



NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

A M E M B E R O F T O U R O U N I V E R S I T Y

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

Special Track to a Master of Science Degree

Issue Date: March 5, 2024

Supersedes: *Special Track to a Master's degree* dated April 4, 2010

Last Review: March 5, 2024

I. PURPOSE

To award a Master of Science degree in Biomedical Sciences to students who enter the GSBMS from the NYMC School of Medicine.

II. POLICY

Students enrolled in the School of Medicine (SOM) MD program who are unable to complete the medical school curriculum because of an inability to pass an external licensing examination, health considerations, or other exceptional circumstances may apply for admission into the Special Track to a Master of Science degree. Medical students who obtain an MD, or who are on target to obtain an MD, are not eligible to enter this path.

III. SCOPE

This policy applies to students who are enrolled in the SOM MD program, successfully completed the preclinical (Phase 1) portion of the MD curriculum, have demonstrated ethical behavior, and are unable to complete the NYMC SOM due to a variety of reasons. This policy does not apply to students who are continuing in the NYMS SOM MD program or who have received an MD degree. Individuals with an MD degree who wish to receive a Master of Science degree from the GSBMS must apply to the GSBMS and, upon admission, complete all didactic requirements of the Master of Science degree program in the GSBMS and a literature review (Track A).

IV. DEFINITIONS

GSBMS: Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

MD: Medical Degree

M.S.: Master of Science Degree

NYMC: New York Medical College

V. PROCEDURES

- A. The student must have completed and received a minimal grade of “pass” in all preclinical (Phase 1) courses in the NYMC SOM – viz., UMDM 1001 (Fundamental Processes of Life), UMDM 1002 (Introduction to System), UMDM 1003 (Systems 1: Brain and Behavior), UMDM 2000 (Systems 2. Cardiorespiratory), UMDM 2001 (Systems 3: Renal/Reproduction/Endocrine), UMDM 2002 (Systems 4: GI/Derm/MS/Rheum), and UMDM 1103 (History of Medicine). Receiving a passing grade indicates that the transferring student has met most of the general competencies of the core component of the Master of Science program, track A pathway. Passing these courses satisfies the general core requirements that include General Biochemistry I (BCHM 1010) and Mammalian Physiology I (PHYM 1010), and discipline core requirements/electives including General Microbiology I (MCRM 1010), General Microbiology II (MCRM 1020), Introduction to Pathology (PATM 1080), Pharmacology I (PHRM 1010), Pharmacology II (PHRM 1020), Lectures in Histology (CBAM 1320), Laboratory in Histology (CBAM 1330), General Biochemistry II (BCHM 1020), Systemic Pathology (PATM 1090), Mammalian Physiology II (PHYM 1020).
- B. Students must have demonstrated professionalism, with no disciplinary actions or integrity violations, throughout their tenure in the NYMC SOM.
- C. With the exceptions noted below, students cannot be matriculated in both the NYMC SOM and the GSBMS. Therefore, a student must withdraw from the NYMC SOM prior to entering the GSBMS’s Special Track to a Master of Science degree. Exceptions – a student enrolled in NYMC SOM may also be matriculated in the GSBMS if:
 - a they have completed all didactic requirements for a Master of Science degree prior to matriculation into the NYMC SOM.
 - b they are MD/PhD candidates at NYMC.
- D. Students who leave the NYMC SOM program without earning a degree, but who fulfill the criteria outlined in bullet points (a) and (b) and will withdraw from the NYMC SOM MD program (bullet point (c)), may apply to enter the Master of Science program in the GSBMS.
- E. Once accepted into the program, students must fulfill the following requirements to earn a Master of Science degree from the GSBMS.
 - a complete at least seven (7) credits hours of graduate level courses (approved by the program director) **within the next complete academic year**, including:
 - i Cell Biology (CBAM 1360) or an appropriate substitute course based on the discipline program.
 - ii a Selected Topics course (7100-level course).
 - iii at least one upper level (2000- or 3000- series) elective course. Course choices should be discussed with and must be approved by the program director.

- b Write and submit a Master's Literature Review that meets the academic standards set by the GSBMS and is approved by the normal GSBMS procedures.
- F. Students must pass all graduate courses attempted and achieve a final GPA of at least 3.00 in GSBMS courses.
- G. Students in this program will be charged the current per-credit rate.
- H. While enrolled in the GSBMS, the student will be considered part-time or full-time based upon Graduate School definitions of these terms.
- I. If a student in a Special Track to a Master of Science degree program enrolls in fewer than four (4) credits per semester, they **will not** be eligible for financial aid.
- J. When a student must extend their didactic coursework past the one-year timeframe because their GPA falls below 3.0, to improve a grade in a course, or for other reasons approved by GSBMS, they will be allowed to remediate during one year following the end of the one-year program timeframe, with permission of the program director. Additional extensions will be allowed in extraordinary circumstances with permission of the program director and the GSBMS Dean. Students will be charged the current per-credit tuition rate as well as the required fees. Students are responsible for contacting Student Financial Planning regarding their financial aid eligibility.
- K. Students who have completed coursework within the one-year program timeframe but complete their literature review in a subsequent semester, will be required to register for Maintenance of Matriculation and pay the required fee.
- L. Once the student has been awarded the Master of Science degree, the Registrar's Office will add a transcript notation that says, "23 credits accepted from the NYMC School of Medicine".

VI. EFFECTIVE DATE

This policy is effective immediately.

VII. POLICY MANAGEMENT

Executive Stakeholder: Dean, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
Oversight Office: Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Dean's Office