

Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, Doctor of Medicine Tip Sheet 2023

PROGRAM DETAILS

The curriculum that makes up the MD program of the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry builds on foundation knowledge and skills in stepwise fashion. These provide progressively increasing clinical exposure during Years 1 and 2. They ultimately evolve into a fully immersive clinical-learning setting by the beginning of third year. Following four years in undergraduate medical education, students continue postgraduate training for two to five+ years.

Quota: 162 Students. Eighty-five per cent of the places in the program are normally reserved for Alberta residents, and 15 per cent are usually available for non-Alberta residents. Applicants must be permanent residents of Canada, either as a Canadian citizen or permanent resident. Quota positions are available for qualified applicants from Rural communities. We regret that we are unable to admit international students.

The Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry is committed to the recruitment, retention and graduation of Aboriginal students. All Aboriginal applicants who meet the eligibility requirements and who are successful in the Indigenous admissions process will be recommended for admission.

As part of our ongoing commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, the MD Program at the University of Alberta has introduced the Black Applicant Admissions Process (BAAP). The goal of the BAAP is to ensure self identified Black applicants have Black representation as a part of their file review, interview, as well as on the MD Admission Committee.

At the request of the Department of National Defence (DND), the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry has completed arrangements with DND to create up to six seats in the MD Program above the quota class size.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum Standards

- The minimum cumulative GPA required to be eligible to apply is 3.30 for Alberta residents and 3.50 for non-Alberta residents.
- The minimum MCAT score to be eligible to apply for Albertan applicants is 124 in all categories (CPBS, CARS, BBFL, PSBB).
- The minimum MCAT score to be eligible to apply for Non-Albertans is 128 in CARS and 124 in CPBS, BBFL, and PSBB.
- Please note: meeting the minimum standards does not guarantee admission.
- Additional selection factors include personal activities, reference letters, additional testing and interview.

Other Requirements:

- **Education:** All applicants must be registered in a baccalaureate degree program and obtain their degree the year admission is sought or already have completed their degree program. We have no preference for which institution attended nor which degree program; applicants should pursue their interests while fulfilling the requirements of their degree program. Applicants must have a minimum of 60 transferable units of course weight (ucw).
 - To calculate cGPA, we include all transferable post-secondary coursework to which a grade was assigned while the student was enrolled full-time (by UofA definition) during the academic year (September through April) or full-time during the Spring and Summer terms (May through August). For undergraduate students, to be considered full-time you must complete 18 transferable units of course weight (ucw) during the academic year (September through April) or 12 ucw during the Spring and Summer terms (May through August).
 - In the spirit of continually refining and updating our Admissions processes, new for the 2024 application cycle, the MD Program no longer has a full course load requirement.
- **Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT):** All applicants must write the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT). The MCAT exam includes the following sections: Biological and Biochemical Foundations of Living Systems (BBFL), Chemical and Physical Foundations of Biological Systems (CPBS), Psychological, Social, and Biological Foundations of Behavior (PSBB), and Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills (CARS). The MD Program takes a threshold approach to the MCAT requirement. Once applicants meet the MCAT eligibility requirements, their scores will not be used competitively and will not be used to assess their application. For Alberta residents, the minimum MCAT score is 124 in all four categories. For Non-Albertan applicants, the minimum MCAT score is 128 in CARS and 124 in CPBS, BBFL, and PSBB. Applicants must meet the minimum requirement for each section in a single test sitting to be eligible to apply.

- **Personal Activities:** This section provides applicants the opportunity to highlight their life experiences that they feel will enhance their application. The Personal Activities section is comprised of five subsections: Employment, Leadership Roles, Volunteer Work, Life Experiences & Achievements, and Personal Highlights.
- **References:** For application to the Doctor of Medicine Program you will submit the contact information for two referees, or recommenders, as part of the Application for Admission. Please only select individuals (ie. coach, co-worker, employer, leader of volunteer organization or club, professor, supervisor, research supervisor, teacher, etc.) who know you in a supervisory or professional capacity and who presently know you well enough to speak to your moral and ethical character.
- **CASPer Assessment:** All applicants who successfully complete and submit their Application for Admission AND complete all required checklist items and forms AND meet the minimum academic requirements for application will be required to do additional testing in Fall 2021. The online assessment (CASPer), provided by Altus Assessments, will cost approximately \$60. Successful completion of CASPer is mandatory in order to maintain admission eligibility.
- **Interview:** Interviews will be held in March 2024.
- **English Language Requirements:** Applicants must meet a spoken English requirement as specified in the [University of Alberta Calendar](#).

Condition of Admission:

- **Police Information Check (PIC):** Applicants should be aware that a clear Police Information Check (PIC) is required as a condition of admission and that any criminal charges pending must be declared.
- Prior to commencement of studies, admitted applicants must complete a standard series of immunizations required of health care providers in Alberta.

IMPORTANT DATES

Applications Opens: July 1, 2023

Application Deadline: October 1, 2023

FAQ

Additional information can be found [here](#).