



MEDICAL SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS WITH GVSU

Grand Valley State University (GVSU) has either Early Assurance or Preferred Relationship agreements with five medical schools in Michigan. These agreements allow GVSU pre-med students, who meet criteria identified by the medical schools, to apply early in their junior or senior year of college.

GVSU has **Early Assurance Program** (EAP) agreements with:

- Central Michigan University College of Medicine
- Michigan State University College of Human Medicine
- Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Wayne State University School of Medicine

GVSU has a **Preferred Relationship** agreement with Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine (WMed), which allows qualified students to apply through the **WMedStart Early Decision Program** and gives GVSU students preferred status when applying through the regular application cycle.

Benefits of applying to EAP or Early Decision

- When applying through either early admission program, your application is part of a much smaller pool of applicants than the normal admissions process.
- You have the potential to secure your medical school admission early in the admission cycle. This allows you to focus on your final year of classes or maybe even try something different.
- Applying to these programs saves the cost of applying to multiple medical schools, which can cost hundreds of dollars. (EAPs are free applications and WMedStart is a \$100 app fee)
- Students admitted through MSU CHM's EAP are able to select their campus location for their pre-clinical years (Grand Rapids or East Lansing)

Early Assurance Programs vs. Early Decision

Each medical school sets the criteria for program eligibility including GPA and other requirements. Both programs allow students to apply to medical school as early as their junior year, with similar timelines for applications, interviews and decisions:

	Early Assurance Programs*	WMedStart Early Decision Program*
Applications Available	December	November
Applications Due	Early February	January 31
Interviews	Late February/Early March	March
MCAT due	A specified date in April-June as determined by med school	Score must be received prior to matriculation (can be taken after admission decision)
Final Admission Decision	April-July as determined by med school	Early April

*Actual dates vary by institution and by year, for current timelines, visit www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising/eap and <http://med.wmich.edu/node/298>



EAP vs. Early Decision continued

Although timeframes are similar, there are significant differences between Early Assurance Programs and the WMedStart Early Decision Program.

Early Assurance Programs provide opportunities for early assurance of medical school admission for students interested in becoming physicians in an underserved region or with underserved populations (and who have demonstrated this interest). Preference is given to students who are the first generation to attend college, graduated from a low-income high school, are eligible for need-based grants, and who express and support their interest in a high-need medical specialty area. Students may apply to multiple EAPs simultaneously. Once admitted, students may only accept their admission at **one** EAP partner medical school and the decision is binding, meaning they are ineligible to apply to other medical schools through regular admission.

For the WMed Early Decision program, students must have a 3.70 overall GPA and 3.5 science GPA, as well as a 30 ACT or 1350 SAT score to qualify for admission consideration. Once an application is submitted to WMed, students cannot apply to other medical schools (including EAP schools). The offer of admission at WMed will be dependent upon the student achieving a minimum MCAT score at the 40th percentile prior to matriculation. If admission is offered, and the student decides to accept their admission, it is binding and they cannot apply to other medical schools.

For both programs, if a student is not selected for an interview, or is informed that they will not be offered admission, they are free to apply to other medical schools through the regular medical school admission cycle (starting in June each year).

How to decide whether to apply EAP or Early Decision:

First, carefully research medical schools. If you feel that one or more of the five medical schools would allow you to fulfill your goals, schedule an appointment with a Pre-Medical Advisor. Your advisor can review each school's criteria, discuss the admission process, and answer any questions you may have about the programs.

To schedule an appointment with a Pre-Medical Advisor in the CLAS Academic Advising Center, visit www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising and click on "Schedule an Appointment"

How get more information:

For the Early Assurance Programs (including current timelines), visit www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising/eap

For the WMed Preferred Relationship and Early Decision Program, visit <http://med.wmich.edu/node/298>