Articulation Agreement

Grand Valley State University
and
Michigan State University College of Human Medicine

for the Early Assurance Program for Admission to MSU-CHM
for qualified GVSU premedical students.

Michigan State University College of Human Medicine (MSU-CHM) and Grand Valley State University (GVSU) agree to establish a cooperative program of premedical/medical education by which premedical students at GVSU shall be granted an early assurance of admission to MSU-CHM through the Early Assurance Program. This agreement shall be in full effect upon final signatures by the respective administrators and other appropriate institution representatives.

Program Rationale: The Early Assurance Program (hereinafter, “Program”) provides an enhanced opportunity for admission to medical school to GVSU premedical students who are interested in practicing in an underserved area of medicine. Preference for admission to the Program will be given to those who otherwise might not have access to or be familiar with the intricacies of premedical preparation and medical school application by virtue of being a first generation college student, graduating from a low income high school as defined by the United States Department of Education, being eligible or a recipient of an undergraduate PELL grant, graduating from an underserved (health professional shortage) urban or rural area, or demonstrating interest in a high need medical specialty area. By identifying and developing such students (see Attachment A), GVSU will make a substantial contribution to the physician workforce of the future and enhance the GVSU’s presence as a partner in the West Michigan health care community.

Similarly, MSU-CHM will benefit from an enhanced relationship with a recognized and respected university in West Michigan and by being ensured of a continued pipeline of well-qualified students who can fulfill the mission of MSU-CHM and who will likely return to West Michigan to practice. Further, MSU-CHM will benefit from the consistency in the preparation and credentials of the students who are endorsed by GVSU as applicants to MSU-CHM, thereby reducing the effort and time required to determine an applicant’s potential for success and in meeting the mission of the medical school.

GVSU agrees to engage in broad-based outreach to develop, identify and endorse premedical students for consideration in the Program and to monitor the progress of all endorsed premedical students to ensure their continued qualification for the Program. Specifically, GVSU agrees to:

1. Market to and recruit highly qualified students who are likely to practice in an underserved urban or rural location.
2. Identify students who are first generation college students, graduates from low income high schools, PELL grant eligible or recipient, graduate of an underserved (health professional shortage) urban or rural area high school, likely to practice in an underserved
urban or rural location or demonstrate interest in a high need medical specialty in a health professional shortage area.

3. Ensure the continued course offerings for the appropriate academic preparation of premedical students for the GVSU students in 1 and 2 above.

4. Advertise and make the Program accessible to all current premedical students at GVSU.

5. Orient all incoming students to the Program. Such students will hereafter be identified as "pre-endorsed students".

6. Permit students to self-identify for consideration for the Program.

7. Monitor the progress of and provide developmental opportunities for premedical students consistent with current practice.

8. Develop and implement the mechanism to endorse those premedical students who have participated in or have met the developmental portion of the Program and who evidence the strong potential to be extraordinary medical practitioners in keeping with the mission of MSU-CHM. GVSU shall endorse only those students who meet the requirements for admission to MSU-CHM.

9. Provide the opportunity for endorsed premedical students to conduct research at GVSU or an associated institution.

10. Grant a baccalaureate degree to each pre-endorsed and endorsed student upon successful completion of GVSU graduation requirements.

MSU-CHM agrees to consider premedical students receiving the endorsement of GVSU for the Program. Specifically, MSU-CHM agrees to:

1. Review in accordance with the timeline all endorsed premedical students who meet the minimum academic standards of a 3.0 overall GPA, 3.0 science GPA, and a minimum 25 MCAT composite score, with the biological science score being equal to or greater than 8.

2. Accept for review American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) -equivalent application information submitted by endorsed GVSU premedical students in their junior year or have earned 70 or more credit hours.

3. Waive secondary application fees for endorsed students applying to the Program.

4. Accept for review MSU-CHM secondary application information materials submitted by endorsed GVSU premedical students.

5. Invite for an admissions interview in accordance with the timeline any endorsed GVSU premedical students that MSU-CHM deems qualified and most competitive for admission according to provisions of the Program.

6. Present the interviewed endorsed students to the CHM Committee on Admissions. MSU-CHM admissions committee shall make admissions decisions in its sole discretion.

7. Notify those endorsed students selected for admission of acceptance to MSU-CHM in accordance with the timeline.

8. Communicate each admitted student’s Early Admission status to AMCAS.

9. Reserve five (5) positions for endorsed GVSU premedical students to be admitted to MSU-CHM through the Program.

10. Grant the Doctor of Medicine degree to students who successfully complete the MSU-CHM requirements for graduation.

11. Participate with GVSU in marketing the Program.
Both institutions agree to the following criteria for students:

To be eligible for endorsement in the Program, GVSU students shall:
1. Demonstrate an active interest in and knowledge of medicine through:
   a. participation in the GVSU Premedical Club
   b. obtaining direct experience with the delivery of health care through volunteering, employment, and/or shadowing in medical/clinical settings
2. Demonstrate commitment to the service of humanity through consistent community service activities
3. Maintain regular contact with the GVSU premedical advisor during their time of study at GVSU
4. Meet minimum academic standards to be considered for admission as specified in this agreement
5. Evidence leadership through participation in extra-curricular, academic, research, organizational, volunteer, employment activities
6. Complete an academic major of their choice
7. Demonstrate the professional behavior expectations of competence, honesty, compassion, respect for others, and responsibility in their academic, clinical and volunteer experiences

The endorsed students shall:
1. Subscribe to the mission of MSU-CHM to meet the needs of patients, families, and communities by providing medical care with respect and dignity with particular concern for and responsiveness to medically underserved populations and communities.
2. Complete all medical school prerequisites at GVSU. Any transfer student who has completed prerequisite courses at another institution may be accepted as a candidate for the Program provided the courses completed at another institution are approved by both GVSU and MSU-CHM.
3. Provide MSU-CHM with transcripts reflecting all college courses and credits.
4. Complete secondary essays and submit AMCAS equivalent information to MSU-CHM.
5. Submit letters of evaluation and recommendation as required by the MSU-CHM admission process.
6. Participate in a MSU-CHM Admission Interview Day.
7. Be allowed to accept or reject the offer of Early Assurance admission to MSU-CHM and, furthermore, to be considered for regular admission without prejudice should the student choose to reject the offer of Early Assurance admission and apply to MSU-CHM as well as other medical schools as a regular applicant.
8. If admitted and choosing to attend CHM, submit an AMCAS application indicating the MSU-CHM Early Assurance Program acceptance in accordance with time guidelines set by MSU-CHM.
9. Meet Technical Standards as in place for their MSU-CHM entering class.
10. Submit to any criminal background check as in place for their MSU-CHM entering class.
11. Submit to any drug testing that may be in place for their MSU-CHM entering class.
12. Meet any other pre-matriculation expectations in place for their year of matriculation.
13. Be eligible for scholarships, dual or combined degree, or any special program offerings, benefits or accommodations as available for their MSU-CHM entering class.
Time Line and Program Implementation:

Beginning at the effective date of this agreement:

- Marketing and recruitment: On-going
- GVSU premedical students intending to matriculate in 2010 are eligible for endorsement according to the conditions of the Program.
- The development and implementation of internships, academic requirements, and other ‘developmental’ aspects of this agreement shall be communicated to and made available to all pre-endorsed students.
- Endorsement of students: Winter of the application year (junior year or have earned 70 or more credit hours)
- Notification to MSU-CHM of endorsed premedical students: Spring of the application year
- Endorsed students who are invited for interview will have the interview completed by May 15 of the application year
- MCAT: Endorsed students will need to take the MCAT no later than May 1 of their application year
- Notification of admissions decision: June of the application year
- Admitted endorsed students who accept admission to MSU-CHM will notify MSU-CHM and submit an AMCAS application designating the MSU-CHM EAP within two weeks of the offer of acceptance.

Program Publicity:
Both institutions agree that all program materials, media releases, and interview comments concerning the Program shall be mutually approved prior to publication, release, or comment.

Program Review: The Program shall be reviewed by representatives of both institutions annually during the course of a three year pilot. Upon satisfactory review of the conditions and effectiveness of the Program, the Program shall undergo a comprehensive review every third year. The Program may be suspended or revoked only upon written request by either institution with sixty (60) day advance notice to the Assistant Dean for Admissions (MSU-CHM) or the Vice President for Health (GVSU).
Attachment A – Development of GVSU Students

Grand Valley State University agrees to identify and develop students who plan to apply to the Program. Specifically, GVSU agrees to:

Step I: GVSU Marketing and Recruitment:

1. Identify, market, and recruit high school students who meet the requirements of the Program for consideration.
2. Utilize various GVSU departments and other appropriate sources to identify, market, and recruit targeted GVSU students.
3. Conduct outreach activities with a variety of organizations affiliated with GVSU to identify, market, and recruit targeted GVSU students.

Step II: GVSU Advising and Support:

1. Provide opportunity for Pre-endorsed premedical students to participate in the Grand Rapids Medical Education and Research Center’s Pre-Medical Career Exploration prior to the application year.
2. Provide the opportunity for Pre-endorsed premedical students to conduct research at GVSU, MSU-CHM, and/or other associated institutions.
3. Require continued participation in the Premedical Club.
4. Offer seminars and/or workshops aimed at informing and recruiting premedical students who may be interested in the Program especially those who reside in areas that meet the Program criteria.
5. Offer seminars and/or workshops aimed at serving geographic locations that meet the Program criteria.
6. Develop volunteer partnerships with local underserved/rural health clinics for Pre-endorsed premedical students.
7. Collaborate with the GVSU Service Learning Center to establish local premedical student outreach opportunities.
8. Encourage Pre-endorsed students to consider international education.
9. Identify internship opportunities for Pre-endorsed premedical students at GVSU, MSU-CHM, as well as, national and international internship prospects.

Provide encouragement to premedical students who are interested in being considered for endorsement to complete one of the following General Education Themes: The Human Journey; Gender, Society, and Culture; Ethics; Death and Dying; American Mosaic, or Health, Illness and Healing.

Step III: GVSU and MSU-CHM additional developmental activities for endorsed GVSU students who accept the offer of early assurance admission to MSU CHM:

1. GVSU agrees to develop and require participation in a volunteer/service learning program targeted to the rural and/or underserved population.
2. GVSU agrees to require endorsed students to discuss their Program experience with the clubs/organizations named above in Step I, number 2.
3. MSU-CHM agrees to provide an opportunity for Program students to attend Guest Lectures at MSU-CHM or an affiliated hospital site.
4. MSU-CHM agrees to provide an opportunity for Program students to shadow grand rounds at MSU-CHM or an affiliate hospital site.
5. MSU-CHM agrees to provide early information related to MSU-CHM housing options and additional transition information.

MSU-CHM Review and Revisions August 2008
GVSU Review and Revisions, September 2008
Attachment B – Required Premedical Course Work

Both institutions agree to the following premedical course work for students to be eligible for endorsement under the Assurance of Admission Review Program:

- Completion of the following prerequisite requirements:
  - 1 year of General Biology (BIO 120/121 Students who are not required to take BIO 121 for their chosen major may substitute BIO 375/376 or BMS 290/291).
  - 1 year of General Chemistry (CHM 115/116)
  - 1 year of Organic Chemistry (CHM 241/242 or CHM 245/247 & CHM 246/248).
  - 6 credits of Writing/Composition. Completion of the Honor’s College curriculum may substitute for honor’s students. Students waiving WRT 305 may substitute one SWS course.
  - Humanities/Social Sciences courses selected from the GVSU General Education curriculum
  - Two upper level biological science courses including CHM 461, Biochemistry.

- MSU-CHM agrees to notify GVSU of any changes to the required premedical education requirements
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have signed this Agreement as of this 19th day of September, 2008.

GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

By:  
Thomas J. Haas  
President

By:  
Gayle R. Davis  
Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

By:  
Jean M. Nagelkerk  
Vice Provost for Health

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

By:  
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Dean, College of Human Medicine