

MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE

AND

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

MEDICAL SCHOOL EARLY ACCEPTANCE PROGRAM (MSEAP)

This Memorandum of Understanding [“MOU”] is executed by and between Meharry Medical College [“Meharry”], a private, not-for-profit educational institution located in Nashville, Tennessee, and Middle Tennessee State University [“MTSU”], a public comprehensive educational institution located in Murfreesboro, Tennessee (individually referenced as “Party” and collectively as “the Parties”). This MOU is to be effective July 1, 2019 through July 31, 2023.

WHEREAS, Meharry is an academic health science center comprised of schools of medicine, dentistry and graduate studies, offering degrees including MD, DDS, PhD and MSPH and committed to training healthcare professionals who will care for people living in medically underserved areas; and

WHEREAS, Meharry Medical College School of Medicine [MMCSOM] has distinguished itself as a top producer of primary care ~~focused~~ physicians with a majority of MD graduates choosing a primary care specialty for residency training; and

WHEREAS, MTSU, which is classified as a doctoral research institution by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, offers undergraduate- and graduate-level degree programs; and, though it does not offer a medical or dental education program, it has established programs of study for students who will pursue a medical or dental degree, post-graduation; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee consistently ranks in the bottom quartile in health statistics; and recently ranked 45th nationally, for overall health outcomes, including parameters such as chronic diseases, premature deaths, and mental health; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee’s poor health measures have been linked to, among other factors, limited access to care, with some of its’ counties ranking among the lowest in the country for ratio of population to primary care physicians; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) and Meharry have an established partnership to assist Tennesseans in pursuit of a medical education by providing financial support to select Tennessee residents enrolled at MTSU and MMCSOM; and

WHEREAS, MTSU and Meharry are dedicated to further collaborating for the expansion of medical education opportunities for Tennessee students and creating a pipeline of primary care physicians to address the challenge of access to quality, affordable healthcare throughout the state of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, MTSU and Meharry are committed to creating an exclusive public-private partnership that will result in an innovative and focused program ("Program") to identify and train students who will commit to a path of study that will culminate in a career as primary care physicians, caring for Tennesseans in underserved areas.

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to work together to increase the number of primary care physicians in rural Tennessee.

WHEREAS, to accomplish this goal, the Parties have created a Medical School Early Acceptance Program [the "Program"] between MMCSOM and MTSU;

WHEREAS, MMCSOM and MTSU desire to establish their respective Program parts and their participation thereto;

THEREFORE, the Parties hereto agree as follows:

- The Medical School Early Acceptance Program [MSEAP] is an undergraduate and medical school educational program administered by MMCSOM and MTSU.
- The Program is a seven-year Program beginning with the participating student's acceptance to the Program as an undergraduate at MTSU and concluding with the participating student's graduation from MMCSOM. The Program consists of three years of undergraduate study (possible scholarship) and four years of medical school scholarship as well as the entry plan into a primary care residency.
- Upon matriculation in the Program, students receive conditional acceptance to MMCSOM, pending continued successful completion of stated benchmarks.
- Students applying for the Program must have a minimum High School overall cumulative GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 system. They must also have earned a minimum Composite ACT score of 28 (or equivalent SAT score).
- Upon meeting minimum requirements, final admission will be determined by a formal interview process administered by a committee composed of the Medical School Admissions Committee (MCSOM) and MTSU representatives.
- Up to fifteen students may be selected to participate in the Program each year contingent upon funding.
- The Program has a prescribed premedical school curriculum that is agreed upon by the MMCSOM and MTSU. Each of these courses must be completed with a grade of "B" or better. Participants are also required to earn the minimum total Medical College Admissions Test [MCAT] score required at the time immediately prior to their matriculation into the MMCSOM program. The current MCAT score is subject to change based on collegiate standards. MTSU and all student participants shall be notified of any changes. Lastly, a student must also maintain professional and personal behavioral standards that comply with those required of all medical students, as provided in the MMCSOM Student Handbook.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

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- Each student selected to participate in a Program must agree to the following:
 - To attend the MSEAP Pre-Med Bridge Program, a three-week summer academic enrichment program that gives admitted MSEAP students a head start on their college education. This challenging joint program combines an intensive personalized academic experience with structured one-on-one learning support to prepare students with the foundational tools necessary to achieve success in the MSEAP program. In the Pre-Med Bridge program, students will spend one-and-a-half weeks at MTSU and one-and-a-half weeks at Meharry for their initial orientation program.
 - To attend a six-week summer academic and clinical enrichment program at MMCSOM each summer beginning the summer following the first and second year at MTSU described in the attached MSEAP appendix.
 - To participate in the MSEAP Academic Societies on-campus activities described in the appendix.
 - To participate in the second year intense formal MCAT Review, complete and submit the MCAT application, and complete and submit the Meharry Medical School application during the third summer of the program.
 - To sit for the MCAT examination in the third summer immediately following the third summer MCAT review; and
 - To release the MCAT scores to Meharry Medical College Admissions Office

The Meharry Medical College School of Medicine (MMCSOM) will provide the following:

- Coordination of annual MSEAP Site Coordinator meeting at MMCSOM
- A six-week summer academic enrichment program for MSEAP participants
- Educational equipment, materials, and supplies for the summer enrichment program
- Clinical exposure to MSEAP participants on the MMCSOM campus
- MSEAP MMCSOM application forms
- Dissemination of financial aid information to students accepted to MMCSOM
- Faculty to participate in the interview process and selection of MSEAP Program participants
- Stipends for MSEAP Program participants during the summer program
- Medical school application workshop
- MSEAP Academic Enrichment Faculty
- Medical School Student Mentors
- Recruitment materials—posters and brochures
- Partial or complete tuition scholarships and financial aid to students satisfactorily completing MTSU portion of the program and entering MMCSOM
- A memorandum of understanding to be signed by the student outlining the financial commitments if the student opts out of the program (appendix).

Middle Tennessee State University will do or provide the following:

- Identify a Site Coordinator to assist with academic advising, mentoring, counseling, and Program coordination [ten percent time and effort]. The MSEAP Site Coordinator is responsible for the following:
 - Participate in the annual Conferences for Pre-Med Advisors
 - Recruit and enroll up to fifteen students in the program each year of the grant
 - Maintain and keep in contact with the full complement of students enrolled in the program.
 - Use 10% time on the Meharry campus.
 - Assist students in understanding and honoring the Program commitments, related to the activities and academic requirements expected for completion of the Program
 - Distribute and receive MSEAP applications
 - Coordinate the MTSU courses taught at MMCSOM
 - Take the lead role in ensuring that the Academic Society for the campus is organized and track the academic progress and activities of all MSEAP participants
 - Provide mentoring, counseling, and academic support for the MSEAP students.
 - Provide MMCSOM with academic progress reports for MSEAP students
 - Assist with the transition of MSEAP students to the MMCSOM campus
 - Coordinate interviews for MSEAP applicants
 - Design and Implement a MSEAP Premedical Curriculum with the assistance of MMCSOM
- Include the MMCSOM MSEAP program as a part of university recruitment materials
- Disseminate institutional financial aid information to students accepted to the Program
- Give special consideration to students in this program for institutional scholarships

Entire Agreement: This MOU constitutes the entire agreement of the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, unless amended by written agreement of the parties.

No Third Parties: This MOU is solely between the Parties hereto. No third party is intended to, nor will be entitled to, rely upon, enforce, or assert that it is a third party beneficiary of the provisions of the MOU.

Governing Law: This MOU will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Tennessee. Any law suit arising from a dispute under this MOU or related to it shall be brought in a federal or state court having competent jurisdiction located in Nashville, Davidson County, Tennessee. Any and all monetary claims against the State of Tennessee, MTSU, its officers, agents and employees in the performance of any responsibility required under the terms of this MOU shall proceed as set forth in T.C.A. § 9-8-307.

Amendments: This MOU may be amended in writing only with the consent of all Parties.

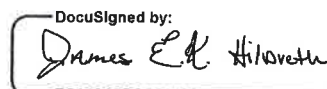
Certification of Authority to sign MOU: The persons signing this MOU on behalf of the participating institutions as Parties hereto certify by said signatures that they are duly authorized to sign this document.



Sidney A. McPhee, Ph.D.
President
Middle Tennessee State University



Date

DocuSigned by:


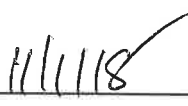
James E.K. Hildreth, Ph.D, M.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer
Meharry Medical College

10/24/2018

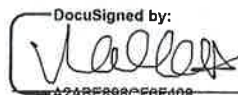
Date



Robert "Bud" Fischer, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Basic and Applied
Sciences
Middle Tennessee State University



Date

DocuSigned by:


Veronica T. Mallett, M.D., MMM
Senior Vice President for Health
Affairs
Dean, School of Medicine

10/27/2018

Date

APPENDIX

MEDICAL SCHOOL EARLY ACCEPTANCE PROGRAM

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING:

Meharry Medical College and Middle Tennessee State University Student Participants

The Medical School Early Acceptance Program (hereinafter "Program") is an undergraduate and medical school educational program administered by Meharry Medical College's School of Medicine (MMCSOM) and Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU). The purpose of the program is to increase the number of Primary Care physicians in rural Tennessee, while serving the medically underserved populations as well as to assist with alleviating health care disparities.

MMCSOM, through a formal agreement with MTSU, have developed a 3+3 early medical school acceptance program that supports admitted students each year with scholarships. Entry into the program is restricted to freshmen students. Students accepted into the program must have a GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 system. The Program has a prescribed premedical school curriculum that is agreed upon by the MMCSOM and MTSU. Each of these courses must be completed with a grade of "B" or better. Participants are also required to earn the minimum total Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) score at the time they apply to sit for the exam. Participants understand and accept that the MMCSOM will change the minimum MCAT score based on annual review of the curriculum. Matriculation into a Program at MMCSOM also is contingent upon approval from the Medical School Admissions committee and maintaining professional and personal behavioral standards that comply with those required of all medical students, as provided in the MMCSOM Student Handbook.

Participants in the program receive a conditional acceptance into the MMCSOM if they maintain a 3.5 GPA and earn the minimum required MCAT score at the time 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. Matriculation in the Program at MMCSOM is contingent upon maintaining professional and personal behavior standards required of medical students.

Meharry Medical College, School of Medicine, will provide the following:

- A six-week summer academic enrichment program for MSEAP participants
- Clinical exposure to MSEAP participants on the MMCSOM campus
- MSEAP MMCSOM application forms
- Dissemination of financial aid information to students accepted to MMCSOM
- Stipends for MSEAP Program participants during the summer program
- Medical school application workshop
- MSEAP Academic Enrichment Faculty

- Medical School Student Mentors
- Provide partial or complete tuition scholarships and financial aid to students satisfactorily completing this program and entering MMCSOM

Middle Tennessee State University will do or provide the following:

- A MSEAP Site Coordinator is responsible for the following:
 - Maintain and keep in contact with the full complement of students enrolled in the program
 - Assure that students understand and honor the commitment, participate in each of the activities, and complete the program
 - Distribute and receive MSEAP applications
 - Provide mentoring, counseling, and academic support for the MSEAP students
 - Assist with the transition of MSEAP students to the MMCSOM campus
 - Coordinate interviews for MSEAP applicants

Participant's additional criteria for continued participation and satisfactory completion of program:

- Attend the MSEAP Pre-Med Bridge Program, a three-week summer academic enrichment program that gives admitted MSEAP students a head start on their college education. This challenging joint program combines an intensive personalized academic experience with structured one-on-one learning support to prepare students with the foundational tools necessary to achieve success in the MSEAP program. In the Pre-Med Bridge program, students will spend one-and-a-half weeks at MTSU and one-and-a-half weeks at MMCSOM for their initial orientation program.
- Attend a six-week summer academic and clinical enrichment program at MMCSOM each summer beginning the summer following the first and second year of college described in the attached MSEAP appendix
- Participate in the MSEAP Academic Societies on campus activities described in the appendix
- Participate in the second year intense formal MCAT Review, complete and submit the MCAT application, and complete and submit the MMCSOM application during the third summer of the program
- Sit for the MCAT examination in the third summer immediately following the third summer MCAT review
- Release the MCAT scores to MMCSOM Admissions Office

Failure to comply with all set criteria will result in immediate dismissal from the Program. Scholarships are awarded annually and may be renewed each year contingent upon satisfactory academic performance and progress through the bachelor and medical school programs. Participants who voluntarily leave the program at any time must reimburse the Program all funds expended on behalf of the Program participant. Participants are not allowed to take a Leave of Absence from the Program. Leave of Absences are considered as termination from the Program.

Your signature affixed to this document affirms you have read, understand, and agree to its contents.

Signature

Date

Print Full Name

First Name, Last Name Project Director

Date