

**AGREEMENT  
GUARANTEED ADMISSIONS INTERVIEW PROGRAM**

**THIS AGREEMENT** is made this 24 day of April, 2020, by and between the **University of Louisiana System** ("INSTITUTION") and the **EDWARD VIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE** ("VCOM").

RECITALS

- A. Whereas INSTITUTION is a four-year college offering bachelor's and/or master's degrees, which prepare the student in areas appropriate for pre-medical studies; and
- B. Whereas VCOM is a doctoral-level osteopathic medical college requiring a minimum of four years of bachelor's level education for entry, including specified pre-requisite courses; and
- C. Whereas VCOM is a doctoral-level osteopathic medical college providing four years of doctoral level education, including biomedical and clinical courses completion and clinical training, to award the doctor of osteopathic medicine degree ("D.O."); and
- D. Whereas due to the diminished opportunities for medical training in the United States; the chronic shortage of physicians in the rural areas of the Southern Appalachian and Delta regions; and for medically underserved rural and minority populations throughout the United States; the INSTITUTION and VCOM desire to create and to cooperate on a program by which qualified candidates committed to primary care and care for rural and medically underserved populations; and
- E. Whereas VCOM receives over 13,000 applications annually from high achieving candidates from across the campus for an approximate 625 seats across the four VCOM campuses, and over 25% of applicants may designate the Louisiana campus; this agreement is set forth to acknowledge students from the INSTITUTION are valued by VCOM as having challenging undergraduate programs and as more likely to enter medical practice within Louisiana and meet the needs of rural and medically underserved areas and in primary care; and
- F. Whereas the University of Louisiana System includes the University of Louisiana at Monroe; Grambling State University, McNeese State University, Louisiana Tech University, Northwestern State University, Nicholls State University, Southeastern Louisiana University, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and University of New Orleans;
- G. Whereas VCOM seeks to enroll candidates from these INSTITUTIONS who perform well at the undergraduate level and who are well-prepared to succeed in the rigorous medical curriculum at VCOM;

THEREFORE

In consideration of the mutual covenants by each party to be kept and performed, it is agreed as follows:

SECTION 1

1.0 GUARANTEED INTERVIEW FOR ADMISSION PROGRAM

The Guaranteed Interview for Admissions program shall be for students from an institution within the University of Louisiana System and designates VCOM will interview a minimum of ten students from each institution annually who meet the following standards:

- 1.1 Receives a positive endorsement from the University's designated pre-medical committee (or advisor if the committee does not exist)
- 1.2 Holds a minimum GPA of 3.4 science and 3.4 overall at the time of recommendation (and must be made aware he or she will be required to maintain that GPA or higher through graduation)
- 1.3 Has completed 90 hours of required coursework toward a degree to graduate from the INSTITUTION and is aware of the requirement to complete the degree by time of enrollment;
- 1.4 Has completed the majority of required science coursework for admission including Biology (or equivalent course) for a minimum of 4 to 5 credit hours, General Chemistry 6 credit hours or greater, Organic Chemistry 1 and 2 for 6 credit hours or greater, Physics 1 and 2 for 6 credit hours or greater, and at least six additional credit hours of 300 or above science coursework pertinent to a career in medicine;
- 1.5 Has performed a minimum of 80 hours of health care shadowing or experience
- 1.6 Has performed a minimum of 80 hours of community or national volunteer experience assisting in an area or community of need
- 1.7 Has not been the recipient of any significant conduct violation by the INSTITUTION and has not been arrested for any felony or summary charge prior that would impact future licensing as a physician,
- 1.8 Holds the designation of a U.S. citizen or permanent resident of the United States
- 1.9 Complies with all other requirements as set forth in the VCOM student catalog and handbook as requirements for admission,
- 1.10 Demonstrates professional and ethical behaviors and characteristics consistent with those expected of a future professional;
- 1.11 Meets the technical standards for admission and continued enrollment as posted in the current student handbook on the VCOM website.

Students who qualify for the guaranteed interview program will be recommended by the pre-medical officer or committee from the University of Louisiana System institution and will be interviewed on the VCOM campus with by members of the faculty and administration.

## SECTION 2: INSTITUTION RESPONSIBILITIES

The University of Louisiana INSTITUTION covenants and represents that each campus of the INSTITUTION will appoint a premedical committee from the science faculty to review applicants annually and make recommendations to VCOM as to the candidate's preparedness for the program based upon VCOM's requirements and the candidate's academic performance and ethical behaviors while a student; and will:

- 2.1 Designate a faculty member from the biology or science department to serve as the premedical program advisor or coordinator for this agreement and who will also convene the premedical committee to review applicants and make recommendations regarding an applicant's readiness for admission to the program;
- 2.2 Recommend to students preparing for VCOM a schedule whereby the majority of the required coursework will be completed by the applicant at the time of application;
- 2.3 Recommend for admission to VCOM, only those candidates reasonably prepared and qualified by GPA and other characteristics to enter the medical curriculum and be successful;
- 2.4 Prepare and make available for candidates all materials published by VCOM whereby to prepare for and declare the candidate's intent to apply to the VCOM program;
- 2.5 Require each candidate to execute a consent form for disclosure of academic and personal information necessary for recommendation by the INSTITUTION to review a candidate and to include all information as required by VCOM for admission;
- 2.6 Advise each candidate in writing of the VCOM student handbook and catalog and advise the student the most recent copy is on the VCOM website which contains all materials specified by VCOM for admission and that this information must be read and followed when submitting an application to VCOM;
- 2.7 Inform students early in the College years of the need to demonstrates professional and ethical behaviors and characteristics consistent with those expected of any applicant to enter a medical field;

- 2.8 Deny a recommendation for admission to any candidate who does not meet the academic performance for minimum requirements for admission as set forth by VCOM;
- 2.9 Deny to provide a recommendation for admission any candidate who does not meet the ethical standards expected of a future professional in the medical profession, to include but not be limited to any prior legal or violations while a student within the INSTITUTION that include significant conduct violations or legal charges at the felony level, or other charges considered significant by the INSTITUTION;
- 2.9.1 Inform candidates of the rolling admissions process and the need to apply early in the interview cycle and by September 1 of the year prior to the year for which the candidate is applying to enroll.
- 2.9.2 Host VCOM on each campus annually to meet with the premedical clubs and potential candidates for the VCOM program and inform potential candidates of the date in advance where VCOM will conduct a presentation on VCOM and the program.
- 2.9.3 Inform candidates of the AACOMAS application process and need to contact VCOM admissions regarding process.

SECTION 3: VCOM RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 Interview a minimum of 10 candidates from each institution who meet the qualifications listed in SECTION 2: through a guaranteed interview program who are deemed to be qualified by the INSTITUTION and by VCOM;
- 3.2 Designate through the VCOM Director for Admissions to present the program to each campus within the INSTITUTION annually and to serve as a liaison between VCOM and each campus within the INSTITUTION;
- 3.3 Provide early interviews to all candidates who apply early in the application cycle through the guaranteed interview program and who the meet minimum requirements for admission;
- 3.4 Provide an annual open house solely for the students from the INSTITUTION (University of Louisiana System) students to visit the VCOM campus and to learn more about the VCOM program;
- 3.5 Provide a presentation on VCOM and the medical program on each of the University of Louisiana System campuses annually scheduled through the designated Program Coordinator on that campus;
- 3.6 Make available to the INSTITUTION current copies of VCOM's catalog and handbook on line and all other materials relevant for distribution to applicants; and a copy of the VCOM annual report and outcomes.

SECTION 4: GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 4.1 The INSTITUTION Program Coordinator and the VCOM Director of Admissions will cooperate closely to annually inform each other of: candidates entering the application process, of any changes to the standards for admission to the programs, any policies or procedures impacting the program in a timely manner;
- 4.2 It is understood that candidates for admission must apply early in the application process to assure interviews as VCOM utilizes a rolling admissions process.
- 4.3 It is also understood VCOM seeks to enroll students according to the VCOM mission and will seek to interview and secure qualified University of Louisiana students who are committed to practicing within Louisiana, and in particular those committed to rural areas and areas of need.
- 4.4 The INSTITUTION is solely responsible for academic programs and matters pertaining to the conferral of the Bachelor's degree or other degrees pursued by the student while within the INSTITUTION,
- 4.5 The INSTITUTION and VCOM shall not unlawfully discriminate against any candidate on the basis of race, ethnicity, disability, religion, sexual orientation, gender, color, age, or national origin;
- 4.6 Students will not be considered employees of VCOM and will not be entitled to employee benefits; all student benefits are described in the student handbook and catalog;
- 4.7 This Agreement will be reviewed on an annual basis by both VCOM and University of Louisiana and any problems or changes required in the Agreement will be brought to both parties for revision.

4.8 Each University of Louisiana System Program Coordinator and the VCOM Director of Admissions shall keep each other informed annually of those students accepted by VCOM and may be shared as a part of public directory information.

4.9 VCOM shall inform any applicant who is not chosen for interview or who does not receive admission of methods to improve the application to VCOM.

4.10 VCOM and the INSTITUTION shall discuss any incident or occurrence that could result in liability to VCOM or to the INSTITUTION as a result of this agreement;

4.1.1 The Agreement shall become effective upon its execution and shall continue for a period of one year, and automatically renew unless terminated by written notice from VCOM or the INSTITUTION to the other party.

4.1.2 Either party may terminate this Agreement without cause with ninety (90)-days-notice or immediately if any term of this agreement is found to be unlawful.

4.1.3 The laws of Louisiana shall govern the validity and interpretation of this Agreement.

4.1.4 The parties agree and covenant that with respect to any claim or action arising out of this Agreement; each party shall only be liable only for the portion of any and all liability, expenses, costs, demands, settlements, or judgments resulting from any negligence or omission of its own employees, officers, or agents.

IN WITNESS HEREOF, THE UNDERSIGNED HAVE EXECUTED THIS AGREEMENT AS OF THE DAY AND YEAR SIGNED ABOVE.

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA



Signature

4/24/20

Date

James B. Henderson

Printed Name of Designated Official Signing Above

EDWARD VIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE (VCOM)



5/1/2020

Signature

Date

Dixie Tooke Rawlins, DO

Printed Name of Designated Official Signing Above

## VCOM MANDATORY PREREQUISITE COURSES

(To be completed by the time of application)

1. Biological Sciences: Six (6) to Eight (8) semester hours or Twelve (12) quarter hours.
2. General and Inorganic Chemistry courses or equivalent: Six (6) to Eight (8) semester hours or Twelve (12) quarter hours.
3. Organic Chemistry I and II: Six (6) to Eight (8) total semester hours or Twelve (12) quarter hours.
4. Physics I and II: Six (6) total semester hours or more, or Eight (8) quarter hours.
5. Additional Science: Six (6) semester hours or Eight (8) quarter hours of biomedical science courses at the 300 level or above to be chosen from the following courses or like courses: Anatomy, Physiology, Immunology, Microbiology/Virology, Biochemistry, or Genetics.
6. English: Six (6) semester hours or Eight (8) quarter hours.

and must have developed basic computer skills to use at a minimum the Microsoft Office applications and be able to enter medical data at a reasonable computer typing speed or successfully complete a course in use of the computer.