

Service Commitment

To honor the State of Mississippi's investment and the MRPSP Integrity Agreement, the MRPSP Scholar will establish or join a clinic based primary care practice in an approved rural or medically underserved community in Mississippi for a minimum of four years.

Service Obligation & Default Penalty

The recipient agrees to practice primary care in a rural or medically underserved community in Mississippi for at least one year for every year of financial assistance. This obligation must begin within 90 days of completion of residency training. This 90 day grace period may be extended at the discretion of the MRPSP Executive Board if written documentation of a signed contract with an approved entity is submitted with the request.

Residency training may not exceed four years.

If the medical school graduate goes into a residency program other than in primary care or fails to successfully complete their medical training at any stage and for any reason, they shall be deemed in default and required to repay the principal amount plus interest in accordance with the terms of the MRPSP contract.

A participant who completes residency outside the State of Mississippi who fails to enter the practice of medicine as required shall be deemed in breach of contract and shall be liable for the immediate repayment of all financial assistance plus interest.

Partial service will reduce the principal on a pro rata basis.

The penalty **may not** be repaid by a third party.

MRPSP provides a mean for rural Mississippi students to:

earn admission to medical school afforded by the newly developed Direct Entry process,

earn MCAT preparation value at \$2,000 through program participation,

earn \$120,000 medical school scholarship in return for **4 years of service** and

learn the art of healing from practicing rural physicians.

For more information contact

Janie Guice, Executive Director
Mississippi Rural Physicians
Scholarship Program

jguice@acadaff.umsmed.edu

(601) 815-9022

<http://mrpsp.umc.edu>

Jackson Medical Mall
Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program
350 West Woodrow Wilson Avenue
Jackson, MS 39213

The University of Mississippi Medical Center offers equal opportunity in education and employment without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin, handicap or veteran status.



The Mission

Created in 2007 by the Mississippi Legislature, the Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program's mission is to increase the number of primary care physicians in rural or medically underserved areas of Mississippi.

The Program

The program shall consist of four distinct phases through which participants will progress, including

- Undergraduate premedical education
- Medical or osteopathic school
- Primary care residency training
- Rural clinical medical practice

2009 MRPSP Undergraduate Program

MRPSP seeks to identify college sophomores who demonstrate the necessary commitment and academic achievement to become a competent, well-trained rural physician in our state. Two years of undergraduate academic enrichment including MCAT preparation and involvement in a longitudinal rural clinical experience will be provided for **fifteen (15)** students per year.

Requirements

- 8 credits Biology (with lab)
 - 8 credits Freshman/General Chemistry (with lab)
 - 8 credits of either Physics or Organic Chemistry (both with lab)
 - 6 credits college math (usually 3 credits each of Algebra and Trigonometry; however, 3 credits of Calculus satisfies the math requirement)
2. Academic credentials and standardized test taking skills indicative of a successful applicant to medical school
- Overall (o) Grade Point Average (GPA) \geq 3.0 for a minimum of 60 credits
 - Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Math (BCPM) GPA \geq 3.0 for a minimum 30 credits (27 credits if math requirement satisfied by 3 credits of Calculus)
 - ACT composite score \geq 21 or SAT verbal plus math score \geq 990
3. Evidence that an applicant is likely to practice in a rural or medically underserved community in Mississippi based on residence in such an area and experiences (exposure to the medical profession, volunteer/community service and leadership) in such areas
4. A strong work ethic, determination to succeed, ability to overcome setbacks and age-appropriate

professional behavior (as defined by the American Board of Internal Medicine) based on faculty evaluation letters, personal recommendation letters and personal circumstances (employment during school, family responsibilities)

5. Intent to participate in academic enrichment programs offered by the MRPSF by signing the Integrity Agreement

Undergraduate Benefits

- Rural health academic enrichment
- Rural physician mentors
- Rural clinical experiences
- Direct Admission to UMMC's School of Medicine
- Consideration for \$30,000 per year medical school scholarship

Application Process

The online application found at <http://mrpsf.umc.edu> must be completed by **February 15**. The application isn't considered complete until all transcripts, faculty evaluation forms letters of recommendation and official test scores have been received in the MRPSF by the stated deadline.

Selection Process

Academically qualified applicants who demonstrate true zeal for rural medicine will be interviewed by the MRPSF Admissions Committee during March of the applicant's sophomore year of college. Fifteen students will be recommended to the UMMC School of Medicine Admissions Committee in April of the sophomore year for interviews. After one year of active participation in MRPSF and completion of all medical school admissions requirements, the student will be admitted to the UMMC School of Medicine at the beginning of the senior year of college through a special Direct Entry process afforded to MRPSF students only.

Medical School

Each MRPSF scholar may receive **\$30,000** per year for medical or osteopathic school training, based on available funding. Strong preference is given to UMMC students where academic support, mentoring by UMMC faculty and practicing rural physicians will ensure successful completion of the M.D. degree.

Yearly awards will be made based on available funding. The Executive Board will determine the number of new scholarships that may be awarded once current scholarships are debited for the coming school year. Preferences for ongoing funding will be given to those students attending The University of Mississippi School of Medicine.

Medical School Benefits

- \$30,000 per year of medical or osteopathic school training
- Personalized medical faculty mentoring
- Additional academic support throughout UMMC School of Medicine training including "Step Prep Saturdays"
- Summer rural health care field experiences tailored to the recipient's interests, locale and availability

Residency Training

MRPSF scholars must enter residency training in one of five primary care specialties:

Family Medicine

General Internal Medicine

Medicine-Pediatrics

Obstetrics/Gynecology

Pediatrics

This training period lasts three to four years depending on the specialty.