the project director and project coordinator at Meharry based on the completed application, official transcript, and two letters of recommendation. Students admitted into the program have a conditional acceptance to Meharry Medical College, School of Medicine, if upon graduation; they have maintained an overall 3.25 GPA on a 4.0 system; and earned the minimum required MCAT score at the time the participant applies to the medical program, with no section lower than 122. **Official acceptance into the School of Medicine requires final approval from the Admissions Committee after the interview process.**

Students spend six weeks for three summers participating in a structured academic program specifically designed for the sophomore, junior, and senior levels. ***Students cannot receive credit for these classes at their home institutions. This program does not offer shadowing opportunities.*** Throughout the summers, students also participate in various sessions such as

CPR, stress management, study skills, applying to medical school, financial aid, preparing a personal statement, etc. To continue participation in the BS/MD program each summer, students must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA.

In year one, students take the following classes: cell and molecular biology, health professions terminology, logic, math, organic chemistry, and seminar. In year two the classes are biochemistry, critical and analytical reasoning, anatomy and physiology, behavioral sciences, microbiology, physics, and seminar. During year three, seniors participate in a six-week MCAT review course and seminars. Upon the conclusion of the course, it is recommended that seniors take the MCAT examination. Classes are usually held from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. for sophomores and juniors; and 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. for seniors with some evening classes, from Monday through Friday. These times are subject to change.

For the 2022-2023 academic year, students will receive a stipend of \$3,000. Stipend funds are disbursed bi-weekly throughout the duration of the program. Travel expenses are reimbursed up to \$350. Students are housed in apartments on the campus of Tennessee State University.

The program dates are May 15, 2023 – June 23, 2023

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