



Transfer Credit for Medical Students

Senior Leader: Senior Associate Dean, Undergraduate Medical Education

Responsible University Officer: Senior Associate Dean, Undergraduate Medical Education

Policy Owner: Medical School Registrar

Policy Contact: Medical School Registrar, medregistrar@umn.edu

Policy Statement

With the exception of specific courses within officially recognized joint programs (see “*Definitions*”) within the University of Minnesota (UMN) it is expected that all work applied to the MD degree will be completed within the UMMS. In this way, students graduating from the UMMS will be engaged with essential curriculum content specifically designed to ensure achievement of all graduation requirements.

The following is necessary for any course to be eligible for transfer credit ¹ to UMMS requirements for graduation:

1. Credits must come from
 - a. Medical school courses within approved joint or dual degree programs within the UMMS
 - b. Pre-approved graduate courses (master’s or doctoral degree level)
2. Courses from outside institutions applied as transfer credit to the graduate portion (non-MD) of an officially recognized joint program within the UMN cannot also be used for MD transfer credit (no “double dipping”).
3. Credit for courses can only be applied to non “hands on” clinical elective time in the UMMS. At no point shall transfer credit replace core required Foundations content or required clerkships, hands on electives, advanced electives, or Acting Internships.
4. The maximum number of credits that can be applied to UMMS clinical electives is 8. This is equivalent to 8 weeks of elective time. For students in the MSTP, the credit limit is 6 and must be course credits, NOT thesis credits.

¹The UMMS does not accept transfer students or any transfer credit for non-UMMS medical education coursework at the time of admission or [reinstatement from withdrawal](#).

Reason for Policy

This policy maintains the integrity of the UMMS’ curriculum, as developed by the Medical Student Education Committee (MSEC) and guarantees that all students graduating from the UMMS have been exposed to comparable educational experiences to achieve the UMMS [graduation requirements](#).

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Procedures

Students will work with the appropriate program director (or designee) within the joint degree program to develop a clear program plan, including identifying courses that may be applied to MD degree requirements and submit a request for transfer credit to the UMMS Registrar.

Additional Contacts

| Role/title | Contact | Email |
|--|-------------------|--|
| Registrar - Twin Cities & St. Cloud | Carly Siewert | medregistrar@umn.edu |
| Registrar and Student Affairs - Duluth | Stephanie Appleby | sappleby@d.umn.edu |

Definitions

Joint Program

Refers to approved joint degree programs at the graduate level. This includes the MD/PhD program, MD/JD, MD/MPH, MD/MS, MD/MBA, and MD/MHI. Because the courses are not at the graduate level, transfer credit is not available for the BA/MD or BS/MD joint programs.

Graduation Requirements

To graduate, all UMMS students are required to successfully meet all academic and technical standards, and demonstrate achievement of the [Graduation Competencies](#) and Entrustable Professional Activities.

History

Policy Established: July 2022

Approved: Vice Dean, OME, August 2022

Reviewed and Approved: Senior Associate Dean, UME, May 2025