

APPLICATION – prerequisites

Applicants must have an awarded or pending undergraduate (Bachelor's or equivalent) degree. Applicants' transcripts must report satisfactory grades in one year (two semesters or equivalent) of general Biology, and two years (four semesters or equivalent) of Chemistry (including 2 semesters each of Inorganic and of Organic; though 1 semester of Inorganic can be waived based upon the undergraduate institution's requirements). One year (two semesters or equivalent) of general Physics and one semester or equivalent of Biochemistry are recommended but not required. Undergraduate majors in biological and related sciences are common but are not required.

The MS in BMS curriculum is not suitable for individuals with a Bachelor of Medicine (BM) or equivalent degree from institutions not in the United States; such applicants will not be accepted.

Results

Among recently (2005-2006 and 2006-2007) accepted BMS applicants, the average (normalized for the number accepted) was about 3.30 for GPA and 27 (about the 60th percentile) for cumulative MCAT score. In this time about two of three applicants were accepted by BMS and admitted by WSU Graduate School.

APPLICATION

Details and links for application are at www.med.wayne.edu/gradprog/programs/bms.htm. A significant proportion of the application is on line. Application deadlines are June 1st for the fall and October 1st for the winter terms. Complete applications must be received no later than August 1st and December 1st to assure evaluation for acceptance. After August 1st and December 1st there is no such assurance, with the exception of providing a copy of a current professional school application's dated wait list notification.

Application must include:

[1] Graduate online application, link on the BMS web site; this is a simultaneous application to BMS and to the WSU Graduate School.

[2] A copy, land mailed directly to BMS, of a current official Registrar issued (with seal and registrar signature) academic transcript from all academic institutions previously enrolled. Copies of online academic records and grade reports are not acceptable. The Program requires an earned cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 on the degree awarded or degree pending transcript; consideration may be given for qualified acceptance with an earned cumulative GPA of somewhat less than 3.00.

[3] A copy, land mailed directly to BMS, of your most recent standardized MCAT, DAT, PAT or GRE (General test only) exam score report.

[4] Statement of Purpose, link and guidelines on the BMS web site.

[5] Three (3) references, see guidelines on the BMS web site, can be submitted electronically (preferred) through the online application or land mailed directly to BMS.

Basic Medical Sciences (BMS)

Masters of Science

www.med.wayne.edu/gradprog/programs/bms.htm

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OVERVIEW

The Master's of Science in Basic Medical Sciences (BMS) Program of the Wayne State University (WSU) School of Medicine (SoM) offers a graduate-level basic science curriculum to individuals with an excellent undergraduate academic record, whose professional career goals are to matriculate into a professional school [e.g. medical (MD- or DO-track), dental (DDS), graduate (Ph.D.), pharmacy (Pharm.D.)] but whose undergraduate academic record did not qualify them for admission. The BMS Program offers such individuals the opportunity to demonstrate their academic aptitude in a graduate level basic medical science curriculum, the results of which can enhance their professional school application to gain admission. BMS Program policy is that **"A BMS student admitted to a professional program before completion of the MS in BMS degree is unconditionally released from the BMS Program"**. This policy has benefited many BMS students who gained professional school admission before completing the MS in BMS degree.

Results

About one-third of recently enrolled BMS students gained acceptance to Wayne State University Medical School. Additional were accepted to other MD-track medical schools (e.g. Michigan State Univ, Penn State Univ, Tulane Univ, Univ Michigan-Ann Arbor), DO-track medical schools (e.g. Michigan State Univ), dental schools (e.g. Univ Detroit-Mercy, Univ Michigan-Ann Arbor), Physician's Assistants program (e.g. Wayne State Univ), and to graduate school (e.g. WSU SoM, Dept Pathology), among others.

BMS CURRICULUM

This is a graduate-level, not a post-baccalaureate, basic science curriculum of significantly broader scope and both greater intensity and depth than an undergraduate or a post-baccalaureate curriculum. The curriculum's courses are taught by faculty who also teach the medical school's basic science curriculum. The curriculum encompasses selected CORE and elective courses from selected graduate Departments and Programs including basic sciences (Anatomy & Cell Biology, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Cancer Biology, Immunology & Microbiology, Molecular Biology & Genetics, Molecular & Cellular Toxicology, Pathology, Pharmacology, Physiology, Psychiatry & Behavioral Neuroscience), and a few clinical sciences (Family Medicine & Public Health, Radiology). The MS in BMS degree is a Plan B master's degree that requires a Master's Essay guided and graded by an appointed three member graduate faculty committee.

BMS CORE Courses: The BMS curriculum's CORE courses are didactic graduate-level courses critical to demonstrating an academic aptitude for the basic science courses mandatory in medical, dental and related curricula; they are neither equivalent to, nor can be transferred to fulfill, WSU medical school requirements. CORE courses include, for example, BMB7010-General Biochemistry Lecture, IM7020-Fundamentals of Microbiology, PHC7010-Pharmacology Lecture, PSL7010-Basic Graduate Physiology Lecture I, and PTH7500-Systemic Pathophysiology. A minimum of one CORE course from at least four (4) Departments/Programs (e.g. BMB, IM, PSL, PTH) is required for the MS in BMS degree.

BMS Elective Courses: The BMS curriculum has selected elective courses that are numerous and encompass many disciplines (Departments/Programs). Electives contribute to the 34 earned cumulative BMS curriculum credit hours required for the MS in BMS degree.

Results

Over the '04 fall to '07 winter terms, the average number of enrolled BMS students was 110, and they had an earned cumulative 3.32 average and 3.43 median GPA.

TIME TO DEGREE

As noted before, BMS Program policy is that **"A BMS student admitted to a professional program before completion of the MS in BMS degree is unconditionally released from the BMS Program"**. This policy has benefited many BMS students who gained professional school admission after accumulating many, about 20, earned BMS curriculum credits but before earning the MS in BMS degree. All degree requirements can be easily accomplished with two years of full-time enrollment. Rarely can the MS in BMS degree be completed in one year of full-time enrollment.

COSTS & FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Consult the Graduate School web site, www.gradschool.wayne.edu/htm, for current graduate course tuition and fees. Eight credits a semester, by the Graduate School's criterion, is a full time graduate student load. BMS students average about 8 credits a term in part because this is a much more rigorous curriculum than undergraduate curricula.

Consult www.gradschool.wayne.edu/htm for graduate student financial aid. The BMS Program has no financial support available.

Results

BMS students have obtained scholarships from the Graduate School and other sources; academic record and progress commonly are the major criteria.