



University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine  
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

Dear Applicant:

We have received your 1999 AMCAS application and are delighted to know of your interest in the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. It is an exciting time to be a student at Penn Med. The School is growing and bursting with innovation and pride over the recognition of our educational programs, research initiatives, and advances in clinical care.

We are eager to share more about Penn Med with you in our admissions brochure, which will be mailed to you in October. Information about Curriculum 2000, the application process, and other school related activities is available immediately on our Web site at [health.upenn.edu](http://health.upenn.edu). Click on "Education" for information about our programs.

To facilitate the 1999 application process, we are enclosing application materials:

- 1) A Supplemental Application for admission (with instructions);
- 2) A postcard for you to self-address and submit with your application, which we return to you, acknowledging that we have received your application;
- 3) A Combined Degree application for students specifically interested in M.D./Ph.D. degrees.

All of the application materials can be returned in the enclosed envelope. Completion of the Supplemental Application is the next phase of the application process.

*We encourage you to make arrangements for letters of recommendation to be forwarded to the school now, so that your application can be completed and read as soon as it arrives. All letters should be sent through your school's Preprofessional Advisory Committee or directly through the recommender.*

Your application will be forwarded to the Committee on Admissions only when all required documents, including letters of recommendation, MCAT scores, and application fees, have been received. We will notify you when your application is complete and beginning the Committee's series of competitive reviews.

We anticipate a large, competitive applicant pool this year and assure you that your application will be reviewed without delay. In the meantime, enjoy the fall, and continue to think about Penn by reading a recent issue of one of our Health System publications, enclosed.

Sincerely,

Gaye W. Sheffler  
Director of Admissions  
and Financial Aid

Return-Path: [REDACTED]  
Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 23:27:02 -0500  
X-PII: [REDACTED]

Subject: Thank you for flying AirTran  
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Thank you for flying AirTran.  
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#### DEPARTING FLIGHT

Flight 27  
Departing from Chicago, IL - Midway 6:50pm, Feb 12, 1999  
Arriving in Atlanta, GA 9:32pm  
Connecting with:  
Flight 170  
Departing from Atlanta, GA 10:15pm, Feb 12, 1999  
Arriving in Philadelphia, PA 11:56pm

Fare: \$169.00  
Segment tax & PFC's: \$10.00  
Cost: \$179.00 per passenger  
Total for 1 Passenger(s): \$179.00

#### RETURNING FLIGHT

Flight 839  
Departing from Philadelphia, PA 4:20pm, Feb 13, 1999  
Arriving in Atlanta, GA 6:35pm  
Connecting with:  
Flight 828  
Departing from Atlanta, GA 7:05pm, Feb 13, 1999  
Arriving in Chicago, IL - Midway 7:48pm

Fare: \$105.00  
Segment tax & PFC's: \$10.00  
Cost: \$115.00 per passenger  
Total for 1 Passenger(s): \$115.00

\*\*\*

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Do not reply to this message. It is being sent  
by an automated system that can not receive replies.  
If you have any questions about your flight, please call 1-800-AIRTRAN.  
In Atlanta please call 770-994-8258.  
Any comments can be emailed [REDACTED]

# Supplemental Application for Admission



**University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine**

Office of Admissions and Financial Aid  
Suite 100 Edward J. Stemmler Hall  
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6056

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY

## 1. General Information

The completion of this application is required of all applicants for admission to the 1999 entering class. The School of Medicine sends supplementary application materials to all individuals who submit AMCAS applications and who appear to have met the basic requirements of the School (see enclosed brochure).

Chokalingam, Jojo

Name (Last)

(First)

(Middle)

SS#

(Note: The School of Medicine will address all mailings to the preferred mailing address reported to AMCAS. Any changes to your preferred mailing address must be sent to AMCAS to assure proper updating of your records.)

E-mail Address

Day Telephone

Evening Telephone

## 2. Application Fee — \$55

Check one:

My \$55 application fee is enclosed.

or  I have qualified for an AMCAS fee waiver and I am requesting a waiver of the \$55 application fee.

## 3. Required Letters of Recommendation (see instructions)

Check the description below that best describes how you will meet the letter of recommendation requirement and enter institutional or individual faculty member names, as indicated:

I have access to the services of the preprofessional advisory committee of the institution named below which will send a composite letter.

University of Chicago

Name of Institution

or  My institution (named below) does not provide a composite letter but will compile and send a group of individual letters.

Name of Institution

or  I do not have access to the services mentioned above and will meet the requirements through the submission of two individual letters which will be sent directly by the recommenders, as indicated below.

Name of Faculty Member

Institution

Department

Name of Faculty Member

Institution

Department



University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine  
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

PLEASE READ

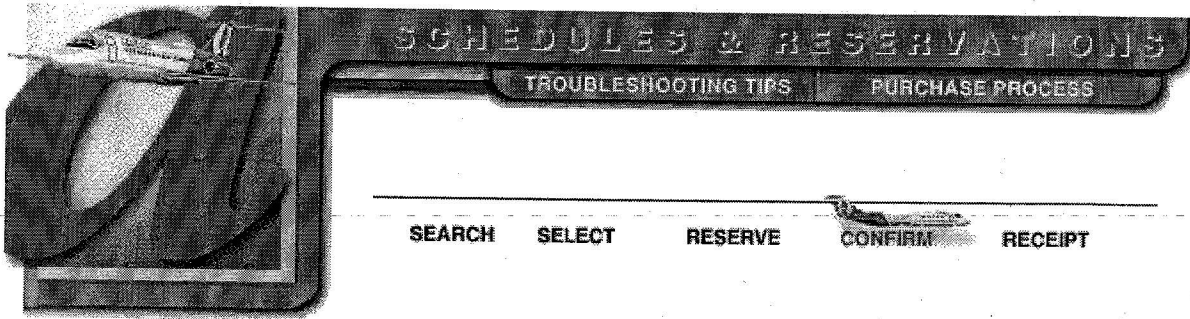
TO: Our Saturday Morning Guests  
FROM: Gaye W. Sheffler  
Director of Admissions and Financial Aid  
SUBJECT: Plan for the Interview Day

On behalf of the faculty, students, and administrative staff of the School of Medicine, I would like to welcome you to our interview program. The following schedule and comments hopefully will assist you in getting the most out of your visit.

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	Registration and Continental Breakfast 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Stemmler Hall
8:30 – 9:30 a.m.	Welcome and Group Introduction to the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine Austrian Auditorium, Clinical Research Building  Faculty, staff, and students will speak to you about the School of Medicine, and answer your questions
9:30 – 11:00 a.m.	Interviews; Informal Discussions with Students; Refreshments
11:00 a.m.	Tour of the School of Medicine
12:00 noon	Financial aid discussion for interested applicants Austrian Auditorium, Clinical Research Building

• **INTERVIEWS**

You will have two interviews – one with a faculty member and one with a student. The names and locations of your interviewers can be found on your registration form.



**You have not purchased your ticket yet!**

By clicking the **Purchase** button below, I agree that I have read, understand and agree to be bound by the following **terms and conditions** and agree that my **credit card will be charged** for the travel described below.

Cancel

Purchase

*Confirmation # C4YZLD*

Processing your ticket will take a moment.  
Press "Purchase" only once and please be patient.

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All AirTran coach tickets are **non-refundable**, and a **\$45 fee** applies to any change made after purchase plus any applicable increase in airfare. Business class (A) tickets are fully refundable and no fee applies to changes. Please note that the lowest fares may require an advance purchase, such as 3, 7, or 14 days. Fares shown do not include Airport Passenger Facility Charges of up to \$12. Fares do not include segment taxes of \$2 per segment. A segment is defined as a takeoff and a landing.

Cancellations must be made at least one hour prior to departure or customer forfeits reservation and any monies paid against the reservation.

This reservation is non-transferable -- no name changes allowed.

<b>Coach Class</b>	Flight # 27	Fare: \$169.00
Chicago, IL - Midway	Depart 6:50pm, Feb 12, 1999	Segment tax & PFC's: \$10.00
Atlanta, GA	Arrive 9:32pm	Cost: \$179.00
		per passenger
<b>Connecting With</b>	Flight # 170	Total for 1 Passenger(s): <b>\$179.00</b>
Atlanta, GA	Depart 10:15pm, Feb 12, 1999	
Philadelphia, PA	Arrive 11:56pm	

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**Coach Class** Flight # 839 Fare: \$105.00  
Philadelphia, PA Depart 4:20pm, Feb 13, 1999 Segment tax & PFC's: \$10.00  
Atlanta, GA Arrive 6:35pm Cost: \$115.00  
per passenger  
**Connecting With** Flight # 828 Total for 1 Passenger(s): \$115.00  
Atlanta, GA Depart 7:05pm, Feb 13, 1999  
Chicago, IL - Midway Arrive 7:48pm

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UNIVERSITY OF  
PENNSYLVANIA  
MEDICAL CENTER

Office of Admissions and Financial Aid

University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine  
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

November 30, 1998

Jojo Chokalingam  
[Redacted]

Dear Mr. Chokalingam:

The Committee on Admissions has reviewed your application for admission and is pleased to invite you for an interview at the School of Medicine. The interview program is designed to introduce you to our educational institution, its philosophy of education, physical facilities, faculty and students.

The interview program is generally held on Saturday mornings and select weekdays. An interview scheduling agenda is enclosed. We hope to involve you in a series of individual interviews and small group interaction, with students, faculty and administration during your visit.

**You can schedule your interview appointment by calling the Office of Admissions at (215) 898-8001 between the hours of 2:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M. EST.** We are currently offering you the choice of the following dates:

**Friday, January 15**

**Saturdays, January 16 and 23**

Other dates (weekdays or Saturdays) may be available if the above listed dates have been filled at the time of your call.

We look forward to meeting you at the interview session. If you have any questions please call the Office of Admissions.

Sincerely,

THE STAFF OF THE  
OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

[Redacted Signature]  
[Redacted Name]

(Invitation 98-99)

# *Interview Accommodations*

Dear Applicant,

Congratulations on your interview at Penn Med! The student hosting program provides overnight accommodations as well as the opportunity to meet Penn medical students. Enclosed is a list of students in the first-year class who have volunteered to house students the night before their interview.

If you would like to stay with a student, please e-mail (preferably) or call one of the people on the attached list *at least one week before* your interview. For e-mail addresses, unless a complete e-mail address is listed, just append '@mail.med.upenn.edu' to the username. The list is sorted into four groups. The first group of students lives in Center City, which is just across the river from the Penn campus and is close to downtown Philadelphia. The second group of students lives in West Philly, which is just west of campus. The third group lives in the graduate dorms. The fourth group is willing to host applicants but may live further away or have other limitations. Travel time to school from any of the host homes varies between 5-25 minutes walking, so ask your host. In any event, the trip to campus should not be more than a \$5 cab ride.

Please remember that this is a voluntary service. We may not be able to house all applicants and students may have a limited amount of time to spend with you. In an effort to spread out the hosting requests, we ask that applicants whose last names begin with A-L first call among the top half each housing area, and that applicants whose last names begin with M-Z first call among the lower half of each area. If the first person you contact is unable to host you, please try another student on the list. If you have any problems finding housing or have questions about Penn Med, please contact one of the following Housing Coordinators:

[Redacted contact information for Housing Coordinators]

If you are coming to campus by airport shuttle or taxi, you should direct the driver to the intersection of 36<sup>th</sup> and Spruce Streets. You can find extra directions to the Admissions Office (Stemmler Suite 100) by accessing <http://mail.med.upenn.edu/~phuc/>. Good luck in the interview process and we look forward to seeing you soon!



## INTERVIEW SCHEDULING OPTIONS

Dear Applicant:

We are looking forward to meeting you at our interview program. The University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine presents an admissions interview program that is intended to acquaint you with our academic program, our faculty and students, and our school environment. We hold the interview program on selected weekdays and Saturdays. Interviews are held individually, and each applicant has one faculty interview and one student interview. The format for the two programs is as follows:

### Weekday Program:

8:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Attend Class (Optional) *
11:00 - 11:30 a.m.	Registration (Office of Admissions Suite 100 Stemmler Hall)
12:00 - 12:45 p.m.	Orientation and Financial Aid Discussions
12:45 - 1:15 p.m.	Lunch with students in Dunlop Lobby (Please let us know if you have any dietary restrictions)
1:15 - 1:45 p.m.	Tour of the Medical School Facilities
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Faculty and Student interviews occur during this period

\*(If you would like to attend the scheduled morning first year class, please report to the Office of Admissions by 8:30 a.m. on the morning of your scheduled weekday interview.)

### Saturday Program:

8:00 - 8:30 a.m.	Registration (First Floor Lobby of Stemmler Hall)
8:45 - 9:30 a.m.	Orientation (Clinical Research Building Auditorium)
9:30 - 12:15 p.m.	Interviews; Refreshments; Informal Discussions; and Tours with Students
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Financial Aid Discussion

If you anticipate needing any kind of special accommodations or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact our office.

If you will need to make overnight accommodations for your visit to Philadelphia, some of the local hotels within walking distance to the School of Medicine are:

Sheraton University City	36th and Chestnut Streets	(215) 387-8000
Penn Tower Hotel	34th and Civic Center	(215) 387-8333

We look forward to seeing you. Do not hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions regarding the interview options.



University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine  
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

Applicant Name: JO JO CHOKALINGHAM

Faculty Interviewer: DR. PAUL DABROWSKI

Room: SUITE 100 STEMMLER HALL

Time: 9:30

\*\*\*\*\*

Student Interviewer: KEN SOLT

Room: 111 A LEFT STEMMLER HALL

Time: 10:15



UNIVERSITY OF  
PENNSYLVANIA  
MEDICAL CENTER

Office of Admissions and Financial Aid

University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine  
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

July 15, 1999

Mr. Joio Chokalingam  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Chokalingam:

Thank you very much for your 1999 application for admission to the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. Your application has been reviewed on many occasions throughout the admissions season by the Committee on Admissions. The quality of your personal and academic credentials is quite good, and the committee has been impressed with your accomplishments. Although the Committee on Admissions was favorably impressed with your application, it has been unable to offer you a position in our first year class starting in the Fall of 1999.


This decision does not reflect on your qualifications for admission, but, rather on the quality and quantity of our applicant pool. We hope that you will understand that the large number of applicants, as compared to the number of places in the entering class, make it impossible for the Committee to accept all of the qualified candidates. We wish you success in gaining admission to medical school and in pursuing a productive career in medicine.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Grippi, M.D.  
Chair, Committee on Admissions  
Penn Med Class of 1976

MAG/ek

Jojo Chokalingam



February 15, 1999

Gaye W. Sheffler  
Director of Admissions and Financial Aid  
University of Pennsylvania  
School of Medicine  
Suite 100  
Stemmler Hall  
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6056

Dear Ms. Sheffler,

I enjoyed meeting with you during my visit to the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. I found our conversation about medical economics especially interesting. I also recently sent an email to Dr. Sandy Schwartz to ask him about his studies in medical economics at the Wharton School and his opinions about the changes going on in the field of medicine.

I was very impressed by the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine during my visit. The School of Medicine facility was outstanding and the Curriculum 2000 Program was by far the most progressive approach to medical education of any school I have seen. The Medical Students I met during my interview, tour and at minority luncheon were extremely enthusiastic about the school. I am also interested in the MD/MBA (Health Care Management) Dual Program at the School of Medicine and the Wharton School of Business. It has not escaped my attention that the University of Pennsylvania has one of the best business schools in the country.

For someone who is interested in both medical science and medical economics, the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and the Wharton School of Business are an unbeatable combination. After careful thought, I have decided that the University of Pennsylvania is my first choice for medical school. I will matriculate to the University of Pennsylvania if I am admitted.

Thank you for spending the time to meet with me during my visit to the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. I hope you will look favorably on my application.

Sincerely,

Jojo Chokalingam

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

dicine  
a

**Karen E. Hamilton, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Dean for Student Affairs  
Director of Minority Affairs

Academic Programs  
Office of Minority Affairs



February 13, 1999

Jojo Chokalingham

Dear Jojo:

Our minority students are very anxious to meet you after your interviews today. In fact, they would like to take you to lunch (1:00-2:00 p.m.) immediately following the Financial Aid presentation.

Please meet them at the information booth, outside of the Austrian Auditorium where the Financial Aid presentation will be held (Clinical Research Building (CRB), first floor).

Good luck!! We look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

*Karen Hamilton*

Karen E. Hamilton, Ph.D.  
Assistant Dean for Student Affairs  
Director of Minority Affairs

*Hilda Luiggi*

Hilda Luiggi, M.S.  
Assistant Director, Minority Affairs

[REDACTED]

Jojo Chokalingam



March 22, 1999

Michael A. Grippi, M.D.  
Office of Admissions  
University of Pennsylvania  
School of Medicine  
Suite 100 Edward J. Stemmler Hall  
3450 Hamilton Walk  
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6056

Dear Dr. Grippi,

I recently received notification that I had been placed on the second tier of the waiting list for admission to the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. I was somewhat disappointed, but remain heartened by the fact that you are keeping my application open for continuing review.

I want the Office of Admissions to know that the University of Pennsylvania is my first choice for medical school. During my visit, I was very impressed by the medical facilities associated with the school. The medical students I met furthered my interest as they seemed extremely enthusiastic about the school. I was particularly excited by the Penn Med. Curriculum 2000 Program, with its integrated teaching of medical science, biethics and medical economics with clinical exposure to patients, which seems to me one of the most progressive approaches to teaching medicine at any school. I am also interested in eventually pursuing a M.D./M.B.A. Joint Degree Program and I think that the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and Wharton School of Business provide an unbeatable combination for anyone considering such a program.

I went to school in the City of Cambridge, in Massachusetts, and thus am extremely aware of the lack of readily accessible / walk-in medical centers for inner city kids and families. I want to specialize in Family Medicine and General Pediatrics, and I dream of being able to provide care to those who need it most, but are unable to afford it. To realize such a dream I will not only need a sound background in medicine but also an understanding of the economic feasibility of establishing a free clinic in the inner city. To this end, I believe that the University of Pennsylvania is the best equipped to help me realize my dream.

In the meantime, I would like to update the Admissions Committee on my more recent academic and extracurricular activities. In November 1998, I was elected to the Student Government at the University of Chicago. As a member of the Student Assembly, I have taken a leadership role in planning student activities including community outreach events, town meetings and study breaks and addressing important student issues like the proposed changes in the U of C's Common Core Curriculum and Student Health Plan. I was also elected to the seven member Student Government Finance Committee, which meets weekly to allocate over \$200,000 of Student Government funds to student organizations for upcoming events, activities and capital improvements.

I have expressed interest in studying health care economics during medical school. Although I have already acquired the necessary credits to graduate, I plan to enroll in another class next quarter; Health Economics and Public Policy, taught by professor David Melzer. This class examines issues related to the economics of American Medicine including the structure of health insurance, the effects of technical changes in medicine, and the policy changes ongoing in the field of medicine with the rise of HMO's and managed care. I hope this class will help me to understand the economic and public policy issues now facing American medicine.

During my interview at the University of Pennsylvania, I told Gaye Sheffler that I wanted to be the next surgeon general of the United States. I admit this is a rather ambitious goal. However, when I look at the dramatic changes that have gone on in the field of medicine over the past decade, I see an amazing opportunity for a good physician who understands the complex public policy and economic issues facing American medicine today. In a leadership role, such a person could dramatically change the structure of the American health care system and revolutionize the way that medicine is practiced in the United States. I want to go to the University of Pennsylvania because I am convinced that your program will teach me how to be a responsible physician dedicated to my patients, as well as how to be a leader in the effort to reform medicine in the United States. I believe that your school can help me to achieve my ambitions.

And, if you call me the day before classes begin, to offer me an opening in your freshman class, I will be in Philadelphia the very same day, ready to attend your medical school.

Sincerely,

Jojo Chokalingam



University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine  
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

March 15, 1999

Mr. Joio Chokalingam  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Chokalingam:

The Committee on Admissions has completed its review of your application for admission. We enjoyed meeting you during our interview program and found you to be a qualified applicant.

The limitation on the number of places available in the class does not allow us to offer you an acceptance at this time. We are placing your name on a waitlist for admission. Decisions on acceptances from the waitlist may be made at any time, but generally take place no earlier than June and no later than August 11. While there is no individual rank on the waitlist, the Committee has divided the waitlist into two tiers.

Your position on the waitlist is in the second tier. Generally, the Committee on Admissions utilizes the first tier waitlist before offering positions to candidates in the second tier. This means that any second tier acceptance will occur later in the summer, if at all. Based on our experience acceptance offers to waitlist candidates in the second tier are rather unlikely. I hope this information is helpful to you for planning purposes.

We hope that you will be interested in our continued consideration of your application and that you will confirm your interest by returning the Waitlist Response Form. If you have any questions, please contact us at the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid (215-898-8001).

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Michael A. Grippi, M.D.

Michael A. Grippi, M.D.  
Chairman, Committee on Admissions  
Penn Med Class of 1976