

COVID-19 FAQs

How will COVID-19 impact the upcoming admission cycle?

Letters of Recommendation: The Admissions Committee has decided to reduce the Letter of Recommendation requirement to **two letters**. A committee letter will count as two letters and complete the requirement. The Admissions Committee highly recommends applicants select writers who know them well, and can speak to their commitment to the medical profession, as well as their academic preparation for medical school. Letters from family members and/or friends are strongly discouraged.

Admissions Interviews: Considering the enormous impact COVID-19 is having on prospective students and their families and for the safety of our applicants as well as the community, we will transition to a virtual model to conduct admissions interviews. It is our hope that we will be able to provide an on-campus experience for admitted students at a point in the future, possibly through Second Look.

With many MCAT test dates being canceled, what does OUWB recommend for applicants? As the MCAT testing dates have been cancelled and/or rescheduled due to health restrictions related to COVID-19, we will now process applications without an MCAT score. This means that students are able to submit their primary applications and will now be considered for secondary applications and interviews without an MCAT score. *A minimum score of 495 is still required*, and an MCAT score will be required prior to a final admissions decision made by the Admissions Committee.

If an applicant's MCAT score does not meet our minimum requirement of 495 or higher, they will be released from the process.

Due to uncertainty around the MCAT testing and scheduling as well as our continued guidance for applicants to apply early, we will provide a refund on the secondary application fee for any applicant who advances in our process but receives a score that does not meet our minimum MCAT requirement.

What is the Admission Committee's stance on taking Pass/Fail courses?

The Admissions Committee prefers and recommends that all prerequisites be completed for a letter or numeric grade but will accept Pass/Fail grades. Courses should be completed at a regionally accredited college or university.

We encourage all applicants to review our prerequisite course requirements listed on <u>our website</u>. As a reminder, a college statistics course and a social/behavioral science course are requirements for matriculation to OUWB.



Will OUWB accept online courses?

Online courses are accepted provided they are completed at a regionally accredited university, preferably at a four-year institution.

My activities (services-related, research, shadowing, etc.) have been canceled due to COVID-19, how will the admissions committee view this when evaluating my application? We will continue to evaluate your application holistically, keeping in mind that many experiences have been impacted by COVID-19. You will also have an opportunity to describe how COVID-19 has impacted your preparation for medical school in our supplemental application.

We still want to see our desired criteria exemplified in your application (meaningful medical activities, service to others and to the community, teamwork and leadership skills, excellence in an activity or area of interest, evidence of intellectual curiosity, and a commitment to life-long learning).

How is OUWB responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic? How is OUWB supporting current students and the community during this time?

- Oakland University and OUWB have raised funds for students experiencing hardship.
- Visit our <u>website</u> for more news on what OUWB has been up to in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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