

COVID-19 Related Information for 2021 Applicants

The NJMS Admissions Committee understands and is very sensitive to the challenges our applicants are facing as we all manage the COVID-19 pandemic. We understand the need to be flexible in our admissions process. NJMS has a very long history of evaluating applicants holistically, the COVID-19 pandemic is no exception. Most importantly is that we hope you are well and safe.

Clinical Experiences – We are aware of the abrupt discontinuation of some activities and clinical experiences as a result of the current pandemic. Our committee is sensitive to these unusual circumstances and will take this into consideration. If an applicant is impacted by the current crisis, we urge them to consider writing a short explanation in the application.

MCAT – In consideration of exam cancellations, we will accept scores through October 2020. Before making interview and admissions decisions, we will require an MCAT score. However, this MCAT delay will not be viewed negatively during the admissions process.

Online Courses – NJMS will accept online courses for as long as distance learning is required and/or strongly recommended by colleges/universities as a result of this national crises.

Pass/Fail Grades – NJMS will accept “Pass” (P/F) grades without prejudice, for courses taken during the COVID-19 pandemic. These students will be evaluated equally with those that opted for letter grades.

Secondary Application – We will not delay sending secondary applications to all applicants shortly after we receive notification of AMCAS application submission. We will not wait for MCAT scores.

Applying to NJMS

All applicants must first complete an online application through the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS). AMCAS then distributes applications to designated medical schools from July through the end of the cycle.

Once we receive notification of AMCAS application submission, all applicants are sent the link to the NJMS Secondary Application and are required to submit the secondary along with the \$95 fee as early as possible but no later than December 15 in order for an application to be reviewed by the screening committee. This fee is waived for applicants who have received approval for the AMCAS Fee Assistance Program (FAP).

In addition to the secondary application, all regular decision applicants (those not applying through Early Decision) are required to take the CASPer test as part of a complete application.

All complete applications remain under active consideration for an interview until mid-March, by then all applicants receive either an invitation to interview or an email of regret.

The following deadlines apply:

- **Early Decision:** Application submission by August 1
(*supporting materials are due by 9/1 and decisions begin mid-July*)
- **Regular MD:** December 1st (*decisions begin October 15*)
- **Secondary Application:** December 15
- **CASPer Test** (required for all regular decision applicants): Last day to test is December 10
- **Letters of Recommendation:** December 15
- **MCAT Scores:** Applicants must take the MCAT by October

If you have submitted your application and have questions, please feel free to contact us at: NJMSapplicant@njms.rutgers.edu

The NJMS is committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. For information about Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences Disability Services please visit: <http://ods.rbhs.rutgers.edu/>