Ponce Health Sciences University

PHSU-SOM MEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

TRAFFIC RULES POLICY
Policy Number: PHSUPC-2020-4-27

Date Issued: April 27, 2020

Next Review Date: April 2022

Applies to: Accepted Candidates to the MD Program

Owner: SOM Admissions Committee Executive and Policy Committee of the SOM Office of Admissions Executive Director of Student Affairs

Primary Contact: Office of Admissions

Related Policies: Academic Programs Admissions Committee Policies and Procedures

Supporting Forms: https://www.aamc.org/services/admissions-lifecycle/traffic-rules
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PHSU SOM Traffic Rules on Accepted Candidates Policy
AMCAS “Choose your Medical School” Tool Implementation

**Introduction**

Ponce Health Sciences University School of Medicine (PHSU-SOM) medical education (MD) program has adopted the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) “Choose your Medical School” tool as part of the admissions protocols in our institutional policies beginning the academic year 2020-2021. Candidates must comply with the participation of the services offered through the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) for the PHSU MD program by completing the processes established in the “Traffic Rules” Policy of the AAMC.

**Scope**

This policy will apply to all PHSU MD program accepted students.

**Justification**

These changes are imperative to achieve the system implementation and present an opportunity to maintain our commitment to the academic community we serve by supporting our medical school enrollment management process and help applicants to communicate their intentions about attending the PHSU MD program.

**Policy**

Beginning February 19th of each academic year, applicants holding one or more acceptance offers can select “Plan to Enroll” in the AMCAS application at any school from which they have received an acceptance offer. This allows the PHSU admissions team to view the number of applicants who selected our institution. If an applicant selects “Plan to Enroll” at another school, AMCAS will not identify the applicant or the other school. PHSU accepted applicants, will have the opportunity to identify “Plan to Enroll” at the “Choose your Medical School” tool via their AMCAS application in the Quick Links section.

Before March 31st, the Admissions Office of PHSU will send communications regarding this policy. Accepted students in our institution are invited to select “Plan to Enroll” before this date or communicate the intention of withdrawal. Beginning April 30th, accepted applicants will have two options to select: “Plan to Enroll” or “Commit to Enroll”. When an applicant selects “Commit to Enroll” to PHSU, it indicates that the candidate has made a final decision and has withdrawn all other applications. Selecting “Commit to Enroll” does not automatically withdraw applications from other medical schools; applicants who decided to “Commit” to another institution must inform their decision in writing to PHSU on the following seven (7) calendar days. Once candidates inform their intention to attend another school the application will be classified as Acceptance Withdrawn.
Below, a timeline of applicant’s procedures using this tool:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>February 19</th>
<th>March 31</th>
<th>April 30</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Plan to Enroll&quot; becomes available for applicants. Candidates will have the AMCAS &quot;Choose Your Medical School&quot; tool.</td>
<td>Accepted candidates should select the option &quot;Plan to Enroll&quot; to PHSU or notify in writing the intention of withdrawal from PHSU.</td>
<td>Applicants should use the tool to select “Commit to Enroll” in the AMCAS tool or notify in writing the intention of withdrawal from PHSU.</td>
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</table>

All candidates selecting PHSU must “Commit to Enroll” twenty-one (21) days before matriculation.

This policy may be subject to changes due to AMCAS updates and/or changes in the PHSU matriculation policy.

**Amendments:**

This policy may be amended by the MD program Admissions Committee. All amendments must comply with the AAMC Traffic Rules Policy Guidelines.

**Repeal and Validity**

This policy does not repeal the provisions established by the SOM admissions policy, but rather offers specific provisions for candidates to comply with the AAMC Choose your Medical School tool and the PHSU Admissions Traffic Rules Policy.

This policy will be effective immediately after its approval and will apply to accepted candidates on the 2020-2021 admissions cycle and over.

**Approval**

Jose A. Torres-Ruiz, PhD  
Chancellor  
Ponce Health Sciences University

Emsley Vázquez-Colón  
Director of Marketing and Enrollment

Olga Rodriguez de Arzola, MD, FAAP  
Dean of School of Medicine  
President of the Executive and Policy Committee of the School of Medicine