



SUNY
DOWNSTATE
Medical Center

College of Medicine
ADMISSIONS
INFORMATION
BOOKLET



Office of Admissions
SUNY Downstate Medical Center
450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 60
Brooklyn, New York 11203
admissions@downstate.edu

2009-2010 GENERAL INFORMATION

The State University of New York (SUNY) Downstate Medical Center, also known as the SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn, is a major provider of medical education, health care, and research in the New York City region. Located on an urban campus in Brooklyn, SUNY Downstate Medical Center includes a College of Medicine, College of Health Related Professions, College of Nursing, School of Graduate Studies, and the 376-bed University Hospital of Brooklyn. Approximately 1500 students pursue certificate, Bachelor of Science, Master of Science, MPH, DPT, Dr. PH, Ph.D. and MD degrees.

For more information about the College of Medicine, see our website at sfs.downstate.edu/admissions/medicine. Topics include: institutional history, facilities, curriculum including class schedule, clinical sites, application procedures, research opportunities, residency placement information, student life, residential life, and financial aid.

CURRICULUM

The primary goal of the College of Medicine is to graduate excellent physicians who will take their place in general or specialty practice, research, medical administration or academic medicine. The College provides a comprehensive educational and clinical experience for all students, in preparation for their careers in Medicine.

First Year Curriculum

In the first year, the curriculum uses a multi-disciplinary systems-based approach to teach the normal structure and function of the body. In addition to instruction in the basic sciences, the first year curriculum includes an early introduction to clinical medicine. The disciplines (i.e. Gross Anatomy, Biochemistry, etc.) have been integrated and organized into courses based on organ systems.

Each course incorporates various teaching modalities, including lectures, case-based learning, laboratories and conferences. The titles of the blocks are listed below:

- Genes to Cells
- Musculoskeletal System
- Blood / Lymphoid / Head & Neck
- Cardiovascular System
- Respiratory System
- GI Tract / Intermediary Metabolism
- Urinary System
- Endocrine and Reproductive Systems
- Neuroscience
- Essentials of Clinical Medicine I

Second Year Curriculum

The second year curriculum uses a multi-disciplinary systems-based approach to teach the basic science underlying abnormal structure and function. The disciplines of pathophysiology, pharmacology, pathology, microbiology, and epidemiology are integrated into organ-system based blocks. The Essentials of Clinical Medicine sequence in this year includes further development of history and physical examination skills in preparation for the third year clinical experience.

- Immunity, Inflammation and Infection
- Skin & Musculoskeletal System
- Hematology and Oncology
- Cardiovascular System
- Respiratory System
- Renal System
- Endocrine and Reproductive Disease
- Gastrointestinal System
- Nervous System and Psychopathology
- Essentials of Clinical Medicine II

In addition to successfully completing the second year curriculum, all second year students must take and pass Step 1 of the United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE) in order to continue in the third year.

Third Year and Fourth Year Curriculum

Clerkship descriptions and sites are linked from the Office of Admissions website.

<i>Clerkships</i>	<i># Of Weeks In Rotation</i>
Transition to Clerkships	2 days to 1 Week
Medicine	10
Surgery	8
Anesthesia	2
Pediatrics	6
Women's Health	6
Psychiatry	6
Neurology	4
Primary Care I (Family Practice or general)	6
Primary Care II (Geriatrics/Palliative Care)	4
Emergency Medicine	2
Subinternship	4
Emerging Concepts in Medicine	2
Transition to Residency	1
# Required Clerkship/Sub Internship Weeks	62
# Required Elective Weeks	20
Total Clinical Requirement	82
Number Of "Unscheduled" Weeks (estimated)	16

In addition to the above clinical requirements:

- Students are required to take the USMLE Step 2 CK and CS examinations no later than January 31st of their senior year.
- Students are also required to successfully pass a mandatory standardized patient experience, which is scheduled in the spring of the third year.

Clinical Facilities

Medical students in their final two years receive part of their clinical training at the University Hospital of Brooklyn and Kings County Hospital Center. In addition, clinical rotations centers of learning provide students with a broad spectrum of experience in varied clinical settings are available in other hospitals throughout New York City. For a current list of our clinical sites, please go to http://sls.downstate.edu/admissions/medicine/about/clinical_training.html

Research Opportunities

SUNY Downstate Medical Center encourages its medical students to participate in research. Research opportunities are available throughout the four years of medical school. Students may begin doing research in their first year. Research areas are broadly grouped into Molecular and Cellular Biology, and Neural and Behavioral Science. Additional information about research is available on our website at: <http://sls.downstate.edu/admissions/medicine/research/index.html>

MD/PhD Program

The College of Medicine and the School of Graduate Studies jointly sponsor a program leading to an excellent, combined MD/PhD degree. This program combines a medical education with an intensive research experience and is designed for students who are interested in pursuing a career in academic medicine. Students are supported with a stipend and a tuition scholarship throughout the duration of the program. Applicants to this program must apply for admission separately to the College of Medicine and to the School of Graduate Studies. They are considered for the combined MD/PhD as part of the admissions process in both schools. **The deadline to have a completed application on file with both colleges is December 15.** Early application is recommended. The School of Graduate Studies will also consider applications for the MD/PhD program from First and Second year students.

To obtain a School of Graduate Studies application, and letter of recommendation forms, go to <http://www.downstate.edu/grad>. When filing your AMCAS application, you should indicate "Combined Medical Degree/PhD."

Master of Public Health Program

This is a concurrent degree program in which students pursue both the MD and the MPH curriculum simultaneously. You may receive both degrees at the end of four years. Two separate applications are required (MD through AMCAS; MPH locally). The review of MPH applications will begin after February 15, 2010. For more information, see the website at <http://www.downstate.edu/publichealth>. When filing your AMCAS application, you should indicate "Combined Medical

Degree/Graduate.” All MD/MPH accepted students begin their MPH studies in June preceding the start of medical school (e.g. June, 2010).

Residency Placement

SUNY Downstate Medical Center has an excellent reputation for clinical preparation and training for residency. Residency placement lists for the past 14 years (including 2009) are posted on the web site at

http://sls.downstate.edu/student_affairs/residency/

Among the institutions where the Class of 2009 went for their residency programs are, Brown, Baylor, Beth Israel, New York-Presbyterian (Columbia), New York Hospital (Cornell), Boston University, Harvard affiliates, Einstein affiliates, NYU, Mount Sinai, UCLA, University of Pennsylvania, Yale, and many others.

According to 2009 data maintained by the Association of American Medical Colleges, SUNY Downstate Medical Center ranks 9th in the number of alumni who are at medical schools or on faculty at medical schools and 10th in the number of alumni who are sitting chairs at medical schools throughout the United States.

Residential Life

SUNY Downstate Medical Center maintains two residential facilities for full-time students in the colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Health Related Professions (CHRP), Master in Public Health, and the School of Graduate Studies. Each of the facilities is located on the Downstate Medical Center Campus, and has 200 standard and apartment style units available for student occupancy. For additional information on residence hall living, please visit our website at

http://sls.downstate.edu/residential_life.

Students may also elect to live off campus. If you are unfamiliar with the borough of Brooklyn and its neighborhoods, go to the Brooklyn-on-line website at **www.brooklynonline.com**. The Office of Residential Life also has a listing of off-campus apartments, which have been submitted for posting by private landlords.

FINANCIAL AID

SUNY Downstate Medical Center is committed to helping students meet their educational expenses through various types of financial assistance. Grants are offered on the basis of need, determined in accordance with Federal regulations. Some scholarships based on academic achievement are available.

The major portion of our assistance is derived from federal and state funding. We offer grants, scholarships, loans and federal College Work Study. Loans are the most common form of assistance. The amount of assistance you may receive is determined by the cost of attendance. Although, the primary responsibility for financing graduate education rests with you, we are able to provide assistance to all students.

To apply for aid, you must submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible after January 1, 2010. To receive priority consideration for aid, you must apply before March 1, 2010. As a Graduate Health Professions student, you must submit parental information on the FAFSA in order to be

considered for grants. We highly recommend you visit our website for further information regarding financial aid. If you are accepted to the College of Medicine, instructions for applying and the institutional application for aid will be mailed to you, but they are also available on the website.

Costs of Education

The 2010-2011 tuition, for the College of Medicine is \$22,800 per year for New York State residents, and \$40,640 per year for out of state residents. Required fees are approximately \$570 per year. All charges are subject to change. Estimated budgets for each of the four years are posted on the financial aid section of the website under “costs.” Go to http://sls.downstate.edu/financial%5Faid/costs/cost_com.html.

Living expenses will vary depending upon the type of accommodations and lifestyle selected by you; however, aid will only be based on your cost of attendance as determined by the Office of Financial Aid, not your lifestyle choices. You should always try to economize to the greatest extent possible so as to prevent unnecessary indebtedness.

According to the Association of American Medical Colleges, private medical schools reported an average indebtedness level of their 2008 graduating students of \$173,304. For 2008, the average medical school indebtedness of our graduates was \$112,159.

ADMISSION INFORMATION

Admissions Policy

The Committee on Admissions considers the total qualifications of each applicant without regard to sex, race, color, creed, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, marital status or disability. Decisions regarding admission are based on multiple factors including prior academic performance; completion of the courses required for admission; the potential for academic success including performance on standardized tests such as the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT); communication skills, character, personal skills, health related experiences and motivation for medicine. Admissions preference is given to New York State residents, although qualified out of state residents are encouraged to apply and are accepted. We welcome and encourage applications from women and members of groups underrepresented in medicine.

Requirements for Admission

You must have completed at least 90 semester credits of study from a Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) regionally accredited (e.g. Middle States) college or university at the time of application. We give admissions preference to applicants who have earned, or will have earned a bachelor’s degree in a regionally accredited college or university. If you were educated abroad, a minimum of two full time semesters (one academic year) of college study at an accredited college/university in the United States or Canada prior to application is required. In addition, you must demonstrate English proficiency, both verbally and in writing, if your prior instruction was in another language.

If a substantial amount of your education has been completed abroad, or if you have completed science prerequisites abroad, you are required to submit an educational credentials evaluation from an approved agency, such as World Education Services (WES). A list of additional approved credential evaluation agencies is available at: www.naces.org.

Prerequisite courses

English*	6 semester credits
General Biology or Zoology including labs	8 semester credits
General Physics including labs	8 semester credits
Inorganic Chemistry (Gen.) including labs	8 semester credits
Organic Chemistry including labs	8 semester credits

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

How to Apply

We participate in the American Medical Colleges' Application Service (AMCAS) system. You should complete the AMCAS web application at www.aamc.org.

AMCAS

Section for Student Services

Association of American Medical Colleges

2501 M Street, N.W., Lobby-26

Washington, DC 20037-1300

(202) 828-0600

Early applications are strongly recommended. You should complete your AMCAS web application prior to September 1. You are responsible for submitting official transcripts from all the universities you have attended to AMCAS. Please do not send transcripts to our office unless we make a request for an official university transcript.

Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT)

The Committee on Admissions recommends that you take the test in the spring prior to your application year.

* In general, the Committee does not accept English courses taken abroad to fulfill the English admissions requirement. Courses which have the English department prefix are accepted to fulfill the English requirement. If you have an interdisciplinary course or if your college or university accepts other courses to fulfill writing or English requirements, please include a letter from your college stating this information with the Supplemental Application (secondary) form. The Committee on Admissions looks favorably on a program of study that includes at least one year of college mathematics and advanced science subjects. A course in biochemistry is strongly recommended. Other desirable courses include anatomy, physiology, histology, cell biology or neuroscience. The Admissions Committee also seeks individuals who have a demonstrated commitment to community/social service outreach activities.

You may complete a MCAT application on the web at www.aamc.org, or contact:

Association of American Medical Colleges

Medical College Admission Test

2450 N St., NW

Washington, DC 20037

Phone: 202-828-0690

E-mail: mcats@aamc.org

<http://www.aamc.org/students/mcat/start.htm>

If you have taken the MCAT prior to April 2007 you will need to retake the examination. If you are applying for Fall 2010 admission, the latest date you can take the MCAT and still be considered for admission is **September 12, 2009**. Applications are not reviewed without the MCAT scores. Component scores for each MCAT series are looked at individually. Applicants who take the MCAT under non-standard conditions are considered on the same basis as all other applicants.

Letters of Recommendation

***Note:** If you are submitting a packet of letters (e.g. health professions advisor or health professions committee) through AMCAS, Virtual Evals, or Interfolio, we accept all the letters included in the packet. Please make sure that at least one of the letters is from a science professor who has taught you in a biology, chemistry or physics course.*

A letter of recommendation from the premedical advisor or committee at your undergraduate college is required. If your college does not have a premedical committee or advisor, two letters from college professors in two different departments are required. One of the letters must be from a professor in a science department, and the other should be from a professor in your major field of study. Both letters must be from faculty members who have had you in their classes and who are personally acquainted with you.

If you are enrolled in a graduate program, your faculty advisor/major professor must submit a letter of recommendation. This should be in addition to the letters specified above.

Additional guidance regarding letters of recommendation is available on the website http://sls.downstate.edu/admissions/medicine/programs/procedures/letters_of_rec.html. Submission of more than the specified number of recommendation letters required is not necessary and will delay the processing of your application. Letters of recommendation should be sent to the **Office of Admissions, 450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 60, Brooklyn, New York 11203**

Supplemental Application and Fee

All applicants must complete a SUNY Downstate Supplemental Application (secondary application). Our Supplemental Application is available as a PDF file from our website at www.downstate.edu. In addition to the service fee charged by AMCAS, the State University of New York (SUNY) requires a non-refundable

application fee of \$80. Please make your check or money order payable to “SUNY” and submit it with your Supplemental Application form to the **Office of Admissions, 450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 60, Brooklyn, New York 11203**. If you have received an AMCAS fee waiver, the SUNY supplemental application fee will also be waived.

Application Deadlines

The deadline for submitting an AMCAS application is December 15, 2009. The deadline for completing your application on file in the Office of Admissions is February 1, 2010. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed after this date. Please note that applicants must make certain that your application is complete. We will make every effort to keep you informed about the completion of your application, in writing. Telephoning the Office of Admissions regarding your admission status will not be necessary, as you will be notified in writing.

A complete application consists of the following:

1. American Medical College Application (AMCAS)
2. SUNY Downstate Medical Center Supplemental Application
3. \$80 non-refundable application fee
4. Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) scores
5. Letters of recommendation

Personal Interview

Invitations for a personal interview are offered only to applicants whose qualifications are competitive for admission. The interview provides a means for the College of Medicine and you to learn more about each other. Applicants are invited for interviews beginning in September.

Notification of Status

Once your application becomes complete, it will be reviewed, and you will be notified of your status in writing. See our website for more information.

Deferrals

Accepted applicants may request a deferral for one year in order to participate in educational activities or social service projects. See our website for more information.

Reapplicants

You must submit a new AMCAS application, a new Supplemental Application and application fee, and new copies of the premedical letters of recommendation (unless you submit a request to the Admissions Office to use the same letters that you submitted last year).

Reapplicants must adhere to the same policies, procedures and deadlines as first time applicants.

Early Decision Program

Applicants who are interested in applying *only* to SUNY Downstate Medical Center may apply for admission as “Early Decision” applicants. AMCAS applications must be on file by August 1, 2009. Decisions are made by October 1, 2009.

Unsuccessful early decision candidates are eligible to apply to other medical schools or be considered under our regular admission process after October 1. All requirements for Early Decision are the same as regular admissions, but the deadlines differ.

Withdrawal of Application

If you decide to withdraw your application from consideration, you must notify the Office of Admissions immediately in writing, or by email at admissions@downstate.edu, or via fax at (718) 270-4775.

ADMISSIONS DEADLINES

June 1, 2009:	Earliest date to file an AMCAS application
August 1, 2009:	Latest date for <i>Early Decision</i> applicants to file an AMCAS application
August 15, 2009:	Latest date for <i>Early Decision</i> applicants to have a <i>completed</i> application on file
December 15, 2009:	Latest date to have a <i>completed</i> application on file with AMCAS
February 1, 2010:	Latest date to have a <i>completed</i> application on file in the Office of Admissions
May 3, 2010:	Latest date to request a deferred acceptance
May 14, 2010:	Latest date for the \$100 tuition deposit refund

IMPORTANT ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

State University of New York Downstate Medical Center
450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 60
Brooklyn, New York 11203-2098
Telephone: (718) 270-2446
Website: www.downstate.edu
Email: admissions@downstate.edu

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID

State University of New York Downstate Medical Center
450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 110
Brooklyn, New York 11203-2098
Telephone: (718) 270-2488

Website: sls.downstate.edu/financial_aid

Email: FinancialAid@downstate.edu

OFFICE OF RESIDENTIAL LIFE

State University of New York Downstate Medical Center

450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 115

Brooklyn, New York 11203-2098

Telephone: (718) 270-1466

Website: sls.downstate.edu/residential_life

Email: residentiallife@downstate.edu

OFFICE OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

State University of New York Downstate Medical Center

450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 1186

Brooklyn, New York 11203-2098

Telephone: (718) 270-3033

Website: sls.downstate.edu/minority_affairs/

Email: oma@downstate.edu

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES / M.D./Ph.D. Program

State University of New York Downstate Medical Center

450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 41

Brooklyn, New York 11203-2098

Telephone: (718) 270-2740

Website: www.downstate.edu/grad

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

State University of New York Downstate Medical Center

450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 43

Brooklyn, New York 11203-2098

Telephone: (718) 270-1065

Website: www.downstate.edu/publichealth

Email: publichealth@downstate.edu

Rev. 2009-06-02