

LECOM Medical Early Acceptance Program (EAP) - Comprehensive FAQ

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Program Overview

What is the LECOM Medical Early Acceptance Program (EAP)?

The LECOM Medical Early Acceptance Program is a partnership between LECOM and select undergraduate institutions that allows qualified students to secure a conditionally reserved seat at LECOM's College of Medicine while completing their undergraduate education. Students earn acceptance to pursue a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) degree.

What is the medical track available?

The **4+4 Track** allows students to complete 4 years of undergraduate education with at least 120 credit hours, then 4 years at LECOM's College of Medicine.

What degree will I earn?

Upon successful completion of the program, you will earn a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) degree from LECOM.

Eligibility Requirements

Who is eligible to apply for the Medical EAP?

- U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents (green card holders)
- Canadian citizens (case-by-case review)
- Must not have earned a four-year undergraduate degree
- Must have no more than 65 earned undergraduate credit hours when applying
- Must be able to complete at least 60 credit hours at an affiliated institution
- Must be enrolled in the EAP for at least two consecutive years before LECOM matriculation

What are the minimum academic requirements?

High School Students:

- SAT ≥ 1240 or ACT ≥ 26
- High School unweighted GPA ≥ 3.50

College Students:

- 3.40 overall GPA and 3.30 science GPA
- Must meet ACT/SAT requirements listed above

Can I apply if I'm currently in college?

Yes, current college students at affiliated institutions can apply if they meet the ACT/SAT and GPA requirements and have at least two consecutive years remaining as a full-time student.

Application Process

When can I apply to the Medical EAP?

Applications are open from May 1st to April 1st through the LECOM Application Portal. You can apply as a high school senior or current undergraduate student.

What is the application process?

1. Submit application through LECOM Application Portal
2. Attend mandatory information session (conducted via Zoom)
3. Complete video interview (using VidCruiter Inc)
4. Receive provisional letter of acceptance if approved

5. Submit college email address to confirm enrollment at affiliated institution

Is the application separate from my undergraduate school application?

Yes, the Medical EAP application is completely separate from your undergraduate school application. Some undergraduate schools may have additional requirements for their phase of the program.

Do I need to take the MCAT?

Medical EAP students may be exempt from the MCAT if they meet the Academic Index Score (AIS) requirement of 115 or higher. Students who don't meet the AIS requirement must either:

- Take the MCAT and achieve a total score of 500 or higher, OR
- Complete the Master of Medical Science program at LECOM with a 3.0 or higher GPA

If you choose to take the MCAT despite meeting the AIS requirement, you must still score 500 or better, or you will be removed from the EAP.

Academic Requirements

What courses do I need to take during undergraduate studies?

Required Courses:

- 6 credit hours English
- 6 credit hours Behavioral Science
- 4 credit hours Physics (with lab)
- 8 credit hours Biology (with 2 labs)
- 8 credit hours General Chemistry (with 2 labs)
- 8 credit hours Organic Chemistry (with 2 labs)
- 3 credit hours Biochemistry
- 3 credit hours Genetics

Strongly Recommended Courses:

- 4 credit hours Physiology
- 4-8 credit hours Human Anatomy (with lab)
- 4 credit hours Microbiology (with lab)
- 3 credit hours Cell Biology
- 3 credit hours Histology
- 3 credit hours Immunology
- 3 credit hours Embryology

- 3 credit hours Medical Terminology
- 3 credit hours Pathophysiology

What major should I choose?

You must major in one of the biological or physical sciences. Majors outside of these fields require approval by both LECOM and your LECOM liaison. You must also pursue a Bachelor of Science degree if your school offers one.

What GPA do I need to maintain?

You must maintain minimum GPAs throughout the program:

- **Overall GPA:** ≥ 3.40
- **Science GPA:** ≥ 3.30

These GPAs are reviewed in February and July of each year.

What happens if my GPA drops below requirements?

- First time below requirements: Warning
- Second time below requirements: Dismissal from the EAP
- Failing any class results in immediate dismissal from the EAP

What grades are acceptable?

- A final grade of "C" or better must be achieved in all LECOM required courses
- "C-minus" or below is not acceptable
- Pass/Fail courses are not permitted for any course that offers a numerical or letter grade

Can I use AP credits?

- AP credits accepted for English and Behavioral Science only (score of 4 or 5 required)
- AP credits will NOT be accepted for any required science course
- Replacement courses of similar academic rigor must be taken to maintain full course load

Program Commitments and Restrictions

Can I apply to other medical schools while in the EAP?

No. By accepting the provisional letter of acceptance, you agree not to apply to or enroll in any other medical school's early acceptance programs or regular admissions.

Can I withdraw from the EAP?

Yes, you can withdraw at any time by notifying LECOM in writing. However, once you withdraw, you cannot be reinstated in the EAP (though you may apply as a standard applicant later). Any matriculation deposit paid will not be refunded.

What could cause LECOM to withdraw my acceptance?

- Applying to any other medical school
 - Not maintaining required GPAs
 - Failing a class
 - Not attending the mandatory on-campus day
 - Being placed on conduct probation
 - Criminal activity or disciplinary actions
 - Unprofessional behavior
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Campus and Learning Pathway Options

Which LECOM campuses offer the Medical program?

- **Erie, PA** (main campus) - all learning pathways available
- **Bradenton, FL** (branch campus) - Problem-Based Learning only
- **Greensburg, PA** (LECOM at Seton Hill) - Problem-Based Learning only
- **Elmira, NY** (LECOM at Elmira) - Problem-Based Learning only

What learning pathways are available?

- **Lecture Discussion Pathway (LDP)** - Traditional lectures and labs (Erie only)
- **Problem-Based Learning (PBL)** - Case-based learning in small groups (all campuses)
- **Directed Study Pathway (DSP)** - Self-directed learning (Erie only)
- **Primary Care Scholars Pathway (PCSP)** - 3-year accelerated program for students committed to family medicine or general internal medicine (Erie only)

Are there any restrictions on pathway selection for EAP students?

EAP students have priority for campus and pathway preferences, but some pathways have limited seats:

- **DSP:** Limited to 5 EAP seats

- **PBL:** Limited to 6 EAP seats
- **PCSP:** Limited to 2 EAP seats

If demand exceeds availability for DSP or PCSP, priority is based on Academic Index Score (highest to lowest).

When do I select my final campus and pathway?

Students select their final campus and pathway choice when submitting grade entries due by July 1, two years prior to LECOM matriculation year. This selection is finalized on the July 15th supplemental application and cannot be changed afterward.

Can I change my campus or pathway selection after visiting LECOM?

No. Students select their final campus and pathway choice when the supplemental application opens on July 15th before their senior year. That application allows LECOM to gather transcripts, final campus/pathway choice, and letters of recommendation to run everything through the committee one final time. If you have met the requirements, the committee provides a formal letter of acceptance to the medical school, along with a timeline for your first deposit. Once you make that selection on the July 15th application, you will not be allowed to change it.

Financial and Practical Considerations

Are there any scholarships available?

Students who graduate 12 months prior to their designated matriculation year and meet all other requirements must attend the LECOM Master of Medical Science (MMS) Program. These students receive a full tuition scholarship for the MMS program (covers tuition only, not books, housing, or other fees).

What are my responsibilities as an EAP student?

- Submit official SAT/ACT scores within 5 business days of application
- Report grades by February 1 and July 1 each year
- Attend mandatory LECOM on-campus day
- Maintain required GPAs
- Report any disciplinary actions within 30 days
- Complete required coursework by July 1 of matriculation year
- Maintain full-time student status (typically 14+ credit hours)

When is the mandatory on-campus day?

The mandatory on-campus day is held the summer before your senior year at your undergraduate institution (typically July or August). The date is not set until April or May of your junior year. All travel expenses are your responsibility. Failure to attend results in loss of your reserved seat.

When exactly do I need to visit LECOM during my undergraduate years?

The mandatory on-campus day is the summer before your senior year. LECOM does not set the date until April or May of your junior year due to faculty involvement. You should not schedule anything that summer until you have booked your travel for the on-campus day. No exceptions will be made, unless it is a medical emergency.

Special Circumstances

Can I graduate early from undergraduate school?

Yes, but the gap between graduation and LECOM matriculation cannot exceed 7 months. Requirements include:

- Notify LECOM at least 12 months prior to graduation
- Submit monthly status reports of activities after graduation
- Have letters of recommendation submitted before undergraduate graduation
- Finalize all grade entries within 30 days of graduation
- Attend affiliate on-campus day
- Participate in Affiliate Enhancement (Boot Camp) Course

Are there any issues or extra requirements if I graduate a semester early and begin courses at LECOM the following fall?

LECOM allows one semester early graduation but not one year early. You should email eap@lecom.edu to request early graduation. You should be in good standing and have taken all required AND recommended courses in the LECOM policy manual before requesting early graduation. LECOM will require you to notify them monthly of your educational and medical school enrichment activities during that final semester after graduation. Other than that, there are no penalties.

Can I take a leave of absence?

Medical or hardship leaves of absence up to one year may be approved. You must:

- Submit the appropriate form within 30 days of commencing leave
- Check in with LECOM quarterly

- Have the form signed by your LECOM liaison

Can I study abroad?

Yes, but all LECOM required courses must be taken at your affiliated institution. Study abroad courses that count toward your undergraduate graduation are acceptable as long as they appear on your undergraduate transcript. You must run your abroad coursework through the WES Evaluation System online and send a copy to eap@lecom.edu.

Are study abroad courses that count towards graduation acceptable if they're not at a LECOM affiliate school?

Yes, if the transcript at your undergraduate institution shows the grades for those courses, that is acceptable. You will need to take all required courses at your affiliated institution. You must also run your abroad coursework through the WES Evaluation System online and send a copy of that assessment to eap@lecom.edu in order to matriculate to the program.

What about transfer credits?

- Transfer credits from non-affiliated institutions are limited to 65 credit hours
- All LECOM required courses must be taken at your affiliated institution
- Transfer credits are evaluated case-by-case

Can I change tracks?

Since there is only one track available (4+4), track changes are not applicable for your program.

Final Application and Matriculation

When do I need to submit my final LECOM application?

The LECOM online College of Medicine Application and official transcripts must be submitted by September 1 of the year prior to LECOM matriculation. You do NOT need to complete an AACOMAS application.

When are letters of recommendation due?

Letters of recommendation must be submitted by July 1st of your junior year.

What types of letters of recommendation are acceptable?

- One affiliated institution committee letter with at least two different contributors, OR

- A detailed evaluation from your LECOM liaison and one from a physical science professor, OR
- Two affiliated institution physical science professors

Letters from teaching or lab assistants are not permitted.

What happens after I submit my final application?

After receiving your final application and confirming criteria are met, LECOM will mail you a Dean's contingency letter confirming final admission and listing items required for matriculation.

When do I receive my matriculation agreement?

Provided you meet Phase II criteria by February 1 of your matriculation year, LECOM will mail you a matriculation agreement and final acceptance letter.

When are final transcripts due?

Official transcripts showing final grades from all post-secondary institutions must be received by LECOM's Office of Admissions no later than June 1 of your matriculation year.

Contact Information

For additional questions about the Medical EAP, contact:

LECOM EAP Office of Admissions 1858 West Grandview Blvd. Erie, PA 16509-1025

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