

**WARM Admissions Instructions and
Program Information
Entering Class of 2021**



Preparing to Apply to the Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine (WARM)

The Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine (WARM), a program within the UW SMPH MD degree curriculum, is dedicated to improving the supply of physicians in rural Wisconsin and improving the health of rural Wisconsin communities.

We are looking for candidates with a demonstrated appreciation and commitment to returning to the communities of rural and underserved Wisconsin.

Admission into the Wisconsin Academy for Rural medicine is competitive and students must have a strong commitment to practice medicine in rural Wisconsin. Admission is limited to residents of Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota or Michigan who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents (residency must be finalized, not pending). Applicants should have a strong desire to practice rural medicine in Wisconsin.

Applicants who are applying to the WARM program must follow/meet all of the applicant criteria noted in the UW SMPH MD Degree Program Admissions Guide.

See the admission pages at www.med.wisc.edu and www.med.wisc.edu/warm for more details including prerequisites and other requirements.

UW SMPH MD Degree Program and Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine Application timeline – entering class of 2021

See <https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/mcat/reserving/> for MCAT test dates and registration deadlines.

Please note: WARM does not offer Early Decision; however, applicants are encouraged to apply early.

Date	Regular Decision
May 4, 2020	First date that AMCAS application available
May 28, 2020	Earliest date to submit AMCAS application
September 30, 2020	Last MCAT test date for 2020 application consideration.
October 15, 2020	Last date to submit AMCAS application
December 1, 2020	Secondary Application deadline <i>Letters of Recommendation deadline</i>
June 1, 2021	Last day to make final decision for 2020 for which medical school you will be attending
August 16, 2021	First day of class

Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine Admission Policies

Admission into the Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine is competitive and admission is limited to residents of Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan or Minnesota. 2-4 slots will be available to non-Wisconsin residents.

Persons applying for acceptance into the program must meet the UW SMPH MD Degree Program admission criteria as well as the criteria below:

1. A rural background and demonstrates a commitment to practicing rural medicine
-or-
An urban background with rural connections and demonstrates a commitment to practice in a rural setting
2. A strong desire to fulfill an unmet need in a rural community
3. A strong preference to live in a rural area and a desire to develop social ties with a rural community
4. A strong record of community involvement/community service and/or a demonstrated commitment to rural community health
5. Family and social support for living a rural lifestyle
6. A strong motivation to pursue a career in rural medicine

Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine Application Instructions for entering class of 2021

You are invited to submit your application to the UW SMPH WARM Program. There are three components to the WARM application process: the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) application and the UW SMPH MD Secondary application and a WARM interview.

1. Complete the AMCAS application at <https://www.aamc.org/students/applying/amcas/>. Be sure to do the following:
 - In the “Biographic” tab, indicate you are a legal resident of the state of Wisconsin (You must be a Wisconsin resident, or be a resident of Illinois, Iowa, Michigan or Minnesota, to be eligible to apply to the WARM program).
 - In the “Medical Schools” tab, choose to apply to the University of Wisconsin and click the button for “Other Special Program” (U. S. citizen or permanent resident and resident of Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan or Minnesota--Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine MD Program) (Restricted)"

By choosing “Other Special Program,” you are applying for the WARM program only. Your application will first be reviewed by the WARM Admissions Subcommittee. If you are not selected for the WARM program and you are a Wisconsin resident, your application will also be considered for the regular MD program.

2. Secondary applications are offered to applicants who meet our minimum academic requirements. When invited, complete the secondary application and submit it by December 1, 2020. Early applications are strongly encouraged as applications will be reviewed by date of completion until the class is filled.
 - Two letters of recommendation specifically for WARM are required in addition to the 4 letters required for the secondary application. The two WARM letters should be from people who know you well and can attest to your personal characteristics and rural potential. Examples of letter writers might be former teachers or coaches, clergy, physicians whom you have shadowed, people with whom you have worked or volunteered, etc. **Six letters are required total. All letters of recommendation must be submitted through AMCAS.**
 - Letters of recommendation must be received via AMCAS by December 1, 2020.
 - A WARM interview will also be required for selected WARM applicants. **For the 2021 admissions cycle, due to COVID-19, all elements of the interview process will be conducted virtually. This will include pre-recorded and live, in-person video conferences.**
3. Please keep your AMCAS application up to date with your current mailing address, phone number and email address.

Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine Rural Practice Sites

WARM students complete their required clinical experiences at 1 of 3 WARM sites sponsored by the Marshfield Clinic Health System - Marshfield, Gundersen Health System – La Crosse, and Advocate Aurora Health - Green Bay. Each region is anchored by regional clinical facilities and faculty from some of Wisconsin's major health care systems. Rural community physicians and public health professionals, in collaboration with these centers, will provide additional and highly relevant training.

WARM Regional Sites:

- Marshfield Clinic Health System/Northern Academic Campus
www.marshfieldclinic.org

Please watch this video to learn more about medical education at the Marshfield Clinic:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=013JOeiqp8U&feature=emb_title

- Gundersen Health System/Western Academic Campus
www.gundersenhealth.org

Please watch this video to learn more about medical education at Gundersen Health

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3&v=iAY58XuU6kY&feature=emb_logo

- Advocate Aurora Health/Eastern Academic Campus
www.aurora.org
www.baycare.net

Please watch this video to learn more about medical education at Aurora BayCare

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vdxgZ1LHyg8&feature=emb_logo

Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine Rural Curriculum Highlights

Please see <https://www.med.wisc.edu/education/md-program/curriculum/> to learn more about UWSMPH's ForWard Curriculum.

Highlights of the WARM rural curriculum that is integrated in the UW SMPH MD Program's ForWard curriculum:

- A rural core curriculum will be integrated over the four years of medical school.
- WARM students complete Phase 1 in Madison.
- WARM students are expected to choose rural health electives and participate in rural health interest group meetings.
- In the summer between years 1 and 2, WARM students will participate in the 'WARM Welcome' experience to help strengthen WARM identity within our learning communities. WARM Welcome occurs in August before M2 classes begin and is held in Madison and at the WARM sites.
- At the beginning of Phase 2, WARM students will relocate to their assigned regional and rural learning communities for the Phase 2 & 3 portions of their curriculum. ***All core and required clerkships are expected to be completed at the WARM site. This includes the Ambulatory Acting Internship (AAI), Inpatient Acting Internship (IAI) and the Internship Prep Course (IPC) during Phase 3.***
- WARM students will take part in regular WARM Core Days at their WARM sites and complete a community health project.
- Public health and population health concepts will be integrated into the rural curriculum.
- Evaluation methods will be the same as those utilized with all UW SMPH students.
- WARM students are required to participate in program evaluation sessions and other WARM informational meetings.

Financial Assistance

There are several resources available regarding financial aid, fellowships, scholarships and loan repayment options:

Health Professions Loan Assistance Program (HPLAP)

www.worh.org/hplap_info

National Health Service Corps

<http://nhsc.hrsa.gov/>

Office of Student Financial Aid

www.finaid.wisc.edu

Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation—various financial and academic forms of support for medical students

http://www.wisconsinmedicalsociety.org/foundation/support_for_students

Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine Contacts

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