

Creighton University School of Medicine

Medical Education Program Policies

POLICY: Dual Degree Programs

GOVERNING BODY: Advancement Committee

APPROVAL DATE: 7/9/2019

REVISED DATE: 4/26/2022, 8/23/2022

LCME ACCREDITATION STANDARD REFERENCE: Element 10.3 Policies Regarding Student Selection/Progress and Their Dissemination

PURPOSE

The Creighton University School of Medicine (hereafter, School) in partnership with the Creighton University Graduate School offers several Dual-degree Programs to students enrolled in the Medical Education Program. The Dual-degree Programs provide additional academic diversity to a medical student's educational experience at Creighton University.

The following Dual-degree Programs are available:

- M.D. – Master of Science (MS) in Biomedical Sciences
- M.D. – Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- M.D. – Master of Arts (MA) in Medical Humanities
- M.D. – Master of Public Health (MPH)
- M.D. – Master of Science (MS) in Bioethics
- M.D. – Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Biomedical Sciences
- M.D. – Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Medical Microbiology and Immunology
- M.D. – Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Pharmacology and Neuroscience

POLICY

Students may consider enrollment into and continue work in a Dual Degree Program if they achieve and maintain good academic standards within the School. Course timelines are outlined below, but at no time will simultaneous work be allowed for both degrees unless the course work in one degree counts as credit for both degrees.

PROCEDURE

1. Dual-Degree Master Program

- A. A student interested in a dual-degree Master program is required to:
 - a. Meet with the Associate Dean/Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and Associate Dean for Medical Education for the student's respective campus
 - b. Submit a letter requesting participation in a dual-degree master-degree program to the Medical Education Program Advancement Committee. The letter must include the following information:
 - i. Academic schedule that details the required courses needed to complete the degree
 - ii. Anticipated dates of absence from participation in the Medical Education Program to complete the master-degree.

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The Advancement Committee must approve the student's participation in the dual-degree program prior to the student enrolling in and receiving academic credit for any Master-level course.

- c. Apply to and be accepted by the program in which the Master-level program resides.
- B. Students who have applied to the medical education (MD) program and are interested in applying to the Arrupe Scholars and Partnerships Program are required to:
- a. Apply to the Arrupe Scholars and Partnerships Program.
 - b. Receive admission into medical education (MD) program before being considered for admission into the Arrupe Scholars and Partnerships Program.
- C. Timeline:
- a. Students may complete Master-degree applicable coursework in the summer between the M1 and M2 years.
 - b. Students will be required to pass Step 1 prior to beginning master-degree coursework between their M2 and M3 year.
 - c. Students will spend one year between the M2 and M3 years completing the master's degree coursework.
 - d. Students may receive dual-credit for up to eight credit hours of the master's program coursework completed during the M4 year. The credit hours will be applied to the 10 credits of non-clinical electives allowed within the M4 year.

2. Arrupe Scholars and Partnerships Program:

- A. Students who have applied to the medical education (MD) program and are interested in applying to the Arrupe Scholars and Partnerships Program are required to:
- a. Apply to the Arrupe Scholars and Partnerships Program.
 - b. Receive admission into medical education (MD) program before being considered for admission into the Arrupe Scholars and Partnerships Program.
- B. Timeline:
- a. Students are required to participate in a global immersion experience prior to matriculation into the medical education.
 - b. Students may complete Master-degree applicable coursework in the summer between the M1 and M2 years.

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- c. Students will be required to pass Step 1 prior to beginning master-degree coursework between their M2 and M3 year.
- d. Students will spend one year between the M2 and M3 years completing the master's degree coursework.
- e. Students may receive dual-credit for up to eight credit hours of the master's program coursework completed during the M4 year. The credit hours will be applied to the 10 credits of non-clinical electives allowed within the M4 year.

3. Dual-Degree Ph.D. Programs

A. Approval:

Students are admitted to the dual-degree Ph.D. program only in conjunction with admission to the School of Medicine.

B. Timeline:

- a. Students complete the first two years of the medical curriculum and receive dual credit for certain courses required for the Ph.D. degree programs.
- b. Students take Ph.D. applicable coursework in the summers preceding and during the M1 and M2 years.
- c. Students must pass Step 1 prior to beginning Ph.D. degree coursework between their M2 and M3 year.
- d. Students take a minimum of two full academic years away from the medical curriculum to complete Ph.D. coursework and work on research.
- e. Students take a minimum of two full academic years to complete research for Ph.D. degree while completing M3 clinical clerkships on a schedule that must be approved by the Associate Dean for Medical Education and the Associate Dean for Student Affairs. Students subsequently return to the M4 year to complete their clinical electives.

SCOPE

Students applying for admission and/or have enrolled in the Medical Education Program.

ADMINISTRATION AND INTERPRETATION

Advancement Committee is responsible for the administration of this policy. Please forward questions to the Chair of the Advanced Committee.

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AMENDMENT

This policy may be amended by majority vote of the School of Medicine Medical Education Program Educational Program Committee.