

High School Seniors
Application for *Urban Health Opportunities Program (UHOP)*
at the University of Nebraska

PURPOSE OF UHOP: “To diversify the urban Nebraska primary care medical workforce by identifying and preparing qualified students from underrepresented groups to enter and succeed in medical school.”

See <http://cas.unomaha.edu/uhop>

MINIMUM UHOP SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS:

- You must be a high school senior.
- You must be a permanent resident or citizen of the United States, and be a Nebraska resident.
- Prior to applying, you must have achieved an ACT composite AND math score ≥ 24 , or an ACT composite score ≥ 24 with a [Accuplacer](#) math score ≥ 4 . You must also have an unweighted high school GPA ≥ 3.0 .

Name: _____ E-mail address: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Gender: _____

Current unweighted GPA: _____ Current high school: _____

Best ACT Composite score: _____ Best ACT Math OR [Accuplacer](#) Math score: _____

Parent #1 occupation: _____ Parent #2 occupation: _____

All application materials are due December 17th 2018

REQUIRED ADDITIONAL APPLICATION MATERIALS:

- Attach your RESUME, which should include academic, extracurricular, and employment information.
- Attach ESSAY #1 (no more than 2 pages) in response to this statement: “Describe why you wish to be a physician, and how you will help achieve the purpose of the UHOP program.”
- Attach ESSAY #2 (no more than 2 pages) in response to this statement: “Describe what you will bring to the practice of medicine – your values, talents, and life experiences – and how you add to the cultural, multilingual, ethnic, and/or socioeconomic diversity of this clinical profession.”
- Attach an official or unofficial copy of your high school TRANSCRIPT.
- Attach a color copy of a PHOTO ID (school ID, driver’s license, etc.), plus a copy of PROOF OF U.S. CITIZENSHIP or permanent residency (passport, Social security card, birth certificate, etc.).

In addition,

- Obtain LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION from any TWO of the following: a high school principal, a high school counselor, a high school science teacher, and/or a medical professional. These letters are to be sent directly to the UHOP program; see the attached letter request to be given to letter writers.
- APPLY to UNO as an undergraduate by the due date above: **www.unomaha.edu/admissions**

I have provided factual information and meet the required minimum UHOP scholarship requirements.

Signature & Printed Name

Date

Parent/guardian signature

Date

Return to:

*UNO Health Careers Resource Center
Allwine Hall 307
6001 Dodge Street
Omaha, NE 68182-0070*

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Urban Health Opportunities Program (UHOP)

Letter Request

Dear Colleague,

The University of Nebraska Urban Health Opportunities Program (UHOP) is designed to **identify and assist students from underrepresented backgrounds in their efforts to seek future training as a primary care physician**. UHOP scholars will include those considered underrepresented by the Association of American Medical Colleges (see <https://www.aamc.org/initiatives/urm>).

The program will grant UNO tuition remission and guaranteed admission to UNMC's M.D. program to students who fulfill the requirements of the program. You can read more about this joint UNO/UNMC program at <http://cas.unomaha.edu/uhop>.

In evaluating high school seniors, the selection committee requests a letter on behalf of the student which thoroughly describes the applicant and their attributes as applicable to this opportunity.

We rely on you to help us evaluate the student's readiness to commit to a rigorous program prior to attending medical school. Your evaluation of the applicant's relative strengths or weaknesses in the following areas is extremely useful:

Compassion, maturity, group work and peer relations, leadership, independence, motivation, time management, endurance, emotional stability, honesty, and demeanor.

LETTERS ARE DUE DECEMBER 17th 2018.

Please address your letter to the UHOP Scholars Program. When complete, please send it electronically to UNOHealthCareers@unomaha.edu, or mail to the following address:

UNO Health Careers Resource Center, 6001 Dodge Street, Omaha, NE 68182-0070.

Thank you for your support on behalf of our student!

Dr. Paul H. Davis
Director, UNO Health Careers Resource Center

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Urban Health Opportunities Program (UHOP)

PROGRAM COMMITMENTS

PURPOSE OF UHOP: *“To diversify the urban Nebraska primary care medical workforce by identifying and preparing qualified students from underrepresented groups to enter and succeed in medical school.”*

There are three categories of UHOP scholars: funded scholars, alternate scholars, and UNMC scholars. Typically, up to three “funded scholars” are selected per year for UNO tuition remission, and up to three “alternate scholars” are selected who do not receive tuition remission nor guaranteed admission to UNMC, but receive all other benefits of the program if they continue to complete program requirements. Should a funded scholar resign or be removed from program sponsorship, an alternate may be competitively selected to fill the role of the departed funded scholar, and in doing so, becomes a funded scholar. UNMC UHOP scholars are those who have graduated from UNO and are now attending UNMC College of Medicine.

All UHOP scholars are provided with significant opportunities to prepare for and excel in medical school at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC). UHOP scholars start their training experience at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. **Participation in the UHOP scholars program is a privilege, and maintaining the benefits of scholar sponsorship depends on adherence to the following requirements:**

- UHOP Funded Scholars are eligible to receive up to 120 credit hours of undergraduate tuition remission, and will aim to complete their bachelor’s degree within 4 years. All UHOP scholars are expected to maintain involvement and eligibility in any other university scholarship program in which they participate. If UHOP funded scholars are the recipient of more than one scholarship at UNO, the UHOP scholarship will ONLY be used to fill any remaining tuition gap each semester.
- All UHOP Scholars must maintain U.S. citizenship or permanent residency AND Nebraska residency. Any international trips (for business, education, vacation, or family) MUST be approved by the UHOP director.
- All UHOP Scholars are required to maintain a UNO cumulative and BCPM (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Math) GPA of 3.25 or above, and pass all Biology and Chemistry courses. All Scholars must also maintain at least a 12 credit hour load each fall or spring semester, unless it is the last semester, or with permission from the UHOP director.
- UHOP Scholars are encouraged to select one of these two majors: *Biotechnology* or *Neuroscience*. Scholars are required to work with the UNO Health Careers Resource Center (HCRC) EACH semester to create their course schedules. UHOP scholars may not post more than 4 “W” (withdraw) grades without jeopardizing their UHOP status.
- All UHOP Scholars are required to maintain UNO Pre-Medical Committee sponsorship, which includes attendance at mandatory meetings and maintaining a high standard of conduct.
- All UHOP Scholars are required to work with NE STEM 4U as a volunteer mentor starting their second semester at UNO, unless an alternate volunteer position is approved by the UHOP director.
- All UHOP Scholars must inform the UHOP director if they are no longer interested in pursuing a career as a physician.
- All UHOP Scholars are required to attend assigned meetings held throughout the semester. Further, UHOP scholars are required to provide timely e-mail responses to the UHOP director.
- All UHOP Scholars agree to apply to UNMC medical school at the end of their program at UNO.
- All UHOP Scholars are required to post an overall score of 500 or above on the MCAT no later than June 5th prior to the date they would enter UNMC.
- UHOP Funded Scholars will receive a Pre-Medical Committee Letter only for their UNMC application, and agree to attend UNMC following their acceptance to the M.D. program.
- UNMC UHOP Scholars (those who have graduated UNO and are attending UNMC) agree to attend and lead meetings held throughout the semester with UHOP funded and alternate scholars attending UNO. They also agree to permit UHOP program officials to monitor their academic grades and training progress.

If the requirements above are not met, the UHOP program may decide to terminate scholar sponsorship, move the scholar to an alternate position, or place the scholar on probation on a semester-by-semester basis.

Initials: _____

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Urban Health Opportunities Program (UHOP)

PROGRAM TIMETABLE

The chief benefit for Funded UHOP scholars is UNO tuition remission and guaranteed admission to UNMC's School of Medicine M.D. program, conditioned on completion of UHOP requirements. To aid scholar preparation for medical school, the program aims to provide the following additional opportunities or requirements for all UHOP scholars. Requirements are marked with an asterisk (*).

ALL YEARS AT UNO:

- Mentorship by senior UHOP scholars, provided at least twice each semester.
- Required academic advising through the [Health Careers Resource Center](#) (HCRC) each semester. (*)
- Maintain UNO Pre-Medical Committee sponsorship by living appropriate standards and attending mandatory meetings.

FIRST YEAR:

- Attend orientation prior to the beginning of coursework at UNO (*)
- Scholars should actively take advantage of the Math-Science Learning Center for assistant with 1000/2000 level Science and Math classes.
- Physician shadowing at UNMC starting your second semester. UHOP director will help organize.
- Apply for community tutoring with [NE STEM 4U](#) starting your second semester. (*)
 - **Apply in November**, and indicate you're a UHOP scholar
- Apply to [Summer Health Professionals Education Program](#) at UNMC. (*)
 - **Apply in November**

SECOND YEAR:

- Scholars should actively take advantage of the Math-Science Learning Center for assistant with 1000/2000 level Science and Math classes.
- Apply for the [Nebraska INBRE Biomedical Research program](#). (*)
 - **Apply in December**
- Apply for the [Summer Undergraduate Research Program \(SURP\)](#) at UNMC (*)
 - **Apply in December**
- Continue community tutoring with [NE STEM 4U](#). (*)

THIRD YEAR:

- Continue community tutoring with [NE STEM 4U](#). (*)
- Kaplan MCAT preparation class following the completion of your third year. Tuition is provided by UHOP.
 - Most UHOP scholars start MCAT preparation in the summer between their third and fourth year, and no later than January of their senior year.

FOURTH YEAR:

- Continue community tutoring with [NE STEM 4U](#). (*)
- Finalize studying for the MCAT exam, which must post a passing score by June 5th after your senior year.

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