

Master of Science

Reproductive Clinical Science-Embryology and Andrology (MS)

The 24-month program provides coursework and research opportunities that give students general and specialized biomedical sciences training. The program is designed to be completed in six semesters at an average of two to three courses per semester for a total of 16 online courses (36 credits). Those entering the program with no experience will be required to take elective internship courses in their second year to gain clinical IVF experience.

Candidates must have completed all undergraduate degree requirements and have been issued a bachelor's degree prior to matriculating as an EVMS student. If the bachelor's degree was issued by a U.S. college or university, as a general rule, it should be from a regionally accredited institution. However, the program may grant exceptions on a case-by-case basis. Official transcripts from the awarding institution must specify the date upon which the degree was issued. Graduate level course transfer credits will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Applicants must:

- Have a grade point average of 2.75 (B-) or better.
- Have successfully completed two semesters of college-level biology and chemistry with lab.
- Submit two letters of recommendation (https://www.evms.edu/media/evms_public/departments/distance_education/EVMS-GradCAS_Reference-Form2.pdf) (submitted by the reference electronically) from individuals who are acquainted with you academically and/or professionally. References from close friends and family members are unacceptable.
- Submit a personal essay. Complete essay instructions are available inside the online application portal.
- Submit a CV/resume.

If you are applying as an experienced embryologist or andrologist, you must:

- Currently, work or have worked in clinical IVF or basic reproductive research as an embryologist, andrologist, nurse, physician or research scientist.
- Complete a Reproductive Clinical Science MS Degree Program Skills Report Form (https://www.evms.edu/media/evms_public/departments/health_professions/reproductive_clinical_science/Reproductive_Clinical_Science_MS_Degree_Program_Skills_Report.pdf) and submit it within your online application portal.

If you are applying with no experience, you must:

- Shadow at an IVF facility and obtain a letter that lists what was observed.
- Complete a Reproductive Clinical Science Master's Program Shadowing/Observation Report Form (https://www.evms.edu/media/evms_public/departments/health_professions/reproductive_clinical_science/MRCS_Shadowing_Report.pdf) and submit it within your online application portal.

International students, or applicants whose native language is not English, must take the TOEFL and receive a score equal to or greater than 550 for the paper-based test, 213 for the computer-based test or 80 for the iBT exam.

Additional Requirements for International Applicants

In addition to meeting the admissions requirements above, international applicants are required to meet the following:

Foreign Transcripts

- Request a course by course evaluation of all foreign transcripts showing GPA calculation on a four point scale.
- Eastern Virginia Medical School does not endorse any particular evaluating and/or credentialing service. You can use the following agencies:
 - World Education Services (<http://www.wes.org/>)
 - Educational Credential Evaluators (<http://www.ece.org/>)

Translation: If the academic institution that you attended does not issue documents in English, the credentialing agency will require that you submit a word-for-word translation of your transcripts. You can contact University Language Services (<http://www.universitylanguage.com/>) to submit your transcript for translation and instruct them to send the translated transcript to the credentialing agency you choose.

Transcript Evaluation: International students whose native language is not English may contact one of the following credentialing agencies to submit transcripts for official evaluation: WES (<http://www.wes.org/>) or ECE (<https://www.ece.org/>). Instruct the credentialing agency to send the official evaluation (and translation) directly to GradCAS. You must provide both a course-by-course evaluation report along with an overall GPA calculation. Evaluations are mandatory even for transcripts from institutions that report grades in English. This provides EVMS with a U.S. credit equivalency and allows the transcripts to be reviewed accurately. WES and ECE are preferred credentialing services. If you wish to select a company other than these, please contact the program (russelhi@evms.edu) first.

TOEFL: International applicants whose native language is not English must take the TOEFL exam and receive a score as follows: Paper-based test: 550; Computer-based test: 213; iBT exam: 80. Please go to the ETS website (<http://www.ets.org/>) to take the TOEFL exam, and request your TOEFL scores be sent directly to GradCAS. ETS reports scores for two years after the test date. If you have previously taken the TOEFL but the two-year period has expired, the program will accept a personal copy if available.

GradCAS: GradCAS will **ONLY** accept the evaluation report from the credentialing agency. **Do not send** your foreign transcript to GradCAS.

All other foreign transcript evaluations from the credentialing agency must be sent directly to GradCAS to the following address:

GradCAS Transcript Processing Center
P.O. Box 9217
Watertown, MA 02471

GRE School Code: 5729 TOEFL School Code is B886

Applicant Help Center

- Having trouble accessing the application? The preferred browsers are Google Chrome or Firefox
- Applicant Help Center (https://help.liaisonedu.com/GradCAS_Applicant_Help_Center/)
- If you have questions about your application status, please contact your GradCAS Customer Service Representative at tel:8573042086 (https://catalog.evms.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=9&poid=2048#tel:8573042086) or GradCASinfo@liaisonedu.com

Technical Standards

The abilities and skills candidates and students must possess in order to complete the education and training associated with the master's in Reproductive Clinical Science are referred to as technical standards. These abilities and skills are essential for clinical laboratory practice as an embryologist and/or andrologist.

1. Observation Skills Technical Standard

- 1.1. Demonstrate sufficient attention and accuracy in observation skills (visual, auditory and tactile) in the lecture hall, laboratory and/or online settings. Indicators include, but are not limited to, accurate

visualization and discrimination of text, numbers, patterns, graphic illustrations and other imaging texts.

2. Communication Skills Technical Standard

2.1. Demonstrate effective communication skills with healthcare professionals and with people of varying cultures, ethnicities and personalities.

2.2. Indicators include, but are not limited to, these examples:

- Clear, efficient and intelligible articulation of spoken English language.
- Legible, efficient and intelligible written English language.
- Accurate and efficient English language reading skills.
- Accurate and efficient, expressive and receptive communication skills.
- Ability to accurately follow directions (oral and written).

3. Critical Reasoning Skills Technical Standard

3.1. Demonstrate critical reasoning skills, including, but not limited to, intellectual, conceptual, integrative and quantitative abilities.

3.2. Indicators include, but are not limited to, these examples:

- Demonstrate ability to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, integrate and synthesize information.
- Demonstrate ability to acquire, retain and apply new and learned information.

4. Motor And Sensory Function Technical Standard

4.1. Demonstrate sufficient motor and sensory function to perform typical clinical laboratory duties.

4.2. Indicators include, but are not limited to, these examples:

- Functional and sufficient sensory capacity (visual, auditory and tactile) to use laboratory equipment and perform procedures.
- Execute motor movements that demonstrate safety and efficiency in the various learning settings (i.e., classroom, online and laboratories).
- Physical stamina sufficient to complete the online didactic and some laboratory study, which will include prolonged periods of sitting.

5. Behavioral And Social Attributes Technical Standard

5.1. Demonstrate the behavioral and social attributes vital to participation in a professional program and service as a practicing laboratory professional.

5.2. Indicators include, but are not limited to, these examples:

- Possess the emotional health required for full utilization of mental faculties (judgment, orientation, affect and cognition).
- Ability to develop mature and effective professional relationships with faculty, patients, the public and other members of the healthcare team.
- Possess personal qualities that facilitate effective therapeutic interactions (compassion, empathy, integrity, honesty, benevolence, confidentiality).
- Demonstrate impartial motives, attitudes and values in roles, functions and relationships.
- Ability to monitor and react appropriately to one's own emotional needs and responses.
- Display appropriate flexibility and adaptability in the face of stress or uncertainty associated with clinical encounters and clinical environments.
- Compliance with standards, policies and practices set forth in the EVMS Student Handbook and the program handbook.

Students must attend two residential courses at Eastern Virginia Medical School's campus in Norfolk, Virginia. First-year students' five-day session is in the third week of July; second-year students take their seven-day course in the third week of June.

Course Sequence

<i>Term 1 - Summer</i>	5
RCS 700	Biochem.& Molec. Cell Biology
RCS 701	Intro IVF, Lab, & Skills Dev.
<i>Term 2 - Fall</i>	7
RCS 702	Molecular Biology & Genetics
RCS 703	Female Rep. Endo.& Infert.
RCS 704	Current in IVF - Journal Club
<i>Term 3 - Spring</i>	8
RCS 705	IVF Technology
RCS 706	Gametes and Embryos
RCS 707	RMCT: Project & Statistics
<i>Term 4 - Summer</i>	3
RCS 708	Advanced IVF,Lab & Skills Dev.
RCS 709	RMCT: Project Proposal
<i>Term 5 - Fall</i>	7
RCS 710	Genetics of Rep. & Infertility
RCS 711	RMCT: Masters Project
RCS 712	Male Rep. Function & Dysfunct.
<i>Term 6 - Spring *</i>	6
RCS 713	RMCT: Scientific Writing
RCS 714	Cryopreservation
RCS 715	Ethics, Society, & ART
RCS 717	IVF Clinical Internship
<i>Additional Course **</i>	
RCS 716	RMCT:Scientific Writing
Total Credit Hours	36

* Students who do not have previous experience are required to take internship courses.

** Students who do not successfully complete the thesis requirement will be required to enroll in this extended writing course until it is completed. This course can only be repeated a select number of times.