



XAVIER
UNIVERSITY of LOUISIANA

Premedical Office

Xavier–SUNY Downstate Medical School Early Medical Education Program

(updated 10/20/26)

The [Early Medical Education \(EME\) Program](#) at SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University (Brooklyn, NY) is a 2-summer initiative aimed at increasing the competitiveness of prospective medical school students by providing MCAT preparation and academic support. Students must be currently enrolled seniors at the time of application and must graduate prior to the start of the program. Summer I consists of an MCAT Bootcamp, clinical shadowing, and a stipend; if summer I is conducted in-person, students must secure their own housing. Summer II is a pre-matriculation program which provides an overview of the first few weeks of medical school (stipend included). Successful EME participants who meet certain GPA and MCAT criteria are awarded conditional acceptance into SUNY Downstate College of Medicine. This program requires nomination by the Premedical Office for consideration by the SUNY Downstate EME admissions committee.

What are the qualifications to apply to the program? By the time nomination applications are in the Premed Office on January 15th (i.e. in the spring semester of senior year at Xavier), applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States.
- Be a current, graduating senior at Xavier.
- Be educationally or financially disadvantaged (see explanation at end of document).
- Completed the following courses at the time of application: Two semesters of General Biology lecture; two semesters of General Chemistry lecture; two semesters of Organic Chemistry lecture; two semesters of General Physics lecture; Intro to Biochemistry lecture; Intro to Psychology; and Intro to Sociology.
- Earned 3.5 BCPM and 3.5 non-science GPAs or higher.
- Demonstrated a genuine interest in becoming a physician by gaining relevant experience in a patient-care setting (e.g. volunteering, paid employment, internship, shadowing, etc.) and/or participating in a premed summer enrichment or research program.
- Demonstrated a genuine interest in medicine as indicated by participation in the group and individual meetings conducted by the Premedical Office for freshman and sophomore students, including submission of personal statement and post-secondary experiences form to the Premed Office for review throughout enrollment.
- Demonstrated a genuine interest in attending SUNY Downstate College of Medicine as indicated by meeting the above-mentioned requirements and participating in any information or recruitment sessions offered to Xavier students by the School of Medicine.
- *NOTE: If you have questions or concerns about any of the above-mentioned requirements that must be met at the start of the spring semester of senior year (unless stated otherwise) please contact the Premedical Office before the start of the fall semesters of senior year.*

How does an XU student apply for program nomination? Students interested in the program and who meet the qualifications listed above must do the following **EARLY IN THE FALL OF SENIOR YEAR**:

- Submit Post-Secondary Experience (PSE) Form and EME Essay #1 and Essay #2 to the Premed Office for review **at least once between May 15th and December 1st** (submission of subsequent revisions is highly recommended). **NOTE:** There are FOUR (4) required essays on the online EME application. Although you are only required to submit Essay #1 and #2 to the Premed Office for review at least once between May 15th and December 1st for nomination consideration, you are encouraged to submit the others to us for review, well in advance of the EME app deadline. Detailed application instructions are discussed during Freshman Premed Biomedical Honor Corps Meetings, the One-on-One Freshman

Premed Assessment Meeting in the spring of freshman year, the Sophomore Premed Overview Meeting in the fall of sophomore year, and in multiple email messages sent throughout enrollment at Xavier.

- The EME nomination application instructions, PSE Form, and Auto-Calculation GPA Worksheet in Excel are available in the Premedical Office's XULA Portal at <https://my.xula.edu/groups/34/feed> under "Resources/Forms".
- Collect at least two (2) "medical school" letters of evaluation/recommendation: one must be from a faculty member who taught you a BCPM course; the second letter can be from a college professor in any discipline, academic advisor, research mentor, work or volunteer supervisor, or health professional who has observed you in a clinical setting; be sure to follow-up with the individuals who agree to write the medical school evaluation on your behalf.
- The SUNY Downstate Medical School EME nomination application is **due in the Premedical Office by January 15th**. The application consists of three (3) parts: online application, critiqued/revised PSE Form, and Auto-Calculation GPA Worksheet in Excel.
- ***NOTE: Although you are NOT required to submit official transcripts from ALL colleges and universities attended as a part of the Premed Office's nomination review, you are required to submit official transcripts from all colleges attended as a part of the online EME application.***

What happens to nomination applications after they are submitted to the Premed Office? Following the January 15th application deadline, the Premed Office will review applications, supporting materials, and engagement in Premedical Office advising activities since freshman year and choose qualified students to present to the EME admissions committee at SUNY Downstate College of Medicine for consideration. Only students who are nominated by the Premed Office AND who submit the online EME application by SUNY's deadline will be considered for the program. As such, while awaiting the Premed Office's nomination decision, you should be actively working on the online EME application so you'll be ready to submit a GOOD application before the deadline.

What do students do after they are nominated by the Premed Office for the program (if applicable)? Students who are nominated by the Premed Office will be notified via email. If nominated, the Premed Office will submit the following items to the SUNY Downstate EME committee: 1) our nomination/evaluation letter and 2) the medical school letters of evaluation that you secured as instructed above. The EME committee at SUNY will review application materials for students who received nomination from the Premed Office and who successfully submitted the online EME application and required supporting materials by the EME deadline; select students will be offered interviews and considered for program acceptance.

What do students do after acceptance into the program? Acceptance notifications will be made in the spring, following the interview. Accepted students to follow the policies outlined in the acceptance letter which include, but are NOT limited to, the following:

- Maintain GPA requirements while enrolled at Xavier.
- Meet MCAT requirements. ***NOTE: The purpose of this program is to use MCAT prep during summer I to earn competitive scores. If you take the MCAT and earn competitive scores BEFORE the start of the EME program, you are not considered a good fit for EME.***
- Attend both summer sessions.
- Successful participants of EME are awarded conditional acceptance to SUNY Downstate's College of Medicine.

GPA and MCAT REQUIREMENTS for EARLY ASSURANCE

In order to qualify for Early Assurance, students must meet both the science and non-science GPAs in addition to the required MCAT score as stated in the contract of acceptance. GPA calculations are made at the end of semester. Two separate calculations are made, **Science (BCPM) GPA** - GPA for science and math courses that are taken during the semester and **Non-Science GPA** - GPA for non-science courses. Minimum GPA requirements for entry to DMC-COM is:

BCPM GPA:	3.5
Non-Science GPA:	3.5

Required MCAT Scores

Our goal is to help get students into medical school at Downstate. Therefore, we do not have a cut-off. We apply a holistic approach when considering students for admission to the College of Medicine. On average, we would like to see scores near 125 across the board however, that is not a strict MCAT cut-off as we take multiple factors into consideration when making decisions. We consider the student's unique journey, life experiences, adversities, and academic triumphs. The score always varies from year to year depending on how the previous class performed. The MCAT tutorials are designed to assist students in meeting these

criteria. We want our students to succeed and therefore, provide up to 3 attempts to improve their scores and remain in the program.

Be prepared to submit proof of educational and/or financial disadvantaged status as a part of the online EME application process.

Proof of **educational disadvantage** may include one or all of these factors that could prevent the student from obtaining the knowledge and skills needed to enter health professions school, including:

1. attended primary and junior high schools with limited academic resources;
2. graduated from high school with a low-grade point average (i.e. 2.0 on a 4.0 scale);
3. language other than English as primary language spoken in the home;
4. parents' education level is high school or less;
5. is a first-generation college student;
6. graduated from (or last attended) a high school that had either a:
 - a) low percentage of seniors receiving a high school diploma; or
 - b) low percentage of graduates who go to college during the first year after graduation;
7. graduated from (or last attended) a high school with low per capita funding;
8. graduated from (or last attended) a high school where many of the enrolled students are eligible for free or reduced lunches.

Proof of **economic disadvantage** would be provided in the form of parental or independent student tax returns demonstrating annual income at or below poverty levels published by the US Census, Federal Registry Guidelines and any adjustments made by the Secretary of HHS.