

Transfer and Award of Academic Credit

In recognition that the educational program leading to the MD degree requires specific knowledge, skills, and abilities, consideration of the transfer of credit is undertaken from medical colleges or medical schools with Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) accreditation only, as recognized by the US Department of Education. CalMed has not entered into an articulation or transfer agreement with any other college or university.

Policies and Procedures for Transfer and Award of Academic Credits

Transfer from an LCME-Accredited Institution

Transfer of students into the CalMed educational program leading to the MD degree will be permitted in rare circumstances when the class size is below the LCME-approved capacity and only under the aegis of LCME accreditation. i.e., students requesting to transfer into the CalMed MD program must be leaving an LCME-accredited institution in good academic standing. Transfer at the beginning of year 3 is the only option.

Transfer into Year 3: A student wishing to transfer will be assessed by the CalMed admissions committee. The student must fulfill all entrance requirements for matriculation to CalMed, including submitting the required admissions documents, attending an interview, and paying the required fees. In addition, the student must submit additional documents (see Implementation Practices section below) including proof of passing the USMLE Step 1 exam.

Credit from Foreign Institutions

CalMed will not consider transfer credit from a foreign institution of higher education.

Maximum Credit Allowed

Transfer into Year 3: Year 1 and 2 academic credits at the student's home institution may be applied toward the CalMed MD program after the CalMed admissions committee's evaluation and approval. Students may be required to take a clinical skills examination to determine their level of clinical skills training and any need for remediation. The maximum number of transfer credits will not exceed the total credit number of the CalMed Year 1 and Year 2 courses, i.e. 77. See below for details.

Implementation Practices for the Transfer and Awarding of Academic Credit

CalMed has established the following practices for the transfer and award of academic credit. Maximum consideration for the individual student will be the intent, with compassion for individual circumstances compelling the student to seek a transfer to CalMed.

Transcript evaluation by the CalMed admissions committee will be required using the following criteria:

1. The student wishing to transfer to CalMed must request an official transcript of record from the home medical school, with complete application materials appended (MCAT scores, academic grades for undergraduate coursework, original application to medical school or AMCAS materials, etc.). The student must also submit the results of the USMLE Step 1 Exam and a “mini” Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE) from the student’s home institution.
2. CalMed will confirm that the student’s home medical school is LCME-accredited.
3. The CalMed admissions committee, in consultation with the Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Admissions, will review course descriptions from the home/awarding institution, with a copy of the catalog and/or syllabus and any course outlines or other information necessary to validate that learning outcomes are comparable to CalMed requirements.
4. CalMed must receive written confirmation from the Dean of the medical school from which student is transferring that the student is in good standing academically and has exhibited no tendencies or behaviors which would make her/him unfit for the practice of medicine.
5. A statement from the student explaining reason/s for transfer, i.e. spousal relocation, family considerations, or other circumstances.