The Midwestern University Bridges Program provides a clear path to achieving the goal of becoming an osteopathic physician for qualified students in our College of Graduate Studies Biomedical Science Programs who are members of underrepresented minority populations or economically or environmentally disadvantaged populations.

The Bridges Program allows students to apply for provisional early acceptance to the Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine (AZCOM) through the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Application Service (AACOMAS) when they meet one of the following requirements:

1. Acceptance into the Master of Arts in Biomedical Science (M.A.) Program, or
2. Successfully completed the first year of the Master of Biomedical Sciences (M.B.S.) Program

What are the benefits?

- Students gain provisional early acceptance into AZCOM, and successful students will also earn a master’s degree, which will improve their applications to residency programs and broaden their future career options.
- Provides students an excellent foundation in pre-medical education.
- Allows students to increase their basic science knowledge and improve their study skills.
- Students receive graduate faculty mentoring and counseling to help keep them on track for success.
- Students have peace of mind knowing that their next academic step awaits, allowing them to focus on their studies and improving their preparedness for success in AZCOM.

How do I learn more?

For questions about our programs or a potential career in osteopathic medicine, contact the Midwestern University Office of Admissions: 623-572-3215 or AdmissAZ@midwestern.edu
What are the eligibility requirements?

- Be a member of an underrepresented minority population or a member of an economically or environmentally disadvantaged population (as defined by HRSA).
- Achieve a minimum overall and science GPA of 2.75 in the undergraduate program and an MCAT score of 490 or higher.
- Complete all other MWU admissions requirements for both the Biomedical Sciences and Osteopathic Medicine Programs (e.g., technical standards, prerequisites, strong interview, letter of support, knowledge of osteopathic medicine).
- Apply for admission to AZCOM through AACOMAS by July 1 the same year as completing the application for the Bridges Program.
- Apply for the Bridges Program by July 15 of the year accepted into the Biomedical Sciences Master of Arts Program or following successful completion of the first year of the Biomedical Sciences Master of Science Program.
- Complete a supplemental Bridges Application stating how you have met the program eligibility requirements.
- Provide a letter of support from a faculty member (undergraduate/graduate) or from a physician.
- Pass all courses and maintain a 3.2 overall GPA in the Biomedical Sciences Program.
- Participate in the Bridges Mentoring Program.
- Maintain good academic and professional standing, with no disciplinary actions. Any disciplinary action will result in removal from the Bridges Program and the student will not be eligible to apply to AZCOM in that same admissions cycle.
- Provide a letter of support from a Biomedical Sciences Program faculty member by the end of May of the Biomedical Sciences Program year.
- Successfully complete the Biomedical Sciences Program by the summer quarter prior to the start of AZCOM fall quarter classes.

In addition:

- All prerequisite courses must be completed prior to matriculation to the Biomedical Sciences Program and AZCOM.
- Students are not permitted to repeat courses for a higher grade for which they have already received credit.
- Students are not permitted to withdraw from core courses during their Biomedical Sciences Program.
- The assigned Bridges Program mentor monitors the progress of students at the completion of every quarter and will advise AZCOM of any students failing to meet program requirements. The Biomedical Sciences Program provides the AZCOM Dean’s Office with transcripts for all Bridges Program students.
- Students in the Bridges Program are invited to participate in pre-medical school activities with the AZCOM students.

How to apply

The AZCOM and Biomedical Sciences Bridges Program is available through both campuses. Completed applications should be submitted to admisaz@midwestern.edu, using Bridges Program as the subject line.

When to apply

The application deadline is July 15 of each year.