Overview
The Early Medical School Selection Program (EMSSP) at Boston University School of Medicine (BUSM) is a wonderful opportunity for undergraduate students who want to attend a first-class medical school to become a physician.

Students accepted into the program have the following opportunities:
1. Provisional admission to BUSM during sophomore year at UVI
2. Two summer programs and senior year at Boston University
3. As a senior at BU, exposure to medical school coursework that also counts toward the UVI degree
4. Graduate on schedule from UVI
5. Enter the Boston University School of Medicine in the Fall after graduating from UVI

Admission
Students apply for admission to the EMSSP program during their sophomore year of college. To be eligible for the program, a student must be a US citizen or permanent resident and have the recommendation of the Pre-Health Advisor at UVI. Criteria for admission is based on the student's academic record, letters of recommendation, scope and quality of college and community activities, SAT or ACT scores, and other factors such as personality, character, and maturity.

Coursework in the sciences, such as Introductory Biology, Chemistry, and Mathematics are strongly recommended for application to the program in addition to the normal distribution of courses in the humanities and social sciences. Applicants must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 in science courses and a 3.0 in non-science courses with no grade lower than a C in any course.

Competitive applicants are invited in the spring semester for interviews by BU EMSSP Admissions Committee members.

Planning
The most important steps students can take to prepare for medical school is to learn to study well and earn excellent grades. Successful EMSSP applicants have also excelled in other areas such as sports, student government, and community activities. While students don't have to major in science to attend medical school, a science major generally prepares students best for the medical school curriculum. Students start working with the UVI Pre-Health Professions Advisor as soon as they enter UVI to plan their coursework. Most EMSSP participants at UVI major in Biology or Chemistry. Be aware that entrance to medical school requires completion of a Bachelor’s degree.
About the Program in Depth
EMSSP is designed to provide an early and decompressed transition into the medical school curriculum through provisional acceptance into medical school at the completion of two years of undergraduate study. Interested students should consult with the Pre-Health Advisor at UVI during their freshman year and must apply for admission to the program during their sophomore year of college. Students accepted into EMSSP spend two summers at Boston University taking summer classes and remain at UVI through their junior year, pursuing programs of study that will best prepare them to spend their senior year at Boston University in Massachusetts.

For the first component of the program, admitted students attend Boston University Summer School and take undergraduate courses for credit toward their baccalaureate degree during the summer after their sophomore year in college. They remain at UVI through their junior year and again participate in a six-week summer program at Boston University the following summer. Students must complete the equivalent of one full year of general chemistry, organic chemistry and physics prior to beginning their senior undergraduate year at Boston University.

During their senior year at Boston University, students retain degree candidacy at their home institution while participating in individualized programs of study, satisfying the undergraduate academic requirements. While in BU, students benefit from personalized tutoring, MCAT (Medical College Admission Test) preparation workshops, and help with the application for Boston University’s School of Medicine.

After successfully graduating from UVI and earning a bachelor degree, a student who performed at the prescribed level may matriculate at the Boston University School of Medicine during the next academic year. Having already fulfilled the requirements for certain medical school courses (those modular medical courses in which students obtained a grade of B or better), students are able to pursue a decompressed medical school curriculum. Upon completion of the medical school requirements (normally requiring four years), the degree of Doctor of Medicine is granted by Boston University.

For more information about the program at UVI, contact:
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Visit the UVI Pre-Health Profession Advising Page:
http://www.uvi.edu/sites/uvi/Pages/DSM-PreMed-Home.aspx

BU EMSSP Program Website:
http://www.bumc.bu.edu/oma/emssp/

Additional UVI graduates who have received their M.D. degrees through this program are:
Nicole Hanley, M.D. (St. Thomas, ’04)
Vicki-Ann Samuel, M.D. (St. Thomas, ’04)
Denita Lima, (St. Thomas, ’04)
Carissa Webster-Lake, M.D. St. Thomas, ’06)
Timothy Delsol, M.D. (St. Thomas, ’06)
Wissam Mustafa, M.D. (St. Thomas, ’06)
Shandedelle Norford, M.D. (St. Thomas, ’08)