

## Appendix A

### Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine Early Assurance Program

The purpose of this document is to describe the guidelines and requirements for undergraduate students who are enrolled in the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine (“OU-HCOM”) 4+4 or 3+4 Early Assurance Program (“EAP”). The goals of the program are to:

- Attract highly talented high school students to an affiliated undergraduate institution, (“Affiliate Institution”), and then to Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine to complete both their undergraduate and doctor of osteopathic medicine degrees.
- Promote continued cooperation and collaboration between the Affiliate Institution and Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine.
- Increase the potential number of future primary care physicians practicing in Ohio.
- Increase the potential applicant pool for the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine campuses.

#### Application Procedure

To enroll in the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine Early Assurance Program, high school seniors must apply to the Affiliate Institution at the prescribed application date during their senior year. Affiliate Institutions will make their admission decisions in accordance with their policies and procedures. Applicants must be admitted to the Affiliate Institution before they can be considered for the EAP.

To be eligible for admission to the EAP, applicants must qualify as Ohio residents and, in accordance with OU-HCOM policy, be U.S. citizens or hold permanent resident status. Applicants will be interviewed for conditional admission by OU-HCOM in according to timelines outlined in affiliate agreements. The maximum number of students chosen by OU-HCOM for the EAP each year will be defined by the agreement with the Affiliate Institution.

If chosen by OU-HCOM, successful applicants will be granted conditional admission to the OU-HCOM program prior to freshman matriculation at the Affiliate Institution. Priority will be given to those EAP candidates who submit application information as described above. Additional EAP candidates may be considered up until the beginning of their sophomore year if there are EAP positions available in their respective cohorts. Non-freshman EAP application processes will be specified in affiliate agreements. Students accepted into the OU-HCOM Early Assurance Program will receive priority consideration for placement at the OU-HCOM campus in the geographic region of their Affiliate Institution, if requested on their secondary application.

## Student Responsibilities

Students who have been admitted into the EAP will have the choice of completing a 3+4 option that includes 3 years of study at the Affiliate Institution with completion of the undergraduate degree during the first year of medical school at OU-HCOM, or the 4+4 option completing all 4 years of undergraduate studies at the Affiliate Institution. A student may change from the 3+4 track to the 4+4 track only with permission of the Affiliate Institution and OU-HCOM and only if there is a space available in the 4+4 cohort that has already been accepted for that entrance year. EAP participants pursuing either option will be conditionally offered acceptance into the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine program. Students will receive final acceptance into the OU-HCOM program if ALL of the following conditions are met:

1. Obtain a cumulative grade point average of 3.7 and a science cumulative grade point average of 3.6 or higher upon completion of the undergraduate degree at the affiliate institution. The cumulative grade point average used to determine whether this requirement has been satisfied will be obtained from the AACOMAS application submitted by the student to the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine. (For students who choose to complete their final year of undergraduate studies at the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, please see No. 8 below.)
2. Maintain uninterrupted enrollment within a program offered by the Affiliate Institution every semester (summer terms optional) until undergraduate degree program requirements have been satisfied. Enrollment in a degree granting program at any other University will be considered an interruption in enrollment. Study Abroad programming and other concurrent course work at another institution may be allowable with prior approval from OU-HCOM and the Affiliate Institution.
3. Submit an AACOMAS application for admission to the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine no later than June 10 of the year before planned enrollment in OU-HCOM.
  - a. Students must check OU-HCOM as their application designation on the AACOMAS application.
  - b. Students must submit all required secondary application materials to the OU-HCOM Admissions Office. The secondary application fee will be waived.
  - c. Successful completion of the criminal records check must be confirmed by the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine before final acceptance to OU-HCOM is issued.
  - d. The Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) requirement will be waived unless otherwise stated by an affiliate institution agreement. However, in an effort to prepare the student for the rigor of standardized exams that are inherent with the medical education process, EAP participants will be required to take an

MCAT practice test administered by the Affiliate Institution to gauge standardized test taking proficiency. The practice exams will take place in the spring semester of the junior year for 3+4 and 4+4 program participants. Poor performance on the MCAT practice exams may result in the need for additional support and testing to enhance student performance in medical school.

4. Except for the MCAT requirement, students in the Early Assurance Program must also complete and meet all prerequisite course requirements for students accepted to the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine degree program, including a minimum of 6 semester hours of English/or its equivalent, 6 semester hours of behavioral science/or its equivalent, 8 semester hours of biology, 8 semester hours of general chemistry, 8 semester hours of organic chemistry, and 8 semester hours of physics, all with the required lab where applicable. The required course work must be at a grade of C or better. Credit by exam may be accepted with proper documentation from the affiliate institution that the articulated credit satisfies the requirements in this section.
5. EAP participants will engage in clinical observations with physicians in the geographic area of the Affiliate Institution to gain further insight and experience into a career in primary care medicine. EAP participants will also be linked with current OU-HCOM students to provide insight in to life as a medical student. Where appropriate, EAP participants will be invited to participate in OU-HCOM programming and activities designed to provide a first-hand look into the medical school experience and to adapt to the OU-HCOM culture and community.
6. Students in the Early Assurance Program with conditional admission status must also meet all other requirements for students accepted to Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine degree program, including the OU-HCOM Health and Technical Standards for admission, matriculation and graduation from the medical school.
7. Maintain yearly contact with the Affiliate Institution pre-professional adviser, or designee, to insure that all requirements are being satisfied for direct admission into the OU-HCOM degree program. EAP participants will also meet periodically with OU-HCOM admissions office personnel during the program for additional insight into the expectations and opportunities associated with the medical school experience. Upon completion of the undergraduate degree program, the pre-professional adviser, or designee, will provide notification to the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine Admissions Office if all requirements for direct admission have been satisfied.
8. Students enrolled in the 3+4 option of the Early Assurance Program may complete their final year of undergraduate studies at the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine. Before entering medical school, the following conditions must be met:

- a. Students must have completed a minimum of 90 semester credit hours, or the requisite number of credit hours defined by the affiliate institution, applicable to the undergraduate degree with a cumulative grade point average of 3.7 or higher and a science cumulative grade point average of 3.6 or higher.
- b. Students must have completed all required courses in the major field of choice at the respective affiliate institution.
- c. The choice of major must be compatible with a transfer of credits from the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine for granting the affiliate institution degree.

EAP participants must successfully complete both semesters of the first year of medical school at OU-HCOM. With proper certification of completion of the first year of medical school, or a sufficient number of hours to satisfy the affiliate institution degree requirements, the institution will accept a maximum of 30 semester hours for this coursework and confer the appropriate undergraduate degree from the affiliate institution.

### **Loss of Conditional Admission Status**

A student in this program will lose Conditional Admission status into Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine program if ANY of the following occur during the completion of the undergraduate degree program:

1. Withdrawal from the affiliate institution or transfer to a degree-granting program at another university.
2. For those choosing the 4+4 option, failure to complete the undergraduate degree program within a period of six years. For those choosing the 3+4 option, failure to complete the three-year portion of the undergraduate degree within a period of 5 years. An exception may be made for medical conditions that can be substantiated according to applicable OU-HCOM policy or military deployment.
3. Violate a standard of academic or ethical conduct policy or any other applicable policy of the Affiliate Institution where the potential outcome could result in a failing assignment or exam grade, a failing course grade, or disciplinary action (including but not limited to probation, suspension, expulsion or removal from the university). All such violations will be handled through appropriate Affiliate Institution policies and notification will be sent to OU-HCOM to reflect the infraction(s) and any institutional action. The determination of whether such a violation could result in the removal of Early Assurance admission status into the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine degree program will be determined by the Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine Student Selection Committee. Such a determination is appealable to the Executive Dean of Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine.

4. Failure to submit the AACOMAS application and all required secondary application materials to the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine by the specified deadlines.

Failure to complete the program requirements described under the section entitled “Student Responsibilities” and/or program violations described under the section entitled “Loss of Early Assurance Admission Status” will result in the revocation of conditional admission status to the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine degree program.

However, students in this program who lose their conditional admission status may still choose to apply for admission to the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine. Should a student subsequently choose to apply to Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, he or she will need to proceed through the entirety of the regular medical school admissions process, including taking the MCAT, submission of letters of recommendation from natural science faculty, and interviewing with Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine Student Selection Committee, should an invitation to interview be extended.