



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

College of
Medicine

CATALOG

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GRADUATE



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Table of Contents

The College of Medicine 2

 The Doctor of Medicine (MD) Program 3

Index 6

The College of Medicine

Overview

Renowned for its innovative, student-centered educational programs, Drexel University College of Medicine (<http://www.drexel.edu/medicine/>) represents the consolidation of two venerable medical schools with rich and intertwined histories: Hahnemann Medical College and Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania. Established in 1848 and 1850, respectively, they were two of the earliest medical colleges in the United States, and Woman's was the very first medical school for women.

Today, with more than 1,000 medical students, Drexel University College of Medicine is educating one in every 83 medical students in the nation. Graduate students number more than 800, and the College is the academic partner in the education of nearly 600 medical residents and fellows. There are more than 700 clinical and basic science faculty, and more than 1,700 affiliate and volunteer faculty.

Within the College of Medicine, The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies (<http://catalog.drexel.edu/graduate/schoolofbiomedicalsciences/>) offers an additional 29 majors, 3 graduate minors, and 5 professional certificates.

Major

- Medicine (MD) (p. 3)

About the College of Medicine

Mission Statement

Drexel University College of Medicine excels and innovates in education, research, and delivery of compassionate care in our culture of diversity, spirited inquiry, collaboration, and opportunity.

About the College

The College of Medicine's main campus, Queen Lane, is in a suburban-like setting in the East Falls section of Philadelphia. Additional education and research facilities are located at the Center City Campus. Students receive their clinical education at 25 affiliated hospitals and ambulatory sites chosen for their commitment to teaching as well as medical excellence.

The College of Medicine has established one of the largest centers for spinal cord research in the Mid-Atlantic Region, and founded one of the leading centers for malaria study in the nation. Collaborative projects leveraging Drexel University's technological expertise continue to push the frontiers of nanomedicine and neuroengineering.

The multifaceted HIV/AIDS program includes an affiliated primary care and specialty practice and extensive NIH-funded research in prevention and therapeutic interventions. Faculty physicians are highly respected in numerous other specialties, including cardiology, sports medicine and neurology. The first medical school in the country to completely integrate women's health into its curriculum, the College is the home of ELAM[®], the highly regarded Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine Program for Woman.

Facilities

Queen Lane Student Activities Center

A 17,700 square-foot student activity center was completed in 2006 at the Queen Lane Campus. The Student Activities Center occupies 2 floors and houses a full line of exercise equipment, a bookstore, student government offices and flexible space for events and lectures. The facility is available to students, staff and groups.

Queen Lane Medical Simulation Center

The College opened a state-of-the-art simulation center for medical education in 2010. Part of a new 25,000 square-foot addition, the center allows students to learn in simulated operating room and patient room settings.

Clinical Education Assessment Center

Ten examination rooms with digital capture that simulate physicians' offices are linked to control and observation rooms for faculty. Students work with standardized patients to enhance their abilities in medical interviewing, physical examination skills, and patient counseling.

Multidisciplinary Laboratories

- Forty-two tables with microscopes for teaching neuroanatomy, microbiology, and pathology are available.
- Microscopes are equipped with a networked video system so that all students in a class can look at a single slide under the microscope through monitors on their lab tables or on a projection screen and can retrieve microscopic images via computer.

New College Building

The New College Building at the Center City Campus is designed for the purpose of teaching basic and clinical sciences, with auditoriums, classrooms, laboratories and offices. The lecture halls accommodate a variety of educational methodologies, spanning from the basic lecture format to the enriched laboratory setting, where courses such as Anatomy, Pathology, Microbiology, Histology and Applied Anatomic Pathology can be taught.

The Doctor of Medicine (MD) Program

About the Program

Drexel University College of Medicine's MD program trains future physicians in the science and art of medicine. At Drexel, our medical students learn to combine cutting-edge technology with the highest level of compassion in the practice of medicine. Our supportive educational environment emphasizes collaboration and gives students a comfort level that lets them learn and thrive. Faculty members are concerned first and foremost with teaching and helping students.

Recognizing that students have different learning styles, students choose between two innovative academic curricula for their first two years of study. Both options focus on professional medical education, preparing students to pursue a career as either a generalist or specialist. Both stress problem solving, lifelong learning skills and the coordinated teaching of basic science with clinical medicine.

Drexel has implemented a new, innovative MD curriculum called **Foundations and Frontiers**, designed to create physicians for the 21st century. The curriculum instills all of the enduring qualities essential to clinical excellence while also including essential emerging competencies such as understanding of population health, health informatics, quality and patient safety, and health care systems and financing.

Foundations and Frontiers Highlights

Foundations and Frontiers was created with input from current medical students, faculty, alumni and national medical education experts. The program builds on the College of Medicine's legacy in medical education and embraces Drexel University's reputation for innovation and collaboration.

The new curriculum is supported technologically by Drexel-developed iPad applications and a state-of-the-art simulation center and clinical education center where medical students can apply what they have learned in the classroom with hands-on training.

Other hallmarks of the distinctive Frontiers and Foundations curriculum include:

- Early and frequent clinical exposure
- Integrated basic science and clinical education
- Team learning
- Technology-enhanced education
- Cultural competence
- Community and civic engagement
- And award winning, nationally recognized Professional Formation program
- Enhanced opportunities for research and scholarly projects in basic science as well as other areas such as Women's Health, Population Health, Healthcare Economics, and Humanities

The Societies

Incoming medical students are placed into one of six learning communities, or "societies," each taking its name from a famous Philadelphia landmark: Athenaeum, Liberty Bell, Physick House, Rocky Statue, Reading Terminal, and Eakins House.

Each society is led by a faculty director and student representatives, all of whom are responsible for coordinating and planning society activities. In addition, society-associated faculty serve as advisors to small groups of medical students in the first two years of the educational program.

The society provides the framework for relationships among medical students and faculty. The society also provides a social structure for each student, giving a small-school feel while maintaining all of the advantages and amenities of a large institution.

The program helps promote a greater sense of community and connectedness among the medical students and faculty. The society serves as the core unit for a variety of valuable activities including:

- Small group learning
- A faculty advising/peer mentoring program
- Community service projects
- Activities to promote student wellness
- Social activities
- Society-based competitions culminating in the coveted "Dean's Cup"

The Foundations and Frontiers curriculum information presented is subject to revision. Last updated June 1, 2017.

Additional Information

For more information, including admissions details, visit the College of Medicine's MD Program (<http://drexel.edu/medicine/academics/md-program/>) website.

Three-Phase Curriculum

Foundations and Frontiers is a four-year curriculum that has been divided into three phases. Phase One (years 1 and 2) lays the groundwork for basic and clinical science. Phase Two (year 3) allows medical students to apply their patient care knowledge and skills to a variety of clinical settings. Phase Three (year 4) focuses on advanced clinical skills and preparation for residency.

Phase 1: Foundations

The 18-month "Foundations" phase includes basic and clinical science courses that integrate multiple disciplines. Medical students also spend time in non-traditional classroom settings working in teams to apply knowledge to clinical problems. This phase of the curriculum also includes multiple experiences in our state-of-the-art simulation center working with high-fidelity mannequins and standardized patients. The basic science content begins with an introduction to cells and tissues and then proceeds into organ-based blocks with a focus on normal processes. During the second year, medical students revisit the major organ systems with a focus on abnormal processes.

Lectures, conferences, laboratory, simulation and other team-learning formats develop and extend the principles introduced in the case throughout the week.

A longitudinal practicum experience extends through the Foundations phase and exposes medical students to patients in varied community settings. It provides experiences in chronic care, service learning and inter-professional education, and is combined with a social justice and health disparities curriculum.

During four one-week blocks, medical students will be immersed in the "Frontiers" portion of the curriculum, providing cutting-edge study in such areas as healthcare informatics, population health, quality and patient safety, healthcare economics, and principles of translational research.

Phase 2: Applications

The one-year long "Applications" phase allows medical students to practice their patient care knowledge and skills in a variety of clinical settings. The year starts with participating in a two-week structured session, "*Intersession I: Transition to the Clinical Years*," which focuses on skills needed for medical students to function effectively on the wards.

During the third year, medical students rotate through clerkships in surgery, internal medicine, family medicine, pediatrics, psychiatry, neurology, ambulatory medicine, and obstetrics and gynecology. To enhance the diversity of their clinical experience, medical students work with faculty members at multiple sites in metropolitan centers, working-class neighborhoods, suburbs, inner city areas, and rural communities.

All third-year clerkships take place on Drexel's academic campuses. Assignments for third year are based on the results of a lottery system, although medical students can elect year-long assignments at our six regional campuses:

- Abington Memorial Hospital
- Allegheny General Hospital
- York Hospital
- Kaiser Permanente in Sacramento
- Monmouth Medical Center
- Crozer Chester Medical Center

Phase 3: Transitions

The "Transitions" phase focuses on advanced clinical skills and preparation for residency. The fourth year curriculum is structured within "Pathways" - an advising system that gives medical students a well-rounded educational experience and also prepares them for potential career. Medical students may choose a discipline-specific Pathway or one that provides more broad-based experiences. All medical students have a Pathway-specific advisor who works with the student to balance the structure and flexibility of their learning needs, helps prepare the student to enter postgraduate training with confidence, and works to maximize the guidance and counseling available from preceptors.

The Pathway advisors help medical students focus their preparation for graduate medical education and careers. The Pathway program also gives medical students experience in fields of interest other than the one that is likely to be their career path. Medical students take both required courses and electives in the Pathway system. Six courses are required:

- Sub-internship in a core discipline
- Pathway-specific rotation
- Emergency medicine or critical care rotation

- Transition to residency
- Residency-immersion experience

Fourth-year medical students have opportunities to complete a variety of clinical elective rotations at hospitals and sites that are not Drexel clinical affiliates, including international rotations. In addition, during the fourth year, medical students may choose to leverage the expertise of one of Drexel's other colleges by studying for a graduate certificate in one of the Frontiers content areas. Alternatively, medical students may choose to conduct a scholarly project under the direction of a faculty member.

Dual Degree Programs

MD/PhD Program

The MD/PhD program is designed for a limited number of individuals who are strongly motivated toward a career in academic medicine and medically oriented research. The program trains individuals in the fundamental clinical aspects of medicine and offers advanced training in biochemistry, microbiology and immunology, molecular and cellular biology, neuroscience and pharmacology, as well as medical engineering. Physicians with extensive research training are uniquely positioned to advance medical care and to teach at the cutting edge of medical discovery. Tuition scholarships and stipends for medical school and graduate school are provided for a limited number of students.

MD/MPH

With Drexel's School of Public Health, the College of Medicine offers a joint five-year program for highly qualified students to pursue both the MD and the Master of Public Health degrees. Students are taught to be physicians with a public-health orientation to the development, planning, delivery, and evaluation of health care programs and policies.

MD/MBA

The MD/MBA degree meets a growing demand by physicians who wish to manage corporate medical practices, hospitals, and related organizations and contribute to the development of health policy. The joint program prepares physicians to apply management principles to individual or group practices or to move into management positions at many types of organizations. Students receive training at both the College of Medicine and at Drexel's A.A.C.S.B.-accredited LeBow College of Business. The program lets students earn both degrees in five years.

MD/Healthcare Ethics MA

Drexel medical students may enter a combined degree pathway to receive a master's degree in health care ethics through St. Joseph's University. Students spend a year in residence at St. Joseph's University, usually after their second medical school year. They receive two course credits toward the master's degree from their medical school coursework.

Additional Information

For more information, visit the College's Dual Degrees (<https://drexel.edu/medicine/academics/md-program/dual-degree-programs/>) page.

Index

T

The College of Medicine	2
The Doctor of Medicine (MD) Program	3