

West Virginia University School of Medicine Deferral Policy

Purpose: To outline the steps in the process of requesting a deferral of medical school matriculation

Eligibility: Accepted medical school applicants who are seeking to defer medical school matriculation by **one year** only for compelling reasons mainly related to unique opportunities that may include research, academia (graduate studies, scholarship) or service programs.

Process to Request a Deferral:

1. The accepted applicant applies for a deferral in writing to the Admissions Dean. In the correspondence, the applicant describes the compelling reason for the deferral request. The deadline for a deferral request is **May 15th** each year.
2. The Admissions Dean and the Deferral Committee will review the request and render a decision within two weeks of receipt of the request. The Deferral Committee is composed of two to four Admissions personnel appointed by the Admission's Dean. Decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis depending upon each applicant's circumstances and the availability of seats in the next entering medical school class.

Process after Granting of Deferral:

The deferred student must submit an application to West Virginia University School of Medicine (WVU SOM) as a deferred matriculate applicant through the American Medical College Admissions Service (AMCAS) for the next entering class. The applicant is restricted to apply to only WVU SOM for the next entering class. Violations of such an agreement are considered to be a violation of admissions processes, and will result in an investigation.¹ The applicant must abide by the most updated requirements for applying through AMCAS.

References:

1. Reference: AAMC. Policies and Procedures for Investigating Reported Violations of Admission and Enrollment Standards. Available at <https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-medical-school/article/policies-procedures-investigating-reported-violati/>. Accessed on February 2020.

Updated: April 2016

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