Eligibility Requirements

1. What are OHSU’s eligibility requirements for the MD program?

OHSU’s eligibility requirements are as follows:

- Minimum cumulative Total GPA (as reported by AMCAS) of 2.80.
- Minimum cumulative score of 497 on the highest eligible MCAT. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on MCAT screening, our interview screeners will base their decisions for the 2022 cycle interviews on the information that is available at the time of application review. Eligible MCATs for the 2021 admissions cycle are those recorded in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and January 2022.
- United States citizenship, DACA status, or permanent resident status with a green card indicating permanent residency in the U.S. Please note that our dual degree programs do not accept DACA status at this time.

2. If I do not meet these requirements, why did I receive a notification to complete the secondary application?

In an effort to expedite the distribution of secondary applications to our applicants, we do not prescreen AMCAS applications for eligibility requirements. Before submitting your secondary application, please review your application to determine if you meet all of the above listed requirements. It is the applicant’s responsibility to review the eligibility requirements.

3. What will happen if I do not meet the eligibility requirements but still decide to submit a secondary application?

Your application will be processed and reviewed by our office and we will determine that your application cannot continue further. If you submit your secondary application and you do not meet all of the above eligibility requirements, we will not refund your processing fee under any circumstances.

Mission-Based Groups

1. Does OHSU give preference to certain applicants?

Yes, OHSU does give preference to the following applicants:

- Residents of Oregon
- Non-resident applicants with Oregon Heritage. The School of Medicine uses the Oregon Heritage Policy for student selection, but it is not used as a basis for determining
residency, and therefore the tuition a student pays. Oregon Heritage is defined as 1) A student with one or both parents residing in Oregon at the time of application, 2) A student who graduated from high school in Oregon with at least two years of attendance at a high school in Oregon, or 3) A student who graduated from any regionally accredited college or university in Oregon and attended at least two years at any regionally accredited college or university in Oregon no more than 7 years prior to the time of application.

- Applicants who are WICHE-certified in Allopathic Medicine.
- MD/PhD candidates
- MD/MPH candidates
- Non-resident applicants with superior achievements in academics and other related experiences. For the 2022 cycle, superior achievements are defined as significant experiences in healthcare, leadership, extracurricular activities, and/or community service activities.
- Applicants whose personal experience demonstrates the ability to overcome adversity and contributes to diversity in the provision of healthcare.

The School of Medicine Admissions Committee fully recognizes the importance of diversity in its student body and in the physician workforce in providing for effective delivery of health care. Accordingly, the OHSU School of Medicine strongly encourages applications from persons from all socioeconomic, racial, ethnic, religious, and educational backgrounds and from persons from groups underrepresented in medicine. The Committee adheres to a policy of equal opportunity and non-discrimination on the basis of sex, age, race, ethnic origin, religion, disability, military service, sexual orientation, or any other status protected by law.

Letters of Recommendation

1. What are the requirements for letters of recommendation?

Minimum requirements for all applicants are as follows:

- Letters from three college or university teaching faculty from any department. It is recommended that at least one be from a science department teaching faculty member. A letter packet containing at least three individual teaching faculty letters or a premedical committee evaluation report (Committee Letter) may be submitted in lieu of the three separate recommendations.
- Applicants who have been out of college for five years or more may submit two letters from employers and one from a teaching faculty member.
- **It is highly recommended of all applicants that they provide additional non-academic recommendations as well. Applicants should carefully select a well-chosen group of letters that speak to significant experiences in healthcare/physician shadowing and extracurricular accomplishments.**

2. How should my letters of recommendation be formatted?
Letters of recommendation must be on official letterhead/company stationary and signed by the letter writer.

3. How should my letters of recommendation be submitted to OHSU?

OHSU participates in the AMCAS letters service. All letters of recommendation must be submitted through the AMCAS letters service. If your health professions advisor uses the VirtualEvals or Interfolio letter service, AMCAS will access your letters on VirtualEvals or Interfolio and make them available to us.

OHSU will not accept letters of recommendation that are emailed, faxed or sent directly from applicants. Only letters submitted through the AMCAS letters service will be accepted.

4. When must my letters of recommendation be submitted?

It is preferred that letters be received (NOT processed by our office) by the deadline specified in the secondary application notification email that you originally received. However, our office will wait for all letters listed on the secondary application to be received and processed before considering your application file complete and ready for further review.

5. What happens if I cannot obtain three academic letters of recommendation? Will OHSU still process my application?

If you cannot obtain the required academic letters, OHSU will still process your application. However, applicants who have recently been students should be aware that applications with fewer than the required number of academic letters may be considered less competitive.

6. Is there a limit to the number of letters I can submit with my application?

OHSU does not have a maximum number of letters that may be submitted. It is highly recommended of all applicants that they provide additional non-academic recommendations as well. Applicants should carefully select a well-chosen group of letters that speak to significant experiences in health care/physician shadowing and extracurricular accomplishments.

Employment/Activities History

1. How should I best present my experiences in this section?

Please refer to the example format provided on the secondary application. Each experience should clearly show the timeline of when the experience took place, a brief description of the activity and the location (city and state) of where the experience took place. All major activities including education, employment, community service and health care experiences should be included and presented in a clear and concise manner. This history should include everything that you have done in the five years prior to your anticipated entrance to medical school, but
NOT activities during high school. Please include current activities as well as projected activities.

Supplemental Information

1. Am I required to answer all Supplemental Information questions?

Yes, you must answer all the questions. If you do not wish to disclose this information, please select the “No response” option.

Payments and Waivers

1. Is the processing fee refundable?

No, it is a non-refundable processing fee. All secondary applications submitted to the Office of Admissions are processed. We will not refund your processing fee under any circumstance.

2. What forms of payment are accepted for the non-refundable processing fee?

OHSU accepts Visa and MasterCard. Payment must be made through the Secondary Application website.

3. Does OHSU waive the secondary processing fee?

We can only waive the secondary processing fee if the applicant has received an AMCAS fee waiver for the 2022 admissions cycle. If you are a recipient of an AMCAS fee waiver, OHSU will be notified by AMCAS and this processing fee will be automatically waived at the time of submission of your secondary application. However, if you received the AMCAS fee waiver after submitting the AMCAS application, please email a copy of your 2022 fee waiver to mdadmin@ohsu.edu with “2022 AMCAS fee waiver” in the subject line. Make sure to include your full name and AAMC ID number. Once the Office of Admissions receives and processes your waiver, your secondary application fee will be waived.

If you are not a recipient of the 2022 AMCAS fee waiver, we cannot waive the processing fee.

Saving and Editing the Secondary Application

1. Can I save or edit my application?

Yes, the secondary application can be saved and edited up until the point of submission. We recommend that you save your application every few minutes to prevent losing your work. However, once you pay and submit your application to OHSU, you can no longer change or edit your application.

2. Does OHSU accept updates, changes or edits to the secondary application?
No, OHSU cannot accept updates, changes or edits to your application. Please make sure to change or edit your application before electronically paying and submitting it to OHSU.

**Editing/Changing Contact Information**

1. **Can I update my contact information during the application process?**

Yes, applicants may update their contact information with OHSU throughout the application process. Applicants must make these changes online through the Admissions Portal.

**Application Submission**

1. **How do I submit my application?**

All secondary applications must be submitted electronically. The School of Medicine Secondary Application is available through the Admissions Portal. OHSU cannot accept applications submitted in any other manner.

**Complete Applications and Status Checks**

1. **What makes my application complete?**

Applications are considered complete once all required materials are received and processed by the Office of Admissions. This includes:

- the completed secondary application and (if applicable) dual degree application addendum
- ALL letters of recommendation listed by the applicant in the secondary application
- final eligible MCAT score (This will be sent to us automatically by AMCAS. Please note for 2022 the MCAT requirement will be necessary in order to make an admissions decision, for not file completion)
- the non-refundable processing fee or AMCAS fee-waiver
- a copy of the front and back of current Green Card (*only if the applicant is a permanent resident*)
- a copy of the WICHE certification letter (*only for WICHE-certified residents in Allopathic Medicine*)
- a copy of the narrative evaluation (*only if the applicant attended a college that uses narrative evaluations rather than grades*)
- a credential evaluation report (*only if the applicant attended a foreign college*)

All applicants must have United States citizenship, DACA status, or permanent resident status with a green card indicating permanent residency in the U.S. Permanent residents must submit a copy of their green card directly to OHSU. Please note that our dual degree programs do not accept DACA status at this time.
To receive WICHE-certified status, residents must submit a copy of their WICHE certification letter to OHSU.

Applicants who attended a college using only narrative evaluations must submit a copy of their narrative evaluation from faculty assessing their academic performance to OHSU.

Applicants who attended a foreign college must provide a credential evaluation report showing coursework and degree equivalency.

2. How do I submit a Green Card, WICHE certification letter, narrative evaluation, and/or credential evaluation report?

Green cards and WICHE certification letters must be submitted directly to OHSU via email to mdadmin@ohsu.edu with “green card” or “WICHE certification” in the subject line. Make sure to include your full name and AAMC ID number.

Narrative evaluations must be submitted to AMCAS. Make sure to designate OHSU and AMCAS will make the evaluation available to our office.

A credential evaluation report can be provided by the World Education Services (WES), Academic Credentials Evaluation Institute, Inc. (ACEI), or Josef Silny and Associates (JS&A) and mailed to the address below.

OHSU School of Medicine
Office of Admissions
Mail Code: CL5MD
2730 S Moody Avenue
Portland, OR 97201

Please note: Due to the large volume of applications received by our office, your application may not be processed before your application deadline.

3. How will I know when my application is complete?

Once your file is complete and ready for further review, you will be notified via the Admissions Portal. OHSU will NOT send a completion notification by email.

4. How can I check my application status?

Applicants can check the status of their application online via the Admissions Portal only. We ask that applicants refrain from calling to check on their status. Please use the Admissions Portal instead. The Admissions Portal provides the most up-to-date information concerning your application. Due to the large number of applications and high volume of correspondence received on a daily basis, we ask that applicants please be patient in our processing of their application. Once your file is complete and processed, your status will be updated online through the Admissions Portal.
Interview Process

1. **When does OHSU School of Medicine conduct interviews?**

We run a virtual interview process, generally interviewing 20 applicants per week, from late-August through March.

2. **If I do not receive an interview invitation until later in the season, does that mean I will be interviewing for a spot on the wait list?**

We operate on a modified rolling admissions basis, wherein spots in the class will remain until we have finished interviewing for the year. If you are offered an interview, you will be interviewing for a potential spot in the class.

3. **What does the interview process consist of?**

The interview process will be virtual and will consist of Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI) and a one-on-one interview with a representative of our Admissions Committee. There will be an orientation session, an opportunity to meet with current medical students over lunch, and an information session. The interview process for the 2022 cycle will be entirely remote.

4. **How is the MMI circuit structured?**

Interviewees will have a series of approximately 8 minute long mini-interviews. Prior to the 8 minute interview, there will be time to read over the prompt, prepare, and take any notes. The longer one-on-one interview with an admissions committee member will be scheduled for a different time.

**Troubleshooting Tips**

**Saving/Editing**

- Save your application every few minutes to prevent losing your work.
- The ‘Save’ button will save and stay on the same page. If further changes are made after saving, changes must be saved again before continuing to the next section or Main Menu.
- The ‘Save and Continue’ button will save and go to the next section.

**Short-Answer Questions**

- To navigate the Short Answer Questions, use the ‘Question’ buttons or ‘Previous Question’/’Next Question’ buttons. The ‘Save and Continue’ button will go to the next section.
- Type your responses directly in the text area.
If you wish to type your responses then copy and paste into the application, use a basic text-editing program like Notepad or TextEdit. **Do not copy text from websites into the application. Do not use any software like Word to copy/paste, which has hidden formatting, and will cause the application to time-out prematurely.**

**Web Browser**

Users can access the application using Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome, and Safari.