

## **Certificate Program in Clinical Research Frequently Asked Questions:**

### **What are the course requirements for the Certificate in Clinical Research?**

Students enrolled in the certificate program must complete 12 credits of coursework.

Required courses:

- PREV 600 (3 credits) – Principles of Epidemiology
- PREV 616 (2 credits) – Introduction to Clinical and Translational Research at UMB
- PREV 633 (2 credits) – Application of Legal and Regulatory Issues in Clinical Research
- CIPP 909 (1 credit) – Responsible Conduct of Research
- PREV 620 (3 credits) – Principles of Biostatistics OR PREV 621 (3 credits) – Biostatistical Methods (with approval, students may substitute another 3 credit biostatistics course to meet this requirement)
  - Please note that PREV 620 must be taken concurrently with PREV 619 Introduction to SAS (1 credit). Most certificate students should plan to take PREV 621 unless they plan to transfer into the MS in Clinical Research program. If planning to transfer, students should take PREV 619 and PREV 620.
- PREV 710 (1 credit) – Clinical and Translational Research Project Design and Implementation

### **What is the application procedure?**

The Graduate School requires a completed application (online or paper), one (1) set of official transcripts of all prior undergraduate and graduate study, three letters of recommendation, and a statement of academic goals and research interests. The Graduate School normally requires Graduate Record examinations (GRE) scores for admission to graduate programs and uses GRE scores as part of the data on which it bases its admission decisions. The scores, however, are never the sole criteria for admission. If you are a health professional (e.g. clinical fellow) or health professional student (e.g. dental student), you may submit the scores (e.g. MCATs) you used to be admitted to your professional school.

Please refer to the application instructions for complete information regarding application requirements: <http://www.graduate.umaryland.edu/admissions/instructions.html>

### **What are the requirements for admission to the program?**

The minimum academic standard for full admission to the Graduate School is a B average or 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in a program resulting in the award of a bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university, or an equivalent degree and standing from a comparable foreign institution. Applicants whose native language or language of the home is not English must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the examination of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).

### **Do you have rolling admissions?**

There are Fall admissions only for the Certificate in Clinical Research. Complete application materials must be received by the March 1 deadline to be considered for Fall admission. Internal candidates (e.g. UM faculty, UMMC residents and fellows) who have missed the application deadline should contact Stacie Mendoza at [smendoza@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:smendoza@som.umaryland.edu) to discuss their application.

**Are there special requirements for international applicants?**

International applicants must adhere to application deadline dates and submit all required documents as early as possible. The Graduate School or an individual graduate program may request that you have a credential evaluation done by an outside agency. In addition to meeting the requirements for all applicants cited above, international applicants must: (1) hold a degree that is equivalent or comparable to a four-year U.S. bachelor's degree and have a cumulative grade point average equivalent to a B or 3.0 grade point average, or the first- or high-second division or comparable class ranking, and (2) provide proof of financial sponsorship for immigration and visa status purposes.

Please note that the certificate program will not sponsor visas for international applicants.

**Does the K30 program offer student financial support for the certificate program?**

There is no financial assistance available for this program. Students should explore employer-based tuition remission benefits or other financial assistance for which they may be eligible.

**What is the cost of tuition and fees for the Certificate in Clinical Research?**

Please see the financial services website for specific information on fees:

<http://www.fincsvc.umaryland.edu/sa/images/grad.pdf>.

**Is it possible to complete the program during fellowship training?**

Yes, provided that you have more than one research year. The 12 credits required for the certificate program can be completed in one academic year but residents and fellows will typically complete the program in 2-3 years.

**Will previously completed courses count toward the certificate requirement?**

Students may apply a maximum of 6 graduate schools credits earned during previously completed courses towards the degree; however, these courses cannot be applied to another degree program.

**Is it possible to transfer from the Certificate Program in Clinical Research to the Master of Science in Clinical Research Program?**

Individuals who want to transfer from the Certificate Program in Clinical Research to the Master of Science Program in Clinical Research must decide about the transfer within the first six credits completed. Once the certificate is awarded, credits earned in the program may not be applied to the Master of Science degree.

**As a clinical fellow at UMMC, would the University waive any tuition fees?**

No, unless you are state employee who receives the tuition remission benefit as part of your compensation package. Fellows are typically UMMC employees who are not eligible for tuition remission. Please discuss tuition options with your program/department. Note: Tuition rates are lower for in-state residents. University System of Maryland policy regarding student classification for admission and tuition purposes can be found here:

<http://www.usmd.edu/regents/bylaws/SectionVIII/VIII270.html>.