

# MEDICAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

## APPLICATION INFORMATION & INSTRUCTIONS

Larry D. Keith, MS – Assistant Dean of Admissions/Associate Director of OED/Director of Special Programs

- Admission Guidelines** The Program is seeking persons who demonstrate educational promise and commitment to a health career but who have lacked opportunities in the past in moving toward their professional goals. The selection process looks at a number of factors (e.g., educational, social, and economic) that may place a student from a non-traditional background at a disadvantage in seeking admission and successfully entering medical or dental school.
- Academic prerequisites are organic chemistry (or its equivalent, required for the Program's biochemistry curriculum) and a solid background in the major biological and physical sciences that are preparatory for medical or dental school. Review of the academic record does not overemphasize grade average or test scores. However, a cumulative science GPA of 2.75 or higher is recommended for realistic consideration.
- Other considerations include residence and educational level. North Carolina residents receive preference. Selected students admitted to the UNC-CH Schools of Medicine and Dentistry for the upcoming fall will be invited to apply. Other applicants should be premedical or pre dental candidates with one year remaining before desired admission to a professional school. Most participants are rising seniors in undergraduate colleges or are post-graduates preparing to submit applications in the fall. Students who plan to attend another medical or dental school in the fall are not eligible. However, if the results of professional school applications are still pending at the time of the Program's deadline, we suggest completing the Program application with an explanation of the circumstances.
- Application For Admission** Your personal application is our **primary** source of information about you. Complete each section carefully and as accurately as possible to help us get to know you. Do not delay your form because of a missing photo. (See reverse side on Completing the Personal Application).
- Deadline** Applications must be returned by **February 15**. A late application may be accepted under extenuating circumstances. Most applications will be reviewed and acted upon by April 15.
- Letters** Comments from two or more advisors or instructors familiar with your academic background, career preparation, and professional motivation are an important supplement to your application and are **required**. The most useful letters are descriptive and evaluative. **It is your responsibility to make sure the letters you request reach the Program by the deadline (February 15).**
- Transcripts** Official cumulative transcripts for all post-secondary institutions you have attended are **required**. In addition, if you have attended a special summer program, we request a transcript if available, an outline of the exact nature of academic work undertaken, and any written comments/evaluations that the program can provide. You may wish to enclose an unofficial copy of your transcript(s) **with** your personal application in case of delay with official versions.
- MCAT/DAT Scores** Scores from the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) or Dental Admission Test (DAT) are not required for admission, but are collected for counseling purposes. If you have not yet taken the appropriate test, we **strongly** urge you to do so this spring. You can benefit from exposure to this test, and the results will guide you in your plans for next year. Moreover, you may avoid unfortunate delays in your professional school applications, since results of the fall test administrations are generally not available until mid-October.
- Address Application & Inquiries To:** Georgia B.Njagu – Business Services Coordinator  
Medical Education Development Program (MED)  
The University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill School of Medicine  
CB# 7530, 322 MacNider Building  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7530  
Telephone: (919) 966-7673 Fax: (919) 966-7734  
Email: [Georgia\\_Njagu@med.unc.edu](mailto:Georgia_Njagu@med.unc.edu)  
Website: <http://www.med.unc.edu/medprogram>

Please do not hesitate to write or call if you have any questions about the Program or about your application.

## COMPLETING THE PERSONAL APPLICATION

- General Guideline** We recognize that no application ever designed can accommodate all individual situations. We want you, therefore, to take the steps necessary to adapt this form to convey points you want to make in order to represent yourself well. Feel free to annotate the form itself. Do, however, provide the specific information we request, keeping in mind the following (clarification of what we are looking for and/or items we regularly find are incomplete):
- I. Education**
- Major:** Don't forget to list your major area of study, if any, at each institution attended - i.e., Biology.
- Degrees:** Be exact (month/year) about the date you received or expect to receive a degree.
- Science/Math Courses completed:** This gives us a convenient, organized abstract of what the transcript(s) will confirm. As much as possible, list courses in chronological order, using names instead of numbers. If you are on a quarter system, list courses to be taken in both the winter and spring quarters.
- Current Courses:** For courses in which you are currently enrolled or will have completed by the end of the present academic year, list the name and credit hours to be earned. Also mark a "P" in the column indicated.
- Test Scores:** An accurate record of existing test scores is important, to help us in working with you. If you do not remember your SATs, you should be able to check them with your college registrar or former high school. If you did not take the SATs, indicate this and substitute percentile scores from any similar college entrance exam (e.g., the ACT). If you have taken a test more than once (especially the MCATs or DATs), list all scores from all sessions, using a separate sheet as needed.
- II. Personal Information**
- Jobs:** Be sure to list jobs related to the health profession in a chronological manner, from earliest to most recent.
- Activities/Interests:** Don't overlook anything that has been important to you and in which you have, therefore, invested time and effort, just because it does not happen to be an officially organized group.
- References:** Please list your references completely enough for us to follow up if desired. A telephone number would be helpful.
- Current professional school applications/other summer program applications:** These items simply alert us to situations in which we should keep in touch to see how your plans develop. For example, you may need an early decision on your MED application or be waiting to hear from a professional school. Should you plan to matriculate at UNC, it will be a priority for us to discuss with you whether MED would be appropriate.
- III. Preliminary Financial/Family Information** Please do not omit any item on this page without an explanation. Even if you are officially independent- we will consider you accordingly-or a person who is not with his/her family at the present time, we need all information as requested on your natural parents, to the best of your knowledge. The enclosed sheet on the MED Program's Financial Aid Application contains information on the aid available, the application process, and approximate expenses.
- IV. Personal Essay** **This essay can be useful practice in preparing the official statement you will use with professional school applications.** We also encourage you, however, to be more detailed and candid about aspects of your background and record that you would not necessarily feel comfortable sharing with a formal committee. These factors may be the very reasons why participation in MED would be appropriate and beneficial.
- V. Other** If you foresee a possible conflict between participation in MED and other academic requirements, let us know so we can discuss solutions. For example: your spring semester exams end June 1 but MED begins a week earlier; or you may need a critical preprofessional course; or your advisor wants you to defend your thesis in July.

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### Policy on Equal Opportunity

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is committed to equality of educational opportunity. The University does not discriminate in offering access to its educational programs and activities on the basis of race, color, gender, age, national origin, religion, creed, disability, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. The Dean of Students (CB# 5100, 450 Ridge Road, Suite 1106 (Student Academic Services Bldg.), Chapel Hill, NC 27599-5100 or 919-966-4042) has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the University's non-discrimination policies.