

Michigan Medical Schools Statement – Pass/Fail/No Credit grades for January-May 2020

Collected by Heidi Lang, Saginaw Valley State University

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Central Michigan University College of Medicine

From Chris Austin, Director of Admissions

CMU College of Medicine's recommendation for coursework taken during the Winter/Spring 2020 time frame:

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, many colleges and universities have offered students a pass/fail or credit/no credit option. We want all future Central Michigan University College of Medicine applicants to know that we will allow pass/fail or credit/no credit grades for any coursework taken during the impacted time frame, including prerequisite coursework. While we believe that academic coursework is an important component of your preparation for medical school, we don't believe that an applicant's total body of academic preparation should be negatively impacted by the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 outbreak.

Michigan State University College of Human Medicine

From Joel Mauer, Assistant Dean for Admissions

CHM Admissions statement pertaining COVID-19 and winter/spring coursework for current and future applicants: These continue to be very unusual times. As such, we recognize that the COVID-19 crisis is life-disrupting for everyone and that colleges and universities are navigating this crisis in varying ways. Many of our current and future applicants are facing uncertainty about how 2020 winter and spring courses will continue and be graded, including coursework that is traditionally considered prerequisite or recommended for many medical school admissions processes.

The challenge for medical school admissions committees is that accurate and specific information is always preferred. When committees are faced with ambiguity, their bias may factor a pass as a "C/D" or 2.0/1.0 rather than a higher grade. So, if you have an option to proceed with a letter grade for prerequisite coursework, many schools (including CHM) would prefer this option.

For those of you in which a Pass/Fail or Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grade is rendered for any of these courses, CHM will work with you. Since we require prerequisite coursework be assessed at a "C or 2.0" grade or higher, we would kindly ask that your home institution (registrar or course instructor) provide written verification that the Passing or Satisfactory grade met this standard.

We would be remiss if we didn't recognize that there may be several advantages and disadvantages when considering your grading options. We also recognize that every applicant has his/her/their own set of strengths and areas for growth. Maintaining a healthy mentoring/coaching relationship with your pre-health adviser will be key as you proceed with decisions about your Winter/Spring 2020 coursework.

Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine

Directed to MSUCOM website by Katie Ruger, Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Life

We understand that, due to disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, many students will receive pass/fail grades for winter/spring 2020 courses. We assure future applicants that we will accept pass/fail coursework for any courses impacted by this situation. This holds both in cases where pass/fail is mandated by your institution and also in cases of individual choice.

Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine

From Dan Kallenberger, Director of Admissions

We recommend and prefer that all prerequisite courses are taken as graded courses because grades give the admissions committee a better idea of mastery of the subject matter and comparative performance. I think OUWB requirements are usually a little broader to allow applicants to show breadth and depth in the math and sciences.

I'd recommend applicants who are invited for an interview, to contact us if they do not receive letter grades for the specific prerequisite courses listed below, and we can review these on a case-by-case basis. I'd expect the committee will be understanding about the COVID-19 situation and how it's impacted OUWB applicants and admitted students for many years to come.

Requirements

Applicants should take a minimum of 24 college credits (excluding AP courses) with breadth and depth of science and math disciplines. Of those 24 credit hours, coursework must include:

- 1 course in biochemistry
- 1 course in statistics (math or social science based)
- 1 lab in either biology, chemistry or physics

In addition to the 24 science/math credits, applicants must complete:

- 1 course in social or behavioral sciences.

University of Michigan Medical School

Directed to UMMS website by Carol Teener, Director of Admissions

We understand that due to disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, many students will be receiving pass/fail grades for Winter/Spring 2020 courses. We would like to assure any future Michigan Medical School applicants that we will accept pass/fail coursework for any courses impacted by this outbreak, whether mandated by your school or personal decision.

Wayne State University School of Medicine

From Dawn Yargeau

Regarding coursework taken during the January – April/May 2020 time frame:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many colleges and universities are offering a pass/fail or credit/no credit option. For any prerequisite coursework, Wayne State University School of Medicine strongly recommends that you do not select this option.

P/F, CR/NC can be selected for non- prerequisite coursework.

Western Michigan University Homer Stryker MD School of Medicine

From Jean Shelton

We're also fine with P/F during this time. WMed doesn't have any pre-requisite courses – we have recommendations. Our goal is for students to be as prepared as possible to begin medical school and encourage applicants to look for upper division hard science courses that will challenge them and prepare them for medical school. Under normal circumstances, I do encourage taking the course for a grade.