2010 FRESHMAN SNAPSHOT

- Average GPA of those accepted: 3.69
- Average MCAT of those accepted: 29
- Average age of those accepted: 22.5; age range 20-40
- 74% of Freshmen received their undergraduate degree from Arkansas colleges
- 48% of those accepted majored in Biology, followed by Chemistry (8%); then Biochemistry (8%)
- 74% of all acceptances majored in one of the traditional sciences
- 80% of the applicant pool were first-time applicants
- A total of 2097 applicants from 45 states submitted an AMCAS application
- Class size for 2010 is 174

FEATURING INTERVIEWS

Arkansas Residents
Arkansas residents must be interviewed by members of the UAMS faculty. It is your responsibility to call the Office of Admissions to schedule your faculty interview after you have certified and submitted your AMCAS application. You may begin calling July 15, but you must call no later than November 15 to schedule your interview.

Non-Arkansas Residents
Non-Arkansas residents will be interviewed by invitation only. The Admissions Committee will meet in mid-December to determine which non-Arkansas resident applicants will be invited to come for faculty interviews on January 8.
Admissions Requirements

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

Certain personal qualities are of fundamental importance in the character of one who will enter the medical profession. These attributes include curiosity, compassion, integrity, stamina, dedication to service and a sustained ability to learn. Beyond these are the cognitive needs and requirements of an adequate intellectual capacity.

The paramount goals of the premedical experience should be mastery of the art of study and the intellectual maturity to understand, utilize and synthesize facts into concepts. The student must have the ability to absorb, integrate and use a large body of knowledge. Likewise, future physicians must understand the sociocultural and environmental factors in illness and the impact of illness on the family and greater community. The premedical education contributes significantly to the interaction of these factors.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

A baccalaureate degree is strongly recommended. In fact, 100% of applicants accepted for admission to the 2010 freshman class had at least a bachelor’s degree. Applicants must take the MCAT. MCAT scores obtained prior to 2008 are not acceptable for applicants to the 2011 first-year class. The MCAT test dates for calendar year 2010 are posted on the MCAT Web site. Applicants must register for the MCAT at www.aamc.org/students/mcat/. Applicants with premedical majors have no particular advantage over applicants majoring in other fields. Successful applicants, however, will be highly motivated individuals with a solid foundation in the natural sciences. Provided that the AP credit is accepted by the applicant’s college and is posted on the applicant’s official transcript. One AP credit will be equivalent to one semester of coursework. However, applicants who use AP credit to satisfy the minimum prematriculation requirements are strongly encouraged to take more advanced-level courses. The Admissions Committee will be instructed to look favorably on applicants who demonstrate the successful completion of advanced-level courses.

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

Preference is given to Arkansas residents. However, state law permits the Admissions Committee to accept a limited number of non-Arkansas residents, provided no qualified resident applicant is displaced. Non-Arkansas residents with a 3.6 GPA and an average of 9 on each section of the MCAT are encouraged to apply. Non-Arkansas applicants with strong ties to Arkansas are given preference. Applicants with strong ties should communicate this information to the Office of Admissions by November 1. An applicant must be a U.S. citizen or a legal permanent resident.

The following guidelines for determining Arkansas resident status have been established and must be verified by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. The applicant must have a domicile in the state of Arkansas for a period of six consecutive months in a nonstudent status immediately prior to the consideration of an application. An applicant must take steps that would support intent to become a resident: voter registration, automobile registration, state driver’s license, paying state taxes, etc. Fulfilling one or more of these does not necessarily guarantee residency. Individuals who have already established residency may be temporarily absent from home to attend school or for service in the Armed Forces. An out-of-state student who merely lives in Arkansas while attending school cannot use this in-school period to fulfill residency requirements.

FINANCIAL AID

The decision to pursue a medical education should involve careful planning in a number of areas. A part of that planning should include a thorough investigation into the financial aspects of obtaining a medical education. Medical school is expensive and requires a great deal of time, making it highly unfeasible for students to work while enrolled. However, enough financial aid is available in the form of scholarships and loans to cover all your costs for medical school plus a reasonable amount for living expenses. Our Web site provides detailed information: www.uams.edu/com/tuition-fin-aid.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The College of Medicine participates in the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges. Applicants must use the AAMC online web-application at www.aacmc.org. Applicants may certify and submit their completed AMCAS web-application to the AAMC beginning in June. The deadline for submitting your application to AMCAS is November 1 for the class entering the following fall. Official transcripts should be sent directly to AMCAS from the registrar of each college attended. AMCAS will send your MCAT scores to us.

Recommendations from your Premedical Advisory Committee are required and must be sent directly to AMCAS Letters Service. Your application will not be reviewed if you miss your school’s Premedical Advisory Committee’s deadline and we are advised that a letter is not forthcoming.

Note: If your institution does not have a Premedical Advisory Committee, or it has been more than two years since you last attended/graduated from your school, you may choose to have three faculty members submit individual letters of recommendation. In addition to the required Premedical Advisory Committee composite evaluation or three academic letters of recommendation from faculty, you also have the option to ask three individuals to submit personal letters of recommendation, which will typically address your qualifications outside the classroom. UAMS College of Medicine utilizes the AMCAS Letters Service for letter submissions. Letters of recommendations should be submitted by November 15.

A nonrefundable application fee of $100 is required from each applicant and should be mailed directly to the Admissions Office.

The College of Medicine, in conjunction with AMCAS, will conduct a criminal background check on all applicants accepted for admission and alternates placed on the alternate list.

*This brochure provides only a synopsis of College of Medicine admission requirements. It is not intended to substitute for the College of Medicine Catalog. All information is subject to change without notice.

The UAMS College of Medicine Catalog* may be accessed at www.uams.edu/com/comcat