

UTRGV School of Medicine

Application Process: 2018-2019

Upon receipt of a completed TMDSAS application, applicants will be administratively moved from TMDSAS to our in-house admissions database, named ZAP. Completed applications from applicants with the following metrics: MCAT scored above the 50th% (500); MCAT sections must be at 122 or above; GPA-overall at 3.0 or above and GPA-Science at 3.2 or above— will be automatically moved and assigned for review and further processing. Applicants who fall below the 50th% or other aforementioned metrics, will be forwarded to a special admissions subcommittee for evaluation. Applicants with MCAT scores below 495 or applicants with felony convictions will not be considered for admission.

The applicants who are selected for processing will be sent a Secondary Application for completion. Once the Secondary Application is completed and returned, the applicant is then “randomly” assigned to an admissions committee member for review and consideration for interview.

Step 1: Initial Review for Processing

Step 3: Interview Day

Interviews are conducted from mid-August to mid-January on selected Mondays, Fridays and occasional Saturdays. Applicants arrive at the Edinburg SOM campus at 8:30 AM for a full day of presentations and activities. Lunch with the current students and travel to some of SOM’s clinical sites will take place during the day. Each applicant will have two (2) 30-minute interviews with a member of the Interview Committee; one interview is “open-book” and the other “blind” (the interviewer knows nothing regarding the applicant other than the name). Interviewers will complete an electronic evaluation and will base their evaluation on criteria such as articulate – rambling; outgoing/shy; comfortable/awkward; confident/hesitant; genuine/insincere; well thought out answers/short answers, etc.

The evaluation is then appended to the application. UTRGV SOM’s Interview Days are long but not dull! They are full of information, site visits and lots of fun and camaraderie – by the end of the day you will have a sense of who we are and if UTRGV SOM is a good “fit” for your medical education!

Step 5: Texas Match

The Texas Match is conducted every year at the end of January. This match confirms the pre-match offers applicants are holding and fills the remaining open slots for the medical schools. Applicants must rank all schools where they interviewed, regardless of whether or not a pre-match offer was received. Applicants holding a pre-match offer, who have interviewed at school(s) that did not extend an offer, may rank one or more of those schools higher than the pre-match offer school, without the risk of losing the pre-match offer. If an applicant holds a pre-match offer and matches to a higher ranked school, the pre-match-offer will be withdrawn. If an applicant is holding multiple pre-match offers, they will come off the match holding only one offer.

The Texas Match results are announced on February 1st. Following the match, standard rolling admissions continues through the beginning of orientation. UTRGV SOM will continue to make offers from their alternate/waitlist. The “Contingency Form” will hold the seat for the applicant. However, Texas medical schools have agreed that after June 1st, no school may make an offer to an applicant already holding a place at another Texas medical school.

Step 7: Matriculation

All requirements for Matriculation need to be completed and submitted to UTRGV SOM by June 1st of the entering year. Entering students must complete a criminal background check and provide evidence of required immunizations and/or titers. A final transcript containing all requirements, including the degree, must be sent directly from school to school to MDenrollmentservices@utrgv.edu

TMDSAS and student copies will not be accepted.

Step 2: Comprehensive Review

The admissions committee (AC) reviews the application and selects applicants to interview based on the following categories:

- Academic Competence
- Academic Challenge
- Research
- Leadership Responsibility
- Clinical Experiences
- Community/Volunteer Experiences
- Cultural Competence
- Social-Economic (SES) Barrier(s)
- Primary Essay
- Secondary Application Evaluation

The applicant selected for Interview receives an electronic invitation with all the information needed to select an interview date. Information on directions to the campus, parking, transportation, housing and other relevant materials are also included with the invitation. An automatic “reminder” email is sent to the applicant a few days prior to the interview.

Step 4: Final Review and Ranking

The AC reviews your application a final time. Read every section, including the Secondary Application, the Letters of Recommendation and all evaluations. They then conduct an electronic ballot which ranks the applicant into the following categories:

- Accept
- Waitlist
- Not Accept

The AC meets after each ballot to review average ranking and to discuss any applicant who merits additional review. Applicants who are accepted and who receive pre-match offers are notified after November 15th, pursuant to TMDSAS policy. The Dean of Admissions notifies the applicant via phone, email and/or text. The applicant is given a 2-week window to accept or reject the offer. UTRGV does not require a deposit to hold a seat. A signed “Contingency Form” which states the timeline and all the contingencies for matriculation, is sent to all accepted applicants. The return of that signed document serves as a seat guarantee.

Step 6: Waitlist

UTRGV School of Medicine maintains a Waitlist (a.k.a. Alternate List) until the first day of Orientation. The Waitlist list is divided into 3 sections based on AC ranking: Section “A” (Priority – Upper third) Section “B” (Middle Third) and Section “C” (Lower Third).

The AC has a Waitlist Sub-Committee which selects an applicant to fill an open seat. UTRGV also maintains a separate Waitlist for out-of-state applicants. Open seats are filled in the same manner.

July Orientation Welcome to Medical School

