

## **Transfer and Award of Academic Credit**

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In recognition that the educational program leading to the MD degree requires specific knowledge, skills, and abilities, consideration of the transfer of credit is undertaken from medical colleges or medical schools with Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) accreditation only, as recognized by the US Department of Education. CUSM-SOM has not entered into an articulation or transfer agreement with any other college or university. CUSM-SOM MD program does not award credit for prior experiential learning (e.g., military and work experience, community service), etc.

### **Policies and Procedures for Transfer and Award of Academic Credits**

#### **Transfer from an LCME-Accredited Institution**

Transfer of students into the CUSM-SOM educational program leading to the MD degree will be permitted in rare circumstances when the class size is below the LCME-approved capacity and only under the aegis of LCME accreditation. i.e., students requesting to transfer into the CUSM-SOM MD program must be leaving an LCME-accredited institution in good academic standing. Transfer at the beginning of year 3 is the only option.

**Transfer into Year 3:** A student wishing to transfer will be assessed by the CUSM-SOM admissions committee. The student must fulfill all entrance requirements for matriculation to CUSM-SOM, including submitting the required admissions documents, attending an interview, and paying the required fees. In addition, the student must submit additional documents (see Implementation Practices section below) including proof of passing the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Step 1 exam. In addition, all transfer students will be required to undergo a clinical skills assessment, under the direction of the Director of Clinical Skills and Simulation at CUSM, to determine that they hold equivalent skills with our regularly enrolled students. Remediation of noted skills deficits will be required before being allowed to participate in the clinical curriculum.

#### **Credit from Foreign Institutions**

CUSM-SOM will not consider transfer credit from a foreign institution of higher education unless accredited by the LCME.

#### **Maximum Credit Allowed**

**Transfer into Year 3:** Year 1 and 2 academic credits at the student's home institution may be applied toward the CUSM-SOM MD program after (1) passing the CUSM clinical skills assessment, (2) the CUSM-SOM admissions committee's evaluation and approval, and (3) passing Step 1 of the USMLE. The maximum number of transfer credits will not exceed the total credit number of the CUSM-SOM Year 1 and Year 2 courses. See below for details.

#### **Implementation Practices for the Transfer and Awarding of Academic Credit**

California University of Science and Medicine accepts transfer applications if transfer positions are available. Opportunities for transfer are very rare.

If a transfer position is available, applications are accepted only from enrolled students in good standing at LCME-accredited allopathic medical schools in the United States. Applicants must have successfully completed the second year and not yet started the third year. Applicants must have completed all preclinical coursework and passed USMLE Step 1.

CUSM-SOM has established the following practices for the transfer and award of academic credit. Maximum consideration for the individual student will be the intent, with compassion for individual circumstances compelling the student to seek a transfer to CUSM-SOM.

Transcript evaluation by the CUSM-SOM admissions committee will be required using the following criteria:

1. The student wishing to transfer to CUSM-SOM must request an official transcript of record from the home medical school, with complete application materials appended (MCAT scores, academic grades for undergraduate coursework, original application to medical school or AMCAS materials, etc.). The student must also submit the results of the USMLE Step 1 Exam and a “mini” Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE) from the student’s home institution.
2. CUSM-SOM will confirm that the student’s home medical school is LCME-accredited.
3. The CUSM-SOM admissions committee, in consultation with the Executive Vice Dean for University Relations and Admissions, will review course descriptions from the home/awarding institution, with a copy of the catalog and/or syllabus and any course outlines or other information necessary to validate that learning outcomes are comparable to CUSM-SOM requirements.
4. CUSM-SOM must receive written confirmation from the Dean of the medical school from which student is transferring that the student is in good standing academically and has exhibited no tendencies or behaviors that would make her/him unfit for the practice of medicine.
5. A statement from the student explaining reason/s for transfer, i.e., spousal relocation, family considerations, or other circumstances.

### **Synopsis of Requirements**

1. Transfer is only considered at the beginning of the clinical years of the curriculum and is on a space available basis.
2. Student must be from an LCME accredited institution.
3. Student must have passed USMLE Step 1.
4. Student must have and undergraduate CGPA at or above 3.0.
5. Student must have an MCAT score at or above the 50th percentile for the year in which it was taken.
6. Student must request all transcripts to be sent directly to CUSM Admissions. Foreign transcripts must be evaluated for equivalency by an agency approved by CUSM.
7. Student must request a mini MSPE from their current institution that reflects their progress through the first two years of the curriculum.

8. Student must take the CASPer SIT and receive a score => 50th percentile.
9. Student must complete the Kira interviews and receive an overall score => 4.0 on a 5-point scale.
10. Student must be a resident of the state of California.
11. Student must show proof of full compliance with our immunization requirements.
12. Student must successfully pass a criminal background check.
13. Student must be evaluated by our clinical skills faculty and demonstrate a skill level => our current students at the end of their basic science curriculum.
14. In the case of a student asking to transfer from a Spanish speaking Puerto Rican medical school, the student must take the TOEFL examination and demonstrate proficiency in English.
15. Student must not be on probation or had any disciplinary actions.
16. Student must have a letter sent from the Registrar of their current institution stating that they are in good academic standing. This could be included in the mini MSPE, however.
17. Student must provide a letter stating their reasons for wanting to transfer.
18. Student must request AMCAS to send us a copy of their AMCAS application.