Medical Student Transfer Policy

The University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine offers limited opportunities for admissions with advanced standing. Advanced-standing applications will be considered only for entry into the third-year class.

Priority Consideration:

Applications are reviewed individually, with a preference given to candidates who have a compelling personal reason to transfer to the University of Pittsburgh. Acceptance depends upon the applicant’s special circumstances and qualifications, as well as the availability of openings that have been created by attrition. Pre-medical school academic qualifications must be within the range of those of matriculated students. The University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine cannot accept transfer applications from students enrolled in dental, osteopathic, chiropractic, or veterinary schools or non-U.S. medical schools. Only students who are enrolled in a medical school accredited by the Liaison Committee for Medical Education will be considered for advanced stranding.

Advanced Standing Application Process:

- Request application: Application for advanced standing must be requested along with a written statement explaining the compelling need to transfer to the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

- Dean’s Letter of Recommendation: An applicant must request a letter from the Dean of Student Affairs at his or her current medical school. This letter must indicate that the applicant is in good standing at the institution and that the applicant is expected to successfully complete the curriculum of the first two years prior to the transfer year. This letter should be sent directly to the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine’s Office of Admissions and Financial Aid.

- United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Step 1 Scores: All transfer applicants must take Step 1 of the USMLE prior to matriculation as a third-year student.

- Personal Interview: The University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine requires a personal interview with all applicants before an official acceptance can be extended. Once we determine the number of openings for transfer students, we will invite to interview a small number of applicants after reviewing all applications for transfer.

Matriculation:

Applicants, who are granted admission with advanced standing, must matriculate in the UPSOM no later than two months into the third year (typically by the end of June). All transfer students must take Step I of the USMLE prior to matriculation and meet all current academic requirements for graduation from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Students accepted with advanced standing must complete all course requirements. These include eight (8)
core clerkships, one acting internship in Medicine, Family Medicine, Pediatrics or Surgery, one integrated life science (ILS) course, nine (9) electives and a scholarly project.

Revised 8/10/2011; Approved by the Executive Committee of the School of Medicine 9/13/2011