

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY



NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37232

TELEPHONE (615) 322-5000

*Minority Student Affairs • School of Medicine • Direct Phone 343-0437
FAX (615) 343-8397*

August 24, 1998

Jojo Chokalingam
[REDACTED]

Dear Jojo:

This is a personal invitation to apply to the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine in Nashville, Tennessee. We are committed to helping our school attract, admit, matriculate, and graduate talented, underrepresented minority students.

Vanderbilt offers a community built around the triad of excellent education, patient care, and research; a community of students, caring clinicians, world class researchers, and grateful patients. Our students, attracted to a school of national reputation, have traditionally cited the school's concern for the individual student and the quality of our teaching as the single most important reasons for choosing Vanderbilt. Our financial aid program assists students in funding educational expenses which include a tuition which has consistently been below the mean of private medical schools. The school has scholarships available for minority students based on merit and need.

We are located in Nashville, Tennessee – also known as “Music City, USA”, a cosmopolitan city of one million. The Vanderbilt University School of Medicine attracts a national and international student body.

Vanderbilt uses the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS). We encourage you to include Vanderbilt among the schools you list on your AMCAS application. If you have already submitted your AMCAS application and did not include Vanderbilt, we are enclosing an AMCAS Additional Designation Form. Simply complete the top of the form, sign the left margin, and return it to Vanderbilt in the enclosed envelope. We will submit it to AMCAS so that your application materials can be sent to Vanderbilt without cost to you.

Should you have any questions, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Michael Rodriguez, M.D.
Director, Minority Student Affairs

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Dear Jojo:

Congratulations on your outstanding MCAT score! Now that you are over the biggest hurdles in becoming a doctor, it's time for you to choose where to complete your medical education. We're inviting you to consider applying to Vanderbilt.


We are second year medical students just back from summer vacations. Some of us traveled internationally, did research, worked in the community, or just relaxed. After a wonderful summer, we are excited to be back at school amongst our friends. In addition to a schedule of core classes, we can also choose from a wide variety of electives or create our own. Almost every interest can be met in student groups, such as the History of Medicine Society, the International Committee, acapella groups, intramural sports, and the Student National Medical Association. Furthermore, there are organizations, including several minority groups, in the undergraduate and graduate schools in which students can participate. As a Vanderbilt medical student, there is a lot that you can do!

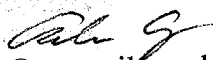
Why choose Vanderbilt? Vanderbilt has high national rankings, excellent facilities (including, but not limited to, a McDonald's on campus!), and world-renowned faculty. A national survey of graduating medical students for the second consecutive year showed that Vanderbilt ranks #1 in student satisfaction. It is a friendly, non-competitive environment with supportive fellow students, faculty, and administrators. Vanderbilt is a progressive school and has responded to changing trends in healthcare and medical education by making such changes as creating a new Department of Family Medicine.

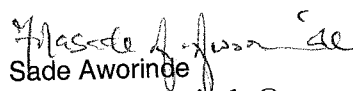
The friendly atmosphere is not restricted to Vanderbilt, but extends beyond campus to the Nashville community. The city has recently attained major league status with the arrival of the NFL, and soon the NHL. Nashville has its own symphony and minor league baseball team, hosts Broadway productions, and is a frequent stop on many concert tours. This offers unique opportunities for interactions with other students. For example, Vanderbilt and Meharry medical students can teach in a Vanderbilt-Fisk University collaborative national summer program intended to better prepare minority pre-med students for medical school.

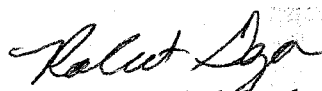
As current Vanderbilt medical students, we feel confident that if you choose Vanderbilt, your medical education will be both fun and rewarding. As minority students ourselves, we would love to answer any questions you may have about minority affairs at Vanderbilt or any other questions about medical school. Please feel free to contact us by e-mail or by phone.

Sincerely,


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