

Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Academic Clinical Experience Summer (ACES) Program

The ACES program at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (RWJMS) is a six-week summer program for Princeton sophomores seriously considering a career in medicine. RWJMS will provide academic and clinical experiences, faculty mentoring, and interaction with medical students.

Students will participate in a **cadaver-based anatomy/physiology enrichment opportunity** and be paired with **faculty mentors** based on student areas of interest; mentoring is a key component to this program. Successful participants in this program may be eligible for an early assurance medical school acceptance with Rutgers RWJMS.



About Rutgers RWJMS

Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School was founded in 1961 and has campuses in Piscataway and New Brunswick, with 22 basic science and clinical departments, and more than 2500 full-time and volunteer faculty members.

Each entering class of 170 medical students is selected based on a holistic review of each applicant's experiences, accomplishments, personal qualities, and potential to enhance the learning environment. Applications from members of groups underrepresented in medicine are encouraged.

The pass/fail, unranked pre-clinical curriculum integrates patient care, service learning, and basic science in the context of real clinical problems, which is complemented by student-created and existing electives. Clinical years include ample time to explore specialties, and all students complete an independent project.

RWJMS Mission Statement

“Robert Wood Johnson Medical School is dedicated to transforming health care for New Jersey and the nation through innovation and excellence in education, research, patient- and family-centered care and addressing the health of our diverse community.

Program Details

- **6 week summer program running June – July**
- **Enrollment in an anatomy/physiology enrichment opportunity**
- **Conditional Early Assurance acceptance to Rutgers – RWJMS**
- **Campus housing provided at Rutgers**

Eligibility Guidelines

- **Sophomore (rising junior) at Princeton University**
- **Realistic plan for completion of RWJMS prerequisite courses by graduation**
- **Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA at time of application. Minimum combined SAT verbal/math score of 1300 or ACT score of 29.**
- **Applicants must be from a group [underrepresented in medicine](#), from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, and/or first-generation college goers.**
- **Participants should be intellectually curious, outgoing, and genuinely enthusiastic about the chance to expand their knowledge of science and medicine.**
- **Participants may be asked to assist in peer mentoring and recruitment of future ACES scholars.**

Princeton Alum Perspectives

We asked Princeton alums to briefly describe their reasons for choosing to attend RWJMS:

“I really liked the atmosphere of the school - the students all seemed happy and always emphasized the cooperative and social nature of the environment (it is pass/fail and non-ranking first and second years). I also valued its location close to home and family, and the tuition was lower than most other schools (in-state).

“The school's collaborative and non-competitive environment and student body, from my experience visiting the campus during interview is what attracted me most.

“Pass/fail, collaborative student atmosphere, attentive faculty who are responsive to student feedback and suggestions.

“Reputation and solid foundation of the sciences within its curriculum. It also offers various abroad opportunities and community service initiatives that I plan to get involved in. Its proximity to my hometown and in-state tuition were also determining factors.

“I loved the environment, the students and faculty I met, and finally they do well in matching their students to the residency program they're seeking.

ACES & Linkage Timeline

Spring 2020	January	Apply to ACES program—application deadline Jan. 31, letters of recommendation must be received by Feb. 14
	February	RWJMS interviews ACES finalists at Princeton
	April-June	RWJMS Program Coordinator works with ACES Scholars to complete required paperwork, match students to mentors, etc.
Summer 2020	June	ACES Scholars begin summer program at RWJMS
2020-21		ACES Scholars stay connected with Princeton HPA and RWJMS as they work toward their academic goals
Fall 2020		ACES Scholars meet with Princeton HPA advisers to discuss summer experiences, academic progress, and potential application for linkage program
2020 Intersession		ACES Scholars declare intent to apply to linkage and submit additional letter of recommendation
Spring 2021	February	Selected ACES Scholars invited to interview at RWJMS
	March	RWJMS announces admissions decisions for linkage candidates
Fall 2022		Linkage students matriculate at RWJMS



RWJMS ACES Program: Princeton Application Procedures

All applicants must submit the following:

- Resume (refer to [Center for Career Development Resume Guidelines](#))
 - Please include your intended concentration, and significant high school and college activities (work, co-curricular, leadership, summer, clinical, etc.)
- Personal essay: Please tell us about yourself, including information about how your unique background (e.g., culture, race, ethnicity, sexual identity, socio-economic status, life and work experiences) have influenced your career interests in medicine and science. Please include information about your personal strengths as a future physician, and what you hope to gain from participating in the ACES program. (no page limit, two pages double-spaced is suggested)
- ACES Application (available from HPA)
- One letter of recommendation mailed or emailed to HPA from a Princeton professor, preceptor, or adviser who knows you well and can speak to your academic abilities well and your readiness for a career in medicine (does not have to be from a science).

Application Deadline

Applications must be emailed to hpa@princeton.edu or handed in at the HPA Office in person (36 University Place, Suite 230) by **5pm on January 31**.

Finalists will be interviewed in mid-February.

Letters of recommendation must be received by February 14,

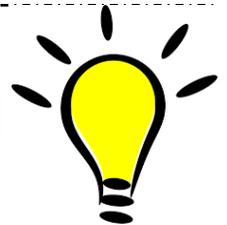
Applicants will be notified of admission decisions by early March and asked to commit to the program by March 30.

Contact Information:

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APPLICATION TIPS



- Learn more about RWJMS by researching on their admissions website: rwjms.rutgers.edu/education/admissions/office_admissions.html & rwjms.rutgers.edu/about_rwjms/index.html
- Ask a mentor to read over your essays for grammar and content
- Ask for your letter of recommendation ASAP—it's polite to give writers at least a few weeks to prepare a letter. Asking in person and providing a copy of your resume to your writer is recommended
- Plan to submit your application early—that way, if you run into last-minute problems, it'll be easier to recover.