May 16, 2014

Dear Entering Medical School Freshman:

We are very pleased that you have elected to enter the LSU School of Medicine in New Orleans, and we look forward to your attendance.

We understand that you have many questions, and we have tried to address everything that you need to know at this point in time. Please carefully read through all of the materials on the website as you will find them very helpful in your planning for next year. If necessary, please contact the individual offices where indicated. As additional information becomes available, you will be notified to check this website. The Office of Student Affairs will be contacting you in July with further information relating to Orientation and Registration.

**Registration and Orientation begin August 6 - 11, 2014**
**Classes begin August 13, 2013**

**What is the curriculum like?** The first year of the medical school curriculum emphasizes several basic sciences and their relevancy to clinical medicine. Most of the basic sciences are taught during the morning hours while the afternoons are dedicated to the Science and Practice of Medicine. This course has three components: 1. Computer-based, interactive case studies of patients on which medical students are required to conduct a complete examination of a patient including a thorough history in an attempt to arrive at a diagnosis. Faculty will review the cases on a regular basis to give the students feedback relative to their own findings. This component will ensure that students develop early skills at clinical problem solving; 2. Clinical Forums in which small group discussions on issues important to the practice of medicine (physician-patient relationships, professionalism and ethics, medical informatics, behavioral science, etc.) will be presented; 3. Clinical experiences in patient care settings and procedural laboratories. The second semester begins with a one-week rotation with a physician of your choice anywhere in the State of Louisiana. The Health Sciences Center Catalogue may be viewed by visiting our website at [www.lsuhs.edu/no/catalog](http://www.lsuhs.edu/no/catalog) The catalog contains detailed information on the curriculum and other matters. It is the responsibility of each student to read, understand and apprise themselves of all the terms, conditions, and regulations set forth in the current LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans Academic Catalog/Bulletin. Further information on courses will be sent to you by the Student Affairs Office in July.

In addition to the required courses, certain selective electives in Geriatrics, Problem-Based Learning, Community Service, and Health Promotion and Wellness are available. Some of these selective electives have clinical rotations within them including opportunities to see patients.
Medical students can also gain additional clinical experiences by volunteering their services in the emergency rooms of some of our teaching hospitals and other programs that are available.

What is the daily schedule like? Basically, scheduled class time will vary from day to day, depending on what courses are being taught and what you are doing in the Science and Practice of Medicine course. The experiences in this course can be seen on our website at

www.medschool.lsuhsc.edu/medical_education/undergraduate/

Is it possible to work part-time? Since most free time in the day, evenings and on weekends will be utilized as study time and time for relaxation, it is strongly recommended that you not attempt to work during the school year.

Are used microscopes and used books available? Students no longer need microscopes. A used book sale is held during the week of orientation in August. You will be notified of this date at a later time.

Does the school have any support systems? The LSU School of Medicine prides itself in having many support programs such as a Campus Assistance Program that are in place to assist students when problems arise. The medical school also supports a Health Promotion Program for our students. More information will be given during orientation week.

Once accepted, will I automatically receive a financial aid packet? No, here are the links to our main financial aid page and instructions:

http://www.lsuhsc.edu/no/students/financialaid/

for further information contact Leslie Carter lcart6@lsuhsc.edu in the Financial Aid Office, (504) 568-4822 or 568-4820.

How difficult is it to get into the dorm? There is at times a long waiting list, so you need to turn in an application to the Residence Hall, (504) 568-6260, as soon as possible.

Watch for additional information that will be sent in mid-July from the Student Affairs Office. This packet will include registration, curriculum, and textbook information.

Please notify our office in writing of any change of address, e-mail address or telephone number at least two weeks prior to the change.

Sincerely,

Sam G. McClugage, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Admissions

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