

PASS PROGRAM

PENN ACCESS SUMMER SCHOLARS

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Fast facts

- 8 week summer program
- Early June to late July
- Housing provided
- Stipend included

The PASS program at the Perelman School of Medicine is a summer research experience after your sophomore & junior year for students underrepresented in medicine. Students are nominated by the pre-health advisor at our affiliated institutions, Penn, Princeton, Bryn Mawr and Haverford as well as 5 Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Howard, Morehouse, Oakwood, Spelman, and Xavier. The PASS program augments the undergrad education by providing mentoring, medical research, career seminars, clinical exposure, community service, and other activities relating to the medical school curriculum and admissions process. There is an admissions linkage opportunity with the Perelman School of Medicine provided that certain academic and personal requirements are met.

Each of the two summers are 8 weeks in length and on campus housing and a stipend are provided. At the conclusion of each summer, the PASS student submits a summary abstract of the research completed and an evaluation is provided by the mentor. Some students have continued their research during the school year leading to publications and thesis research.

Admissions linkage to the Perelman School of Medicine is offered to PASS students who meet the following criteria:

- 1) Successful completion of two summers in the PASS program
- 2) Academic accomplishment of 3.6 GPA CUM and 3.6 GPA BCPM
- 3) Personal attributes, character, leadership, and motivation for a career in medicine
- 4) Outstanding letters of recommendation from pre-health advisor, mentors, Penn faculty in the PASS program

MCATs are not required in the linkage process.

PASS APPLICATION PROCESS

Each affiliate school nominates students for the program (through an inhouse application process) who have a strong interest in medicine, a profile of academic success, personal attributes of a physician, successful completion of science courses, and the potential to succeed at Perelman.

Nominees complete an online PASS application in February and supply the following documents:

- 1) Transcripts from undergraduate college
- 2) Resume
- 3) Personal statement about yourself, background, and career interests in medicine & science
- 4) Two letters of recommendation: one from pre-health advisor & one from undergraduate faculty member who knows you well

PASS PROGRAM TIMELINE

Late Fall/ Early Spring semester of sophomore year

Dec/Jan: Consult with your pre-health advisor—submit application materials

Eligibility: 3.60 GPA

March: PASS program selections are announced

June-Aug 1 summer after sophomore year

June: First PASS summer research begins

PASS students are asked to

- 1) Email transcripts after every semester to Office of Admissions
- 2) Consult with pre-health advisor on a regular basis
- 3) Contact Office of Admissions with any questions

Spring semester of junior year

June: Confirm participation in second summer & return to Perelman for second summer research

June-August 1 summer after-junior year

August: Second PASS summer research begins. Discuss plans for medical school admission/linkage eligibility with Office of Admissions

Fall semester of senior year

Discuss plans for medical school application and linkage with pre-health advisor

PASS PROGRAM OUTCOMES

The PASS program has been highly successful in increasing the number of underrepresented students in medicine.

80% of the students who completed the program are currently in medical school, 68% are enrolled in the Perelman School of Medicine.

“The PASS program gave me the opportunity to explore the different facets of medicine. It gave me exposure to medicine very early on in my undergraduate career. I was granted resources that I didn't even know I needed and gained mentors along the way that solidified my decision to pursue medicine. I am so grateful for the opportunity to be a PASS student, I am confident that the interdisciplinary undergraduate studies I was encouraged to pursue will be very beneficial. “



—Maryam, 1st year MD student at Perelman, University of Pennsylvania

“My time at PASS was nothing short of amazing. I was able to work with Dr. Carmen Guerra for both summers on several projects. The mentoring and guidance I received from her during PASS (and even now as an MS2) have truly helped me succeed in medical school. It was my first “official” exposure to the formal research process, which allowed me to improve my research skills, work with patients, and develop my team building skills. Being a part of PASS made transitioning into medical school a lot easier. AND, on top of that, Philly is an incredible place to live with so much history and so much food. The PASS cohort becomes a family and I am incredibly grateful for that experience.



—Patricia, 2nd year MD student at Perelman, Princeton University

“I am beyond grateful to the PASS program for its contribution to not only my medical education, but to me as whole. The program recognizes the need for a multicultural group of future physicians to combat some of medicine's biggest challenges and is on the forefront of making this happen. Throughout my time in PASS I have received unparalleled mentorship and clinical experience that has only increased my love for medicine. Looking back, I can honestly say that joining PASS is one of the best decisions I have made!



—Jarvis, 1st year MD student at Perelman, Morehouse College

*Educating the future
leaders of medicine both
locally and globally.*

CONTACT US

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