



OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC

8888 University Drive,  
Burnaby, BC  
Canada V5A 1S6

TEL: 778.782.6654  
FAX: 778.782.5876

avpacad@sfu.ca  
www.sfu.ca/vpacademic

**MEMORANDUM**

---

<b>ATTENTION</b>	Senate	<b>DATE</b>	January 9, 2026
<b>FROM</b>	Paul Kingsbury, Vice-Chair Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies	<b>PAGES</b>	1/1
<b>RE:</b>	SFU School of Medicine: Revised Admission Criteria ( <i>SCUS 26-14</i> )		

---

Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies at its meeting of January 8, 2026 gives rise to the following recommendation:

**Motion**

That Senate approve the revisions to the admissions policy for the Medical Doctor (MD) program within the School of Medicine, effective Fall 2026, for applicants submitting their application for Fall 2027 and later.

## SCUS Briefing Note

<b>Subject:</b>	MD Program – Calendar Edits for 2027 Admission Year Admissions Policy on Foreign Transcripts
<b>Date:</b>	December 11, 2025
<b>Unit/Department:</b>	School of Medicine
<b>Resource People to Attend Meeting</b>	Dr. Meredith Vanstone, Interim Assistant Dean, Admissions Steve Birnie, Interim Executive Director, School of Medicine Tracy Yiu, Associate Director, Admissions and Records

### Topic

The School of Medicine Admissions Committee met on December 2, 2025 and is recommending three clarifying changes to the School's Calendar Entry or Applicant Manual. Minor editorial updates for clarity and consistency have also been made to the Calendar Entry. These recommendations are based on data from our first cycle, including an analysis of correspondence from applicants, applications started but not submitted, and submitted applications.

#### Recommended changes:

1. Revise eligible MCAT attempts to best of first two valid attempts.
2. Accept Indigenous Studies pre-requisite courses taken outside of the degree used to form the GPA (for GPA and GPA & MCAT streams).
3. Require WES or ICES course-by-course evaluations of international transcripts.

We are seeking SCUS approval to move these recommendations forward to Senate.

### Context

#### 1. MCAT Attempts

##### Background:

Current policy evaluates the *second* MCAT attempt if multiple valid attempts exist within the five-year window. Valid attempts exclude those voided by the applicant at the test centre or voided by AAMC for technical or integrity reasons.

**Rationale:**

The existing policy assumed applicants only retake the MCAT after an unsatisfactory first performance and that subsequent attempts would be higher. Early cycle data show this assumption is not holding. Applicant feedback indicated confusion about why only the second attempt was used, with some noting it did not reflect their strongest performance. MCAT data received in submitted and non-submitted applications confirmed this observation.

The MCAT costs ~\$475 CAD plus travel burdens associated with limited seat availability. Many applicants also take time off from work or school for weeks or months to study for the test. Restricting evaluation to the **best of the first two valid attempts** dis-incentivizes resource-intensive repeat testing why reducing advantage for applicants who can afford multiple attempts.

**2. Acceptance of Indigenous Studies Pre-Requisite on Any Transcript****Background:**

GPA and GPA & MCAT applicants must currently demonstrate all pre-requisite courses (Humanities/Social Sciences, Life Sciences, and Indigenous Studies) on the transcript of the degree used for GPA calculation. MCAT-only applicants may present pre-requisites across multiple transcripts.

In Year 1, the Indigenous Studies requirement was temporarily exempted from the single-degree transcript requirement.

**Rationale:**

Applicants—particularly mature applicants—have indicated that the Indigenous Studies pre-requisite is the most challenging to demonstrate within a single degree transcript, as such courses were not widely required until recently. We have observed among submitted applications that approximately 50% of transcripts do not currently contain an Indigenous Studies course.

Allowing this requirement to be satisfied on **any** transcript provides flexibility without undermining the rigour of the GPA-based pathways.

All other pre-requisites would remain bound to the degree transcript for GPA and GPA & MCAT applicants. MCAT pathway applicants would continue to use any transcript.

### 3. Requirement for WES or ICES Course-by-Course Evaluation of International Transcripts

#### **Background:**

WES (World Education Services) and ICES (International Credential Evaluation Services) provide standardized analyses of international credentials, including course equivalencies, credit weights, and grading scales. These evaluations are widely used by Canadian medical schools and several SFU programs (e.g., Beedie MBA, FHS MPH). Peers at other medical schools have shared that there has been a recent rise in applicants presenting fraudulent international academic credentials, and WES evaluations have been helpful in certifying authenticity.

SFU Central Admissions evaluates credentials internally; however, this level of analysis exceeds the capacity of the School of Medicine Admissions team.

#### **Rationale:**

External credential evaluation ensures document authenticity, consistency in GPA calculations, and fair comparisons across diverse international systems. This approach aligns with practices at peer Canadian medical schools, including UBC. The School of Medicine does not have the staffing or expertise required to reliably evaluate international academic documents.

## Consultation

- **Admissions Committee (Dec. 2, 2025):** Supported moving all three recommendations forward to Faculty Council, SCUS, and Senate.
- **Registrar's Office (Tom Nault):** Confirmed these changes require Calendar and/or Applicant Manual revisions and fall within SCUS/Senate purview.
- **Faculty Council (Dec. 16, 2025):** Faculty Council unanimously approved these changes and recommended that they proceed to the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies.
- **Applicant Feedback (in-cycle):**

- Identified concerns that the Indigenous Studies pre-requisite requirement disproportionately impacts mature applicants whose degrees predated the availability of such courses.
- Expressed confusion regarding the use of only the second MCAT attempt, noting this did not always reflect their strongest performance.
- **Alignment with Peer Institutions:** Confirmed alignment with Canadian medical school practices for MCAT retake evaluation and international credential assessment.

## Next Steps

- Submit proposed changes to Senate for approval.
- Update the School of Medicine website, Applicant Manual, and admissions application portal to reflect changes for Cycle 2.

## Attachments

- (1) School of Medicine – Calendar Entry
- (2) School of Medicine - Foreign transcripts: Applicant Manual



<p><b>Name of Program or Name of Faculty</b> School of Medicine</p>
<p><b>Rationale for change:</b></p> <p>The existing policy assumed applicants only retake the MCAT after an unsatisfactory first performance and that subsequent attempts would be higher. Early cycle data show this assumption is not holding. Applicant feedback indicated confusion about why only the second attempt was used, with some noting it did not reflect their strongest performance. MCAT data received in submitted and nonsubmitted applications confirmed this observation.</p> <p>Applicants—particularly mature applicants—have indicated that the Indigenous Studies pre-requisite is the most challenging to demonstrate within a single degree transcript, as such courses were not widely required until recently. We have observed among submitted applications that approximately 50% of transcripts do not currently contain an Indigenous Studies course. Allowing this requirement to be satisfied on any transcript provides flexibility without undermining the rigour of the GPA-based pathways.</p> <p>External credential evaluation ensures document authenticity, consistency in GPA calculations, and fair comparisons across diverse international systems. This approach aligns with practices at peer Canadian medical schools, including UBC. The School of Medicine does not have the staffing or expertise required to reliably evaluate international academic documents.</p>
<p><b>Effective term and year:</b></p> <p>Fall 2026</p>
<p><b>The following program(s) will be affected by these changes:</b></p> <p>Doctor of Medicine</p>

**Calendar Change:** All deletions should be crossed out as follows: ~~sample~~. All additions should be marked in **bold font**. Do not use “to” and “from” sections.

<p><b>Medical Doctor</b></p> <p>DOCTOR OF MEDICINE</p> <p>This program, located at the Surrey campus, leads to a doctor of medicine degree.</p>
---

## Admission Requirements

Please refer to the [School of Medicine Admissions](#) section.

All prospective candidates must complete a four-year undergraduate bachelor's degree, in any discipline, from SFU or its equivalent from a recognized post-secondary institution prior to admission. Applicants who have at least 90 graded units and will complete their degree by April 30 of the year that admission to the MD program is sought are eligible for consideration.

Applicants for the MD program must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents. In the first cohorts, applicants must be residents of BC, Nunavut, Yukon or Northwest Territories. We anticipate opening a small number of spots for out-of-province applicants in future years.

Recognizing that individuals may take different paths to a career in medicine, applicants can choose to demonstrate their academic eligibility for the doctor of medicine undergraduate program via the following options:

- grade point average (GPA) only
- Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) only
- GPA and MCAT

Please note that individuals who have been required to withdraw from another medical school for academic reasons are not eligible to apply to the SFU MD program.

### GPA Only

Applicant seeking admission via the GPA only option must complete the following:

- A four-year undergraduate degree in any discipline from a recognized post-secondary institution, with a minimum adjusted GPA threshold of 3.83 (based on a 4.33 grading scale or equivalent). The adjusted GPA is calculated on the applicant's best 60 graded units of the last 90 units of their degree. This must include at least 30 units of upper division course work with the last 90 units completed in no more than four calendar years.
- The school's English language requirement
- Prerequisite courses\*:
  - two life sciences courses (minimum three units each, with at least one course that is 200 level or higher)
  - two humanities or social sciences courses (minimum three units each, any level)

- ~~one Indigenous studies course (minimum three units, any level). This will be a prerequisite for the 2027 admission year, but for the 2026 admission year, students must complete this requirement prior to the start of classes.~~
- ~~All prerequisites must be included in the 60 unit adjusted GPA calculation, regardless of when the courses were completed.~~
- ~~A grade of B- or better must be achieved on all prerequisite courses.~~
- ~~In addition to the prerequisites, courses in critical reasoning and general science are strongly recommended.~~

~~\*For guidance on qualifying prerequisite courses, see admission website.~~

### MCAT Only

~~Applicants seeking admission via the MCAT only option must complete the following:~~

- ~~A four year undergraduate degree in any discipline from a recognized post-secondary institution.~~
- ~~The school's English language requirement~~
- ~~The MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test), with a minimum score of 510, with at least a minimum of 123 in each section of the test. Test scores must be achieved within five years of application.~~
- ~~For applicants who have written the MCAT more than once, the second attempt will be used, regardless of how many attempts have been made. This is to ensure there is no benefit accrued from repeated MCAT attempts.~~
- ~~Prerequisite courses\*:~~
  - ~~two humanities or social sciences courses (minimum three units each, any level)~~
  - ~~one Indigenous studies course (minimum three units, any level). This will be a prerequisite for the 2027 admission year, but for the 2026 admission year, this will be a pre-enrollment requirement.~~
- ~~A grade of B- or better must be achieved on all prerequisite courses.~~

~~\*For guidance on qualifying prerequisite courses, see admissions website.~~

### GPA and MCAT

~~Applicants seeking admission via the GPA and MCAT option must complete the following:~~

- ~~A four year undergraduate degree in any discipline from a recognized post-secondary institution, with a minimum adjusted GPA threshold of 3.67 (based on a 4.33 grading scale or equivalent). The adjusted GPA is calculated on the applicant's best 60 graded units of the last 90 units of their degree. This must include at least 30~~

units of upper division course work with the last 90 units completed in no more than four calendar years.

- The school's English language requirement
- The MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test), with a minimum score of 505, with at least a minimum of 123 in each section of the test. Test scores must be achieved within five years of application.
- For applicants who have written the MCAT more than once, the second attempt will be used, regardless of how many attempts have been made. This is to ensure there is no benefit accrued from repeated MCAT attempts.
- Prerequisite courses\*:
  - two humanities or social sciences courses (minimum three units each, any level)
  - one Indigenous studies course (minimum three units, any level). This will be a prerequisite for the 2027 admission year, but for the 2026 admission year, this will be a pre-enrollment requirement.
- All prerequisites must be included in the 60-unit adjusted GPA calculation, regardless of when the courses were completed.
- A grade of B- or better must be achieved on all prerequisite courses.

\*For guidance on qualifying prerequisite courses, see admissions website.

## Selection

Admission into the MD program is competitive. The minimum admission requirements establish the threshold for admission but do not guarantee acceptance. GPA and/or MCAT scores alone will not be used to rank applicants. In addition to the academic requirements above, applicants may be assessed on all or some of their work/volunteer/community experience, other achievements, letters of reference and other related documentation. At this time, applications for the open admissions stream will only be accepted from residents of British Columbia, Nunavut, Yukon and Northwest Territories. After the initial review, eligible applicants will be selected for further evaluation.

For detailed information on admission requirements and process, visit website.

## Indigenous Stream Applicants

Simon Fraser University welcomes applications from qualified Indigenous applicants (First Nations, Metis, and Inuit) from across Canada. Indigenous applicants may apply either to the open admissions stream or to the Indigenous admissions stream provided they meet the applicable residency requirements. Applicants applying for admission via the Indigenous admissions stream must meet minimum admission requirements and provide documentation of Indigenous heritage via the SFU Indigenous Welcoming Procedure (Link) to be considered for admission. Documentation could include, but is not limited to, Indian,

or Metis status cards, official Inuit identification, official letters from Indigenous organizations or a combination of proofs. For more information, see the SFU SoM admissions website.

## Core Competencies and Functional Abilities

Applicants who meet the academic and non-academic standards set by the university must also exhibit the potential to excel as future physicians. Applicants must demonstrate their intellectual, physical, and emotional capabilities without compromising essential aspects of the program. These capabilities include learning, communication, knowledge integration, patient safety and quality, and professionalism as outlined in the Guideline on Core Competencies and Functional Abilities Required for the Study of Medicine.

In accordance with SFU's commitment to accessibility in education, applicants with disabilities are encouraged to apply to the MD program if they have the skills and abilities to meet the core requirements of a medical degree. Applicants with disabilities will be considered in accordance with SFU's Accessibility for Students with Disabilities Policy (GP26). Applicants requiring accommodations are encouraged to contact SFU's Centre for Accessible Learning for guidance. This policy does not eliminate the need for evaluation or the need to meet essential learning outcomes.

## Post Acceptance Requirements

Upon receiving an official letter of offer, each successful candidate must accept their offer by paying the non-refundable deposit payable to Simon Fraser University by the specified deadline, and in the amount, specific in the offer letter.

Once accepted, students are required to review the School of Medicine's Immunization and Testing Requirements and ensure compliance. All confirmed undergraduate medical students must submit their vaccination records to determine their risk for communicable diseases. In accordance with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia (CPSBC) Professional Standard, all students must undergo testing for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV upon entry into medical school and every three years thereafter. If a student tests positive, they are required to report their findings to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia for licensure.

It is also the responsibility of all students (and parent or guardian for students under 19 years of age) who work with children and/or vulnerable adults, or have unsupervised access to children and/or vulnerable adults, during the course of a certificate, diploma or degree program, to authorize a criminal record check (CRC) through Simon Fraser University, for the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General as per a legislative requirement under the British Columbia Criminal Records Review Act which took effect



~~January of 2012. This authorization is submitted to the Criminal Records Review Program for review.~~

~~For more information on post-acceptance requirements, see admissions website.~~

## ~~Transfer Requests~~

~~Transfer requests from students at other medical schools will not be considered.~~

## Minimum Grades

This program and its courses are competency based. Students are evaluated on SFU's competency grading scale. Required competencies and milestones that mark progress toward achievement of competencies are clearly outlined. Assessment will be programmatic; that is, all assessment modalities will indicate progress toward milestones and competencies.

Students will be able to monitor their progress with regular support from a program coach. The program will be able to closely monitor the progress of individual students as to identify areas of concern early and ensure individual learning enhancement plans are developed as necessary.

Students are deemed "satisfactory" for progress unless identified as failing to meet expectations.

## Program Requirements

Students must complete all of

Year 1

MEDS 410 - Foundations of Medical Practice (58)

Year 2

MEDS 420 - Extending Medical Practice (54)

Year 3

MEDS 430 Consolidation of Medical Practice (36)

---

New Calendar Entry Page: <https://www.sfu.ca/students/calendar/fees-and-regulations/admission/school-of-medicine-admission/fall-2026.html>

## Fall 2026

**All prospective candidates must complete a four-year undergraduate bachelor's degree, in any discipline, from SFU or its equivalent from a recognized post-secondary institution prior to admission. Applicants who have at least 90 graded units and will complete their degree by April 30 of the year that admission to the MD program is sought are eligible for consideration.**

**Applicants for the MD program must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents. In the first cohorts, applicants must be residents of BC, Nunavut, Yukon or Northwest Territories. We anticipate opening a small number of spots for out-of-province applicants in future years.**

**Recognizing that individuals may take different paths to a career in medicine, applicants can choose to demonstrate their academic eligibility for the doctor of medicine undergraduate program via the following options:**

- **grade point average (GPA) only**
- **Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) only**
- **GPA and MCAT**

**Please note that individuals who have been required to withdraw from another medical school for academic reasons are not eligible to apply to the SFU MD program.**

### GPA Only

**Applicant seeking admission via the GPA only option must complete the following:**

- **A four-year undergraduate degree in any discipline from a recognized post-secondary institution, with a minimum adjusted GPA threshold of 3.83 (based on a 4.33 grading scale or equivalent). The adjusted GPA is calculated on the applicant's best 60 graded units of the last 90 units of their degree. This must include at least 30 units of upper division course work with the last 90 units completed in no more than four calendar years.**
- **The school's English language requirement**
- **Prerequisite courses\*:**
  - **two life sciences courses (minimum three units each, with at least one course that is 200 level or higher)**
  - **two humanities or social sciences courses (minimum three units each, any level)**

- **one Indigenous studies course (minimum three units, any level). This will be a prerequisite for the 2027 admission year, but for the 2026 admission year, students must complete this requirement prior to the start of classes.**
- **All prerequisites must be included in the 60 unit adjusted GPA calculation, regardless of when the courses were completed.**
- **A grade of B- or better must be achieved on all prerequisite courses.**
- **In addition to the prerequisites, courses in critical reasoning and general science are strongly recommended.**

**\*For guidance on qualifying prerequisite courses, see admission website.**

### **MCAT Only**

**Applicants seeking admission via the MCAT only option must complete the following:**

- **A four-year undergraduate degree in any discipline from a recognized post-secondary institution.**
- **The school's English language requirement**
- **The MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test), with a minimum score of 510, with at least a minimum of 123 in each section of the test. Test scores must be achieved within five years of application.**
- **For applicants who have written the MCAT more than once, the second attempt will be used, regardless of how many attempts have been made. This is to ensure there is no benefit accrued from repeated MCAT attempts.**
- **Prerequisite courses\*:**
  - **two humanities or social sciences courses (minimum three units each, any level)**
  - **one Indigenous studies course (minimum three units, any level). This will be a prerequisite for the 2027 admission year, but for the 2026 admission year, this will be a pre-enrollment requirement.**
- **A grade of B- or better must be achieved on all prerequisite courses.**

**\*For guidance on qualifying prerequisite courses, see admissions website.**

### **GPA and MCAT**

**Applicants seeking admission via the GPA and MCAT option must complete the following:**

- **A four-year undergraduate degree in any discipline from a recognized post-secondary institution, with a minimum adjusted GPA threshold of 3.67 (based on a 4.33 grading scale or equivalent). The adjusted GPA is calculated on the**

**applicant's best 60 graded units of the last 90 units of their degree. This must include at least 30 units of upper division course work with the last 90 units completed in no more than four calendar years.**

- **The school's English language requirement**
- **The MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test), with a minimum score of 505, with at least a minimum of 123 in each section of the test. Test scores must be achieved within five years of application.**
- **For applicants who have written the MCAT more than once, the second attempt will be used, regardless of how many attempts have been made. This is to ensure there is no benefit accrued from repeated MCAT attempts.**
- **Prerequisite courses\*:**
  - **two humanities or social sciences courses (minimum three units each, any level)**
  - **one Indigenous studies course (minimum three units, any level). This will be a prerequisite for the 2027 admission year, but for the 2026 admission year, this will be a pre-enrollment requirement.**
- **All prerequisites must be included in the 60 unit adjusted GPA calculation, regardless of when the courses were completed.**
- **A grade of B- or better must be achieved on all prerequisite courses.**

**\*For guidance on qualifying prerequisite courses, see admissions website.**

## **Selection**

**Admission into the MD program is competitive. The minimum admission requirements establish the threshold for admission but do not guarantee acceptance. GPA and/or MCAT scores alone will not be used to rank applicants. In addition to the academic requirements above, applicants may be assessed on all or some of their work/volunteer/community experience, other achievements, letters of reference and other related documentation. At this time, applications for the open admissions stream will only be accepted from residents of British Columbia, Nunavut, Yukon and Northwest Territories. After the initial review, eligible applicants will be selected for further evaluation.**

**For detailed information on admission requirements and process, visit website.**

## **Indigenous Stream Applicants**

**Simon Fraser University welcomes applications from qualified Indigenous applicants (First Nations, Metis, and Inuit) from across Canada. Indigenous applicants may apply either to the open admissions stream or to the Indigenous admissions stream provided they meet the applicable residency requirements. Applicants applying for admission via the Indigenous admissions stream must meet minimum admission**

requirements and provide documentation of Indigenous heritage via the SFU Indigenous Welcoming Procedure to be considered for admission. Documentation could include, but is not limited to, Indian, or Metis status cards, official Inuit identification, official letters from Indigenous organizations or a combination of proofs. For more information, see the SFU SoM admissions website.

## **Core Competencies and Functional Abilities**

Applicants who meet the academic and non-academic standards set by the university must also exhibit the potential to excel as future physicians. Applicants must demonstrate their intellectual, physical, and emotional capabilities without compromising essential aspects of the program. These capabilities include learning, communication, knowledge integration, patient safety and quality, and professionalism as outlined in the Guideline on Core Competencies and Functional Abilities Required for the Study of Medicine.

In accordance with SFU's commitment to accessibility in education, applicants with disabilities are encouraged to apply to the MD program if they have the skills and abilities to meet the core requirements of a medical degree. Applicants with disabilities will be considered in accordance with SFU's Accessibility for Students with Disabilities Policy (GP26). Applicants requiring accommodations are encouraged to contact SFU's Centre for Accessible Learning for guidance. This policy does not eliminate the need for evaluation or the need to meet essential learning outcomes.

## **Post Acceptance Requirements**

Upon receiving an official letter of offer, each successful candidate must accept their offer by paying the non-refundable deposit payable to Simon Fraser University by the specified deadline, and in the amount, specific in the offer letter.

Once accepted, students are required to review the School of Medicine's Immunization and Testing Requirements and ensure compliance. All confirmed undergraduate medical students must submit their vaccination records to determine their risk for communicable diseases. In accordance with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia (CPSBC) Professional Standard, all students must undergo testing for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV upon entry into medical school and every three years thereafter. If a student tests positive, they are required to report their findings to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia for licensure.

It is also the responsibility of all students (and parent or guardian for students under 19 years of age) who work with children and/or vulnerable adults, or have

**unsupervised access to children and/or vulnerable adults, during the course of a certificate, diploma or degree program, to authorize a criminal record check (CRC) through Simon Fraser University, for the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General as per a legislative requirement under the British Columbia Criminal Records Review Act which took effect January of 2012. This authorization is submitted to the Criminal Records Review Program for review.**

**For more information on post-acceptance requirements, see admissions website.**

## **Transfer Requests**

**Transfer requests from students at other medical schools will not be considered.**

---

New Calendar Entry Page: : <https://www.sfu.ca/students/calendar/fees-and-regulations/admission/school-of-medicine-admission/fall-2027.html>

## **Fall 2027**

**All prospective candidates must complete a four-year undergraduate bachelor's degree, in any discipline, from SFU or its equivalent from a recognized post-secondary institution prior to admission. Applicants who have at least 90 units and will complete their degree by April 30 of the year that admission to the MD program is sought are eligible for consideration.**

**Applicants for the MD program must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents. In the first cohorts, applicants must be residents of BC, Nunavut, Yukon or Northwest Territories. We anticipate opening a small number of spots for out-of-province applicants in future years.**

**Recognizing that individuals may take different paths to a career in medicine, applicants can choose to demonstrate their academic eligibility for the doctor of medicine undergraduate program via the following options:**

- **grade point average (GPA)**
- **Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)**
- **GPA and MCAT**

**Please note that individuals who have been required to withdraw from another medical school for academic reasons are not eligible to apply to the SFU MD program.**

## GPA Option

Applicants seeking admission via the GPA option must complete the following:

- A four-year undergraduate degree or equivalent in any discipline from a recognized post-secondary institution, with a minimum adjusted GPA threshold of 3.83 (based on a 4.33 grading scale or equivalent). The adjusted GPA is calculated on the applicant's best 60 graded units of the last 90 units of their degree. This must include at least 30 units of upper division course work with the last 90 units completed in no more than four calendar years.
- The school's English language requirement
- Prerequisite courses\*:
  - two life sciences courses (minimum three units each, with at least one course that is 200 level or higher)
  - two humanities or social sciences courses (minimum three units each, any level)
  - one Indigenous studies course (minimum three units, any level).
- **The life sciences and humanities or social sciences prerequisite courses must be included as part of the degree used to construct the GPA and must be included in the 60 unit adjusted GPA calculation, regardless of when the courses were completed.**
- **The Indigenous studies prerequisite course may be completed either within the degree used to construct the adjusted GPA or outside the degree. If completed within the degree, it will be counted toward the 60 units used for the adjusted GPA, calculation; if completed outside the degree, it will not form part of the adjusted GPA (see applicant manual for more details).**
- A grade of B- or better must be achieved on all prerequisite courses.
- In addition to the prerequisites, courses in critical reasoning and general science are strongly recommended.

\*For guidance on qualifying prerequisite courses, see admission website.

## MCAT Option

Applicants seeking admission via the MCAT option must complete the following:

- A four-year undergraduate degree **or equivalent** in any discipline from a recognized post-secondary institution.
- The school's English language requirement
- The MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test), with a minimum score of 510, with at least a minimum of 123 in each section of the test. Test scores must be achieved within five years of application.

- For applicants who have written the MCAT more than once, the best score from the first two valid attempts will be used. Scores from any subsequent attempts will not be considered. This approach ensures there is no benefit accrued from further MCAT attempts.
- Prerequisite courses\*:
  - two humanities or social sciences courses (minimum three units each, any level)
  - one Indigenous studies course (minimum three units, any level).
- Applicants may complete the Indigenous studies prerequisite course either within the undergraduate degree used to meet the MD program academic eligibility requirements or independently of that degree (see applicant manual for more details).
- A grade of B- or better must be achieved on all prerequisite courses.

\*For guidance on qualifying prerequisite courses, see admissions website.

## GPA and MCAT Option

Applicants seeking admission via the GPA and MCAT option must complete the following:

- A four-year undergraduate degree or equivalent in any discipline from a recognized post-secondary institution, with a minimum adjusted GPA threshold of 3.67 (based on a 4.33 grading scale or equivalent). The adjusted GPA is calculated on the applicant's best 60 graded units of the last 90 units of their degree. This must include at least 30 units of upper division course work with the last 90 units completed in no more than four calendar years.
- The school's English language requirement
- The MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test), with a minimum score of 505, with at least a minimum of 123 in each section of the test. Test scores must be achieved within five years of application.
- For applicants who have written the MCAT more than once, the best score from the first two valid attempts will be used. Scores from subsequent attempts will not be used. This approach ensures there is no benefit accrued from further MCAT attempts.
- Prerequisite courses\*:
  - two humanities or social sciences courses (minimum three units each, any level)
  - one Indigenous studies course (minimum three units, any level).
- The humanities or social sciences prerequisite courses must be included as part of the degree used to construct the GPA and must be included in the 60 unit adjusted GPA calculated, regardless of when the courses were completed.

- **The Indigenous studies prerequisite course may be completed either within the degree used to construct the adjusted GPA or outside the degree. If completed within the degree, it will be counted toward the 60 units used for the adjusted GPA, calculation; if completed outside the degree, it will not form part of the adjusted GPA (see applicant manual for more details).**
- **All prerequisites must be included in the 60 unit adjusted GPA calculation, regardless of when the courses were completed.**
- **A grade of B- or better must be achieved on all prerequisite courses.**

\*For guidance on qualifying prerequisite courses, see admissions website.

## Selection

Admission into the MD program is competitive. The minimum admission requirements establish the threshold for admission but do not guarantee acceptance. GPA and/or MCAT scores will not be used to rank applicants. In addition to the academic requirements above, applicants may be assessed on all or some of their work/volunteer/community experience, other achievements, letters of reference and other related documentation. At this time, applications for the open admissions stream will only be accepted from residents of British Columbia, Nunavut, Yukon and Northwest Territories. After the initial review, eligible applicants will be selected for further evaluation.

For detailed information on admission requirements and process, visit website.

## Indigenous Stream Applicants

Simon Fraser University welcomes applications from Indigenous applicants (First Nations, Metis, and Inuit) from across Canada. Indigenous applicants may apply either to the open admissions stream or to the Indigenous admissions stream provided they meet the applicable residency requirements. Applicants applying for admission through the Indigenous admissions stream must meet minimum admission requirements. **This stream is reserved for Indigenous Peoples; applicants must complete Simon Fraser University's Indigenous Welcoming Procedure (IWP) to be considered for admission in this stream. Verification of Indigenous citizenship or membership with documentation is a condition of eligibility for this stream. Verification documentation examples include but are not limited to: a letter from a community's governance body, an Indigenous government-issued membership or citizenship card, or status card issued by Indigenous Services Canada. Applicants must also submit as a one page narrative outlining their Indigenous lived experience.**

**More information about the Indigenous-led IWP process to affirm citizenship/membership is available [here](#). The IWP is separate from the School of Medicine's admissions process, and all documentation must be submitted directly to the IWP. Documentation provided to the IWP is not shared with the School of Medicine and is used solely for verifying Indigenous citizenship/membership. For more information, see the SFU School of Medicine admissions website.**

## **Core Competencies and Functional Abilities**

**Applicants who meet the academic and non-academic standards set by the university must also exhibit the potential to excel as future physicians. Applicants must demonstrate their intellectual, physical, and emotional capabilities without compromising essential aspects of the program. These capabilities include learning, communication, knowledge integration, patient safety and quality, and professionalism as outlined in the Guideline on Core Competencies and Functional Abilities Required for the Study of Medicine.**

**In accordance with SFU's commitment to accessibility in education, applicants with disabilities are encouraged to apply to the MD program if they have the skills and abilities to meet the core requirements of a medical degree. Applicants with disabilities will be considered in accordance with [SFU's Accessibility for Students with Disabilities Policy \(GP26\)](#). Applicants requiring accommodations are encouraged to contact SFU's Centre for Accessible Learning for guidance. This policy does not eliminate the need for evaluation or the need to meet essential learning outcomes.**

## **Post Acceptance Requirements**

**Upon receiving an official letter of offer, each successful candidate must accept their offer by paying the non-refundable deposit payable to Simon Fraser University by the deadline and in the amount specified in the offer letter.**

**Once accepted, students are required to review the School of Medicine's Immunization and Testing Requirements and ensure compliance. All confirmed undergraduate medical students must submit their proof of vaccination. In accordance with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia (CPSBC) Professional Standard, all students must undergo testing for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV upon entry into medical school and every three years thereafter. If a student tests positive, they are required to report their findings to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia for licensure.**

**It is also the responsibility of all students (and parent or guardian for students under 19 years of age) who work with children and/or vulnerable adults, or have**



**unsupervised access to children and/or vulnerable adults, during the course of a certificate, diploma or degree program, to authorize a criminal record check (CRC) through Simon Fraser University, for the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General as per a legislative requirement under the British Columbia Criminal Records Review Act which took effect January of 2012. This authorization is submitted to the Criminal Records Review Program for review.**

**For more information on post-acceptance requirements, see admissions website.**

## **Transfer Requests**

**Transfer requests from students at other medical schools will not be considered.**

## Section 7: After You Apply

### 7.1 Official Transcript Submission

To complete your application, we require one (1) official transcript from each post-secondary institution you have attended, *except for studies completed at SFU*.

If you are a current or former SFU [Undergraduate or Graduate](#) student, you do not need to submit your SFU transcript as we will access your records internally. However, transcripts from all other post-secondary institutions [and SFU Continuing Studies](#) must be submitted.

#### **Electronic Transcript Submission:**

Request official electronic transcripts from your institution(s) to be sent directly to:  
[med\\_transcripts@sfu.ca](mailto:med_transcripts@sfu.ca)

Transcripts sent to other email addresses and redirected to our office are not official.

#### **Paper Transcript Submission:**

If your institution does not send electronic transcripts, send your official transcripts to the following mailing address (tracking is recommended):

*SFU – Surrey [School of Medicine], Simon Fraser University  
Central City Tower 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
250-13450 102 Avenue  
Surrey, BC, V3T 0A3*

Documents requested by mail must be official. An official document:

- Is issued directly from the educational institution in a sealed envelope
- Bears the original institutional seal, stamp, or signature
- Is in the original language of instruction

**We are not responsible for transcripts that are sent to another SFU email or mailing address. Transcripts must be sent to the email or mailing address listed above in order to be processed.**

Our preferred method for receiving transcripts is electronic delivery, as it helps prevent potential delays or loss of documentation.

As the application and documents are due by the same deadline, we recommend requesting transcripts early in your application to allow time for the documents to reach our office prior to the deadline. Applicants who do not submit all required official transcripts by the deadline will be removed from consideration.

## 7.1.1 Transcripts from Institutions Outside of Canada

Applicants who have attended a post-secondary institution outside of Canada or the United States for more than one semester will be required to submit either:

- a World Education Services (WES) course-by-course evaluation or
- an International Credential Evaluation Services (ICES) Comprehensive report.

Applicants wishing to include courses from these institutions in their Adjusted GPA calculation or to fulfill prerequisite course requirements must provide such an evaluation regardless of the length of enrollment.

Applicants who have attended a post-secondary institution in the United States may be required to submit a World Education Services (WES) course-by-course evaluation or an International Credential Evaluation Services (ICES) Comprehensive report on a case-by-case basis. Applicants who completed their studies in the United States must consult with the School of Medicine Admissions Office to determine whether an external evaluation will be required.

Applicants are responsible for paying all fees for such evaluations, upgrades, as well as making arrangements with WES or ICES to send and receive their documents.

Internationally educated applicants with documents in languages other than English must have all transcripts officially translated into English