



UCF

College of Medicine

STUDENT VIEWBOOK 2024-25

..... WELCOME TO THE

University of Central Florida

It is my belief that every medical student comes to medical school with a dream for the future. At UCF, we help each student build that dream from day one. We seek students with a pioneering spirit — a real sense of curiosity and inquiry — who wish to make a difference in the lives of others. The power to make a difference and effect change lies in those who have passion, compassion, and ambition. These are individuals who are driven to be part of something greater than themselves.

This spirit describes our faculty and our culture at UCF. With the teaching experience of our faculty, the wisdom of our community leaders, and our students' inquisitive minds, we offer an innovative program that promises to be a model for medical education in the 21st century. We invite you to explore and see why the UCF College of Medicine is like no other — the place to build your dream.



Deborah C. German, M.D.
Vice President for Health Affairs
Dean, UCF College of Medicine

Doctor - A UCF Tradition

etermined, knowledgeable, Leader
atient, well Spoken, Warm
Collaborative, Good
Ethical, Thorough, Positive
gent, Student
worthy, Culturally
oriented, Under
ient
cient
to Date, Committed



DEAN GERMAN WRITES ADJECTIVES FOR "THE GOOD DOCTOR" DURING WHITE COAT CEREMONY

What Makes Us Different?

Taking a new approach

Our College of Medicine takes an entirely new approach to learning by encouraging you to pursue your passions in medical school, rather than waiting until you graduate. By working closely with faculty members, community partners, patients, physicians and scientists in an atmosphere of innovation and inquisitiveness, you will have opportunities most medical students wait years to experience.

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College Facts

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College of Medicine Research Funding

FY 2023/24 \$ 18.1M

UCF Enrollment (Spring 2023)

TOTAL:	69,320
Undergraduate:	59,548
Graduate:	9,294
Medical Professional:	478
Residents:	577

Your College of Medicine

- The College of Medicine is fully accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, which accredit all medical schools in the United States and Canada.
- 100% placement rate on Match Day for M.D. program graduates; selected areas of specialty for include primary care, emergency medicine, diagnostic radiology, pediatrics, obstetrics-gynecology, surgery and psychiatry.
- The college’s Burnett School of Biomedical Sciences conducts cutting-edge medical research focusing on global health concerns —cancer, cardiovascular, neurodegenerative, and infectious diseases.

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Medical City World-Class Partners

The Life Sciences cluster includes:

- UCF Health Sciences Campus at Lake Nona — home to the College of Medicine and Burnett Biomedical Sciences buildings
 - UCF Lake Nona Hospital
 - UCF Cancer Center
 - Nemours Children’s Hospital
 - Orlando VA Medical Center
 - University of Florida research facility
 - Veterans Hospital Administration SimLEARN National Simulation Center
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Student-run KNIGHTS Free Clinic Celebrates **10th Anniversary**

UCF's student-run free clinic celebrates a decade of service this year – providing primary and specialty care to Orlando's uninsured while giving medical students hands-on experiences as clinicians and caretakers in their community. Founded in 2013 with Orlando's Grace Medical Home, the KNIGHTS (Keeping Neighbors In Good Health Through Service) helps Grace care for 3,600 uninsured patients and provide extended clinic hours.



Faculty **Spotlight**

Dexter Hadley, MD, PhD, M.S.E

Assistant Professor of Pathology

Dr. Dexter Hadley, a College of Medicine physician and big data expert, leads UCF's Division of Artificial Intelligence. His goal: use big data to improve human health.

During a recent forum in Lake Nona, Dr. Hadley showed how healthcare providers can leverage the power of AI to make medicine more precise. For example, the American Cancer Society reports that mammograms miss 1 in 8 breast cancers. By using AI screening algorithms to analyze millions of mammograms, Dr. Hadley said technology can look for markers that radiologists may miss, leading to better and earlier breast cancer diagnoses that will save lives.

Faculty & Students

We'll get to know one another

With our interactive classes you will work closely with our faculty. Our team is comprised of visionaries and motivated mentors from all aspects of medicine who have come here from across the nation. We will share the wealth of our experiences and accomplishments with you. We are eager to get to know you and to guide you in reaching your goals.

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Student Body **Information**

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4,970	Verified Applicants
500	Interviewed
120	Matriculated
82	Florida Residents
38	Non-Florida Residents
3.89	Science GPA
3.91	Total GPA
514	MCAT
56	Female
64	Male

2024 M1 CLASS DEMOGRAPHICS

FLORIDA RESIDENTS	84
NON-FL RESIDENT	36
STATES REPRESENTED	17
MULTILINGUAL	26
FIRST GENERATION IN COLLEGE	14
LOW SOCIOECONOMIC BACKGROUND	25
FEE ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS	18
UNDERGRADUATE PELL GRANT RECIPIENT	31



Students Recognized Nationally for Diversity Initiative

Five College of Medicine students are among 17 recognized nationally for their efforts to increase the diversity in medicine. The students were named Gold Student Summer Fellows for leading the Medical Enrichment for Diverse Students (M.E.D.S.) project that provides mentorship and clinical exposure to Orlando high school students from underrepresented backgrounds who are interested in the medicine.

Awarded by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation, the summer fellowships provide grant support for student research or service projects that magnify humanism in healthcare and help address health inequities.



Speaking the Same Language Improves Care

Born in Ecuador and raised in Orlando, medical student Stephany Bustamante is her family's translator, especially when it comes to communicating with healthcare providers. Even as a child, she accompanied her grandparents to the clinic because they couldn't understand the doctor's questions because the provider did not speak Spanish.

"I knew I wanted to do something about it," said Bustamante. And she has. Along with other members of the UCF College of Medicine's Latino Medical Student Association, she is helping to organize events to make Spanish more accessible to physicians-in-training. The LMSA events include Spanish lunch hours, where students and faculty practice their conversational language skills, to more formal online instruction. In addition, the medical school offers a variety of Spanish elective courses.



IU School of Medicine

Alumni **Spotlight**

Dr. Julia Vaizer

Medical Director for INDYCAR

Dr. Julia Vaizer graduated from UCF's medical school in 2016. Today she is medical director for INDYCAR and Indianapolis Motor Speedway. She is the first female medical director in the sport's history and leads a team of 200 doctors, nurses and paramedics who care for drivers, pit crews and the crowds at events, including the Indy 500.

"Our team is a well-oiled machine," she says. "I look forward to being at the track with these world-class doctors, therapists, and emergency workers, and also seeing our beloved athletes do what they do best. We're all medical professionals, but we're all race fans, too."

Residency Match

A Record Match Day 2024



Bernard Sarmiento opened his Match Day 2024 envelope, saw “Harvard” and thought of his mother, a psychiatrist he saw care deeply about her patients. Both of Sarmiento’s parents died during his four years at UCF’s College of Medicine. “It would have been my mom’s dream to see me match here,” he said. “I am going to try to make my parents proud.”

He was one of 117 Class of 2024 students who placed into residencies – every student secured a match – and one of a record 16 who are going into Psychiatry as their specialty. The class was unique in medical history. Called the COVID class, they entered medical school in 2020 – the height of a pandemic and attended their first year of medical school on Zoom.

“Know you are resilient,” Dean Deborah German told them. “COVID-19 has changed so much about our world, and you have persevered and thrived through all the challenges.”

The students matched into top programs across the U.S. and Florida. Nationwide, in addition to Harvard, UCF students will train at programs including Baylor, Boston University, Duke, John’s Hopkins, Mayo Clinic, Vanderbilt and Yale. 41 will do some or all of their training in Florida, in residencies that include University of Florida, University of Miami and University of South Florida. Five will train at UCF-HCA Healthcare residencies in Greater Orlando and Pensacola. Three will train at AdventHealth, two at Nemours Children’s Health and five at Orlando Health.

Dr. Marcy Verduin, associate dean of students and a practicing psychiatrist, was not surprised by the high number of UCF medical students dedicating their careers to treating mental illness.

2024 Residency Match Results

Residency Match Specialties

ANESTHESIOLOGY (7)

CHILD NEUROLOGY (1)

DERMATOLOGY (1)

EMERGENCY MED (11)

FAMILY MED (2)

INTERNAL MED (29)

INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY (1)

NEUROLOGY (2)

OB-GYN (2)

OPHTHALMOLOGY (2)

ORTHO SURGERY (7)

OTOLARYNGOLOGY (1)

PATHOLOGY (3)

PEDIATRICS (10)

PHYSICAL REHAB (4)

PLASTIC SURGERY (1)

PSYCHIATRY (16)

RADIOLOGY (9)

SURGERY (7)

THORACIC SURGERY (1)

UROLOGY (3)

Residency Match Programs

Alabama: U Alabama Med Ctr (2)

California: Harbor-UCLA Med Ctr (1); Kaweah Delta Health Care District (1); Riverside University Health Sys (1); Santa Barbara Cottage Hosp (1); U Southern California (1); UC Irvine Med Ctr (4); UC San Diego Med Ctr (1); University of California-San Francisco (1)

Colorado: U Colorado SOM (1)

Connecticut: Stamford Hospital/Columbia (1); Univ of Connecticut Health (1); Yale-New Haven Hosp (1)

Florida: AdventHealth Florida (3); Broward Health Med Ctr (1); Florida State University COM (1); Halifax Med Ctr (1); HCA Florida Orange Park Hosp (3); HCA Healthcare East FL Division GME (4); HCA Healthcare/USF Morsani GME-Brandon (1); Lakeland Regional Health (1); Mayo Clinic School of Grad Med Educ (1); NCH Healthcare Sys (1); Nemours Childrens Hosp (2); Nova Southeastern University KPCOM (3); Orlando Health (5); U Central FL/HCA Healthcare GME (5); U Florida-Gainesville (1); U Florida COM-Shands Hosp (4); U Miami MSOM/Holy Cross (1); U Miami/Jackson Health System (2); U South Florida Morsani COM (5)

Georgia: Emory Univ SOM (4); Medical College of Georgia (1); WellStar Health System (1)

Illinois: Loyola Univ Med Ctr (1); Rush University Med Ctr (1)

Indiana: Ascension St. Vincent Hosp (1)

Kentucky: U Kentucky Med Ctr (1)

Louisiana: LSU SOM-New Orleans (3)

Maryland: Johns Hopkins Hosp (1); Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (2)

Massachusetts: Boston Univ Med Ctr (1); Harvard South Shore (1); Massachusetts Gen Hosp Brigham/Harvard (1); Mt Auburn Hospital (1); Tufts Medical Center (1); UMass Chan-Baystate (1); UMass Chan Medical School (1)

Michigan: Corewell Health East Beaumont (1); Pine Rest Christian

Mental Hlth Svcs (1); U Michigan Hosps-Ann Arbor (1)

Minnesota: Mayo Clinic School of Grad Med Educ (2)

Missouri: Barnes-Jewish Hosp (1)

New Hampshire: Dartmouth-Hitchcock Med Ctr (1)

New Jersey: Hackensack U Med Ctr (1)

New York: ISMMS NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst (1); Montefiore Med Ctr/Einstein (1); NYU Grossman School of Medicine (1); Stony Brook Teach Hosps (1); U Rochester/Strong Memorial (2); University at Buffalo SOM (2)

North Carolina: Duke Univ Med Ctr (1); U North Carolina Hospitals (2); Wake Forest Baptist Med Ctr (3)

Ohio: Cleveland Clinic Fdn (1); U Cincinnati Med Ctr (1)

Pennsylvania: Allegheny Gen Hosp (1); Milton S. Hershey Medical Center (1); UPMC Medical Education (2)

South Carolina: Grand Strand Reg Med Ctr (1); Medical Univ of SC (2)

Tennessee: Vanderbilt Univ Med Ctr (1)

Texas: Baylor Coll Med-Houston (2); Baylor Scott & White Med Ctr (1); Baylor Univ Med Ctr (1); John Peter Smith Hosp (1); Texas A&M HSC-Baylor Scott & White (1); U Texas at Austin Dell Medical School (1); U Texas Med Branch-Galveston (1); U Texas Southwestern Med Sch-Dallas (1)

Utah: University of Utah Health (1)

Virginia: Eastern Virginia Med School (1); Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (1); Virginia Commonwealth U Hlth Sys (1)

West Virginia: West Virginia University SOM (1)

ORLANDO

..... The **city** beautiful

The UCF College of Medicine is located in Orlando, one of the world's premier visitor destinations with theme parks, professional sports teams, recreation beaches and the arts.

Millions of people from across the globe come each year to our community to visit Walt Disney World, Universal Orlando, SeaWorld and Kennedy Space Center. Our city is also centrally located between both Florida Coasts, so a short drive lets you enjoy the sunset on the Gulf of Mexico or a drive along Daytona

Beach. Year-round beautiful weather means plenty of time for golf, nature trails, boating and fishing.

We have professional sports teams as well as your UCF Knights who compete in the Big 12 conference. A refurbished NASCAR raceway and a performing arts center in downtown Orlando that are drawing rave reviews. And we're easy to access. The medical school is just minutes from Orlando International Airport.

AREA SPORTS TEAMS



DR. PHILLIPS CENTER



LAKE EOLA - DOWNTOWN



LAKE NONA HOUSING



UCF COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

LAKE NONA

..... The city beautiful's **Medical City**.

The UCF College of Medicine is the academic cornerstone of Lake Nona's Medical City, an emerging biosciences cluster of medical education, research and patient care just minutes from one of the world's most visited airports.

Our Health Sciences Campus includes UCF's Burnett School of Biomedical Sciences, the UCF Lake Nona Hospital, the UCF

Lake Nona Cancer Center, and a new College of Nursing facility expected to open in 2025. Lake Nona is one of the nation's fastest-growing planned communities with a resort hotel, crystal lagoon, movie theaters and Town Center coming to life around us.



LAKE NONA TOWN CENTER

PHOTO: TAVISTOCK/LAKE NONA

Community Partnerships

Our Partners

UCF medical students train in multiple locations across Orlando and Florida, giving them diverse experiences with patient populations, healthcare policies, electronic health records and cultures. In fact, students train in facilities from St. Augustine to St. Petersburg.

Thanks to our partnership with the VA, every UCF medical student spends time in their training caring for the nation's heroes. Hospital Corporation of America's Osceola Regional Medical Center gives students experience with one of the state's fastest-growing and most diverse populations. The Orlando VA Medical Center and Nemours Children's Hospital are our neighbors in Medical City and provide opportunities for training and research.

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OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Expanded Educational Sites

The College of Medicine gives back to the Community.

The UCF College of Medicine is growing – to provide more educational sites for students, residents and fellows, while improving the health of Floridians. A new teaching hospital, cancer center and expanding residency and fellowship programs are offering M.D. students expanded opportunities to work and train in the greater Orlando area.



Med Students Training at UCF Lake Nona Hospital

UCF Lake Nona Hospital – a joint venture with HCA Healthcare – opened March 1, 2021 adjacent to the medical school and is training the university’s medical and nursing students in internal medicine, general surgery, neurology, emergency medicine and OB-GYN with more rotations planned.

The hospital has 64 inpatient beds with space to expand to 80 beds and is designed for up to 500 beds for future growth. It includes 24/7 emergency care, a 20-bed emergency department, inpatient and outpatient surgery,

cardiopulmonary services and cardiac catheterization, comprehensive imaging and laboratory services, and six private suites in the Family Birthing Unit.

The hospital is a key part of UCF’s emerging Academic Health Sciences Center that will one day bring many of the university’s clinical training programs to Lake Nona to increase interdisciplinary medical education, research and patient care. UCF’s new cancer center is another part of the AHSC and is creating a new model of cancer research and care in Orlando, with basic and clinical researchers working under the same roof as providers treating patients.

HOSPITAL INTERIOR



Student Learning & Wellness

Expanded Opportunities

As a student at the UCF College of Medicine you'll create new scientific knowledge through our two-year Focused Individualized Research Experience (FIRE). You'll learn how your patients' cultural beliefs impact their care. You'll bring together basic and clinical science from the first days of medical school. While the UCF College of Medicine is young, our first classes have outscored most other medical students on the USMLE Step 1 and 2 exams, and our graduates have matched into top, competitive programs across the community, state and nation.



Igniting A Passion For Discovery

All UCF medical students complete a two-year research project as part of the Focused Individualized Research Experience (FIRE) module, an opportunity to encourage a “spirit of inquiry” in young physicians and help them create new scientific data to improve medicine.

The unique module has allowed students to present their research at state, regional and national conferences and be published before ever graduating from medical school.

Recent FIRE projects have included the mechanisms of ankle injuries among NBA athletes, autoinflammatory diseases in pregnant women, and small vessel disease after brain injury. A significant number of students focus on population health-related topics, such as the social effects of COVID-19 isolation and racial disparities.

A Division I water polo athlete, Yasmine Ghattas spent much of her time coaching basketball and softball to children with intellectual disabilities. Her FIRE project analyzed data from the Special Olympics for a correlation between moderate exercise frequency and fitness parameters such as aerobic capacity, strength and flexibility. Her findings showed that subjects who exercised more frequently performed better at tasks such as standing up from a seated position compared to those who exercised less.



STUDENT SLEEP PODS



Your Partners in Learning

The College of Medicine’s Office of Student Academic Support Services (SASS) offers a variety of resources to help students learn effectively and efficiently as they adapt their study skills, test taking strategies and lifestyle habits to the demands of medical school.

The pace of the medical school curriculum can be challenging for many, therefore SASS provides support, assistance and resources to deal with those challenges. The team helps students create individual study and personal life schedules. They also create a personalized process for preparing students for the USMLE Step 1 and Step 2 licensure exams. In addition, they provide assistance in managing test anxiety and learning differences. Furthermore, the SASS office coordinates a peer coaching program which is available to all students who request this resource, and sponsors health and wellness initiatives.

Student Wellness

UCF’s medical school is committed to student wellness. Licensed clinicians are available to provide on-site counseling services to help students successfully adjust and cope with stressors associated with all four years of medical school. Telehealth options are also available to accommodate all students’ schedules. In addition, Counseling & Wellness Services provides wellness outreach events and activities to promote mental health including group meditation, animal therapy, and mindful gardening.

Good sleeping habits are just as important as diet and exercise in ensuring good health. Studies have shown a short 15-20-minute nap is an easy and effective way to boost alertness and productivity as well as improve mood, creativity and learning. To help medical students get a re-energizing break, the medical school’s Harriet F. Ginsburg Health Sciences Library has two energy pods that provide a comfortable spot to take a quick power nap.



OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES ON THE TAVISTOCK GREEN



Comprehensive **Curriculum**

The M.D. program curriculum at UCF fully integrates basic and clinical sciences across all four years. The first two years of the curriculum are structured into modules, with the first year focusing on a fundamental understanding of how the various basic science disciplines relate to the normal human body. The second year takes an organ system-based approach and applies the basic knowledge of the first year to the study of clinical disease, pathological processes and treatment.

Clinical experiences occur during the first two years in the Community of Practice aspect of the Practice of Medicine modules. These experiences consist of students training with community preceptors in a variety of settings including primary care, acute care and chronic care facilities.

An exciting component of the curriculum at UCF is best described by the dean as “fostering our spirit of inquiry!” This Focused Inquiry and Research Experience (FIRE) module continues throughout the first two years.

The third and fourth years of the curriculum are devoted to clinical experience through clerkships, selectives and electives. Fundamental knowledge from the first two years is reinforced through lectures, simulations, journal clubs, and conferences.

Overall, the four-year curriculum at UCF is designed to give students an appreciation of cultural diversity and the need for sensitivity in treating patients, foster professionalism in all interactions, and ignite a passion for life-long learning.

Year One

- Hematology, Immunology, Skin, & Musculoskeletal Systems
- Cardiology, Respiratory, & Gastrointestinal Systems
- Practice of Medicine I (throughout Year 1)
- Focused Individualized Research Experience I (throughout Year 1)

Year Two

- Endocrinology, Reproductive, & Renal Systems
- Psychological and Neurological Systems
- Multi-Systems
- Practice of Medicine II (throughout Year 2)
- Focused Individualized and Research Experience II (throughout Year 2)

Year Three

Following an orientation to the third year, students rotate through a set of required Core Clerkships in Internal and Family Medicine, Neurology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry and Surgery. There are two Intersessions during the third year consisting of objective structured clinical examinations and a focus on longitudinal curricular themes. The third year culminates with a one-week capstone experience.

Year Four

The fourth year is divided into eleven 4-week blocks: a required Acting Internship, a required Emergency Medicine or Critical Care selective, and six 4-week electives, four of which can be taken at other institutions. The remaining 4-week blocks can be used for additional electives, research, independent study, or residency interviews. Students finish the fourth year with a 1-week capstone experience to prepare for residency training; this includes a “hands-on” Boot Camp experience in their selected specialty.



Joint M.D. Degree Programs

UCF's College of Medicine offers a variety of joint degree programs for students interested in an expanded training experience. In addition to medicine, the joint programs offer experiences in biomedical research as well as business and hospitality.

- **The M.D./Ph.D. degree** trains students wishing to become “physician-scientists.” It begins with the current first two years of the M.D. curriculum, followed by three to four years of intensive research training under the medical school’s Burnett School of Biomedical Science’s Ph.D. program, including writing and defending a dissertation. Then the student begins two years of clerkship rotations at hospitals and clinics. M.D./Ph.D. candidates will take courses in research and do Burnett School lab rotations in place of the M.D. program’s two-year Focused Individualized and Research Experience (FIRE). UCF’s candidates earn doctorates in biomedical sciences through the M.D./Ph.D. track in the existing Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences Ph.D. Program.

- The medical school also offers a **M.D./Master of Science in Hospitality** program built on the strength of UCF’s Rosen College of Hospitality Management to provide students with the customer-service skills to bring hospitality to today’s medical industry.

- The college’s **M.D./M.B.A. program** equips participants with the analytical tools, problem-solving and decision-making skills to succeed in today’s competitive, ever-changing medical field.

- The UCF College of Medicine and College of Engineering offer a combined **M.D./Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering (MD/MSBME)** to students with engineering background and interest in the field. The combined program is five years in duration. M.D. program students complete the requirements for the Master’s degree in the third year with the FIRE project expanded to satisfy the requirements of their thesis work.



ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Required Course Work

These are minimum requirements that should be taken at a regionally accredited college or university in the United States. Exceptions to the requirements are permitted on a case by case basis; upper-level courses in the same department may be substituted for the requirements if they show mastery of the required content.

General Biology	2 Semesters (with labs)
General Chemistry	2 Semesters (with labs)
Organic Chemistry*	2 Semesters (with labs)
General Physics	2 Semesters (with labs)
College English**	2 Semesters
College Math	2 Semesters

Courses recommended but not required:

Biochemistry*, Genetics, Cell Biology, Statistics, Comparative Anatomy, and Calculus. Course work in humanities, natural sciences, or communications arts is also encouraged.

All majors are eligible to apply for admissions to the M.D. Program as long as the minimum academic requirements are met. Non-science majors are encouraged to take as many science courses as possible.

* *Biochemistry (with lab) may be substituted for the second semester of Organic Chemistry.*

** *Writing Intensive courses may be substituted for English on a case by case basis.*

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Interview Selection Requirements

Each applicant must demonstrate strong academic skills, a motivation for medicine, history of research, and compassion for others. To be competitive for interview selection an application should include the following:

- **Minimum undergraduate GPA 3.0**
- **Minimum Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Math) GPA 3.0**
- **Minimum MCAT 500 (best single test from 2022, 2023, or 2024)**
- Meaningful and consistent medical clinical activities
- Consistent service to the community
- Physician shadowing
- Teamwork and leadership skills
- Basic science research (optional)
- Demonstrated high level excellence in an activity or area of interest (i.e. sports, research or other endeavors)

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application Deadlines

American Medical College Application Service (**AMCAS**)
Application Completion Deadline **November 15**

UCF Secondary Application Completion Deadline **December 2**

AMCAS Application

Applicants must complete an application through the online American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) at aamc.org. AMCAS is the national application service that processes applications for M.D. programs. Through AMCAS, an applicant may apply to most M.D. programs by completing one application and paying the appropriate fees. AMCAS provides the school with applicant information immediately upon completion of the AMCAS transcript verification process.

The AMCAS application period begins in late May and terminates on or before November 15 prior to the year in which the applicant anticipates enrollment. The AMCAS application deadline is the date when students must submit the application, all fees, and associated data to AMCAS.

UCF Secondary Application

The admissions office will briefly review the AMCAS application to verify it meets or exceeds the minimum GPA and MCAT scores, as well as citizenship requirements. Each qualified applicant will receive an e-mail inviting him or her to complete the secondary application.

If your AMCAS application meets all other minimum criteria and you indicated you have a pending test score on your application, you will be sent a secondary application. It will be at the applicant's discretion whether or not they submit their secondary application prior to receiving their score. Applicants who do not achieve a 500 or higher do not meet the minimum criteria and will not be considered for an interview. The application fee is non-refundable.

UCF Secondary Application Fee

The UCF Secondary Application Fee is \$30 or AMCAS Fee Assistance Program (FAP) Waiver Documents.

References

Traditional Applicant - Applicants who will be entering the M.D. program directly from a bachelor's degree program with less than a one-year break.

- One individual faculty reference- references should be from a science faculty who has taught you in a science course, and who can adequately speak to both your academic readiness and personal suitability for the pursuit and practice of medicine.
- Two individual references- references can be from professors, advisors, research coordinators, preceptors, supervisors, coaches, mentors, personal and professional colleagues.

A physician reference is encouraged, but not required.

Non-Traditional Applicant - Applicant where at least one year has passed since obtaining the initial bachelor's degree. This applicant may have completed additional academics possibly leading to another degree, or may have been away from academics for several years.

- One individual faculty or supervisor reference- reference should be from a science faculty who has taught you in a science course, and who can adequately speak to both your academic readiness and personal suitability for the pursuit and practice of medicine or a reference from a supervisor who can adequately speak about your readiness, competence and personal suitability to pursue and practice medicine.

- Two individual references- references can be from professors, advisors, research coordinators, preceptors, supervisors, coaches, mentors, personal and professional

colleagues.

A physician reference is encouraged, but not required.

Pre-Health advising Committee reference/packet- A reference/packet may fulfill our reference requirements for both traditional and non-traditional applicants.

Completed File

It is the responsibility of each applicant to meet established deadlines and to monitor the status of his or her AMCAS and UCF COM applications. The admissions office will send an e-mail to each applicant upon completion of their file. Applicants will not be considered for an interview until all required information has been received and their file has been completed.

Components of a Completed Application:

- Verified AMCAS Application
- Submitted UCF Secondary Application Form
- Designated LORS provided by AMCAS only
- Paid application fee or AMCAS Fee Waiver Verification
- Optional information provided by the applicant such as:
 - Letters providing updated or amplifying information
 - Recent grade sheets or unofficial transcript sent via email are acceptable

INTERVIEW PROCESS

Initial Screening of Applicants

The UCF COM M.D. Program Admissions Office will begin to communicate with applicants upon receipt of a verified AMCAS application. Each qualified applicant will receive an email inviting him or her to complete the UCF Secondary Application. Completed applications that meet all requirements will be fully reviewed and considered for an interview.

Interview Selection

Applicants selected for an interview, in addition to being academically talented, must demonstrate the desire to pursue medicine. Those selected for an interview are contacted by telephone and e-mail by the COM Admissions Office to schedule an interview.

Interviews

If invited, each applicant will participate in two, one-on-one interviews via Zoom. Prior to your interviews you will be required to review the instructions sent to you from the admissions office.

UCF COM Visit

Once a student has interviewed they will be invited to a virtual visit. The UCF COM will host virtual visits throughout the 2024-25 interview cycle. We will employ a mixture of Zoom discussions, panels and video messages in order to provide you a comprehensive experience. Interviewees will be invited to attend in-person tours of the Medical Education Building. Tours will be held throughout the cycle.

MORE INFORMATION

State Residency

The COM M.D. Program Admissions Office evaluates completed applications from residents and non-residents of the state of Florida. Qualified applicants will be considered for an interview regardless of their state of residency.

ACCEPTANCE STATUS

When the Medical Student Admissions Committee (MSAC) makes a final decision regarding an interviewed applicant, the admissions office will contact that applicant by telephone to inform him or her of the committee's decision as follows:

- **Accepted** — A package is mailed and emailed to accepted applicants. All offers of acceptance are provisional and may be rescinded.
- **Not Accepted** — A notification is sent to each applicant. Upon request, the admissions office will counsel the applicant to help them understand how to increase their competitiveness for a future application.
- **Wait List** — While on the wait list, applicants will be contacted by the admissions office periodically to provide an update on their status and possible outcome.

Acceptance Package

The acceptance package will include the acceptance letter and a combined response form. The combined response form will include information regarding:

- Acceptance or declination of the offered seat
- Review of AMCAS-supported Criminal Background Check requirement
- Review of technical standards and the chance to respond if an accommodation is needed
- Review and submit the state residency classification form
- Information regarding submission of final transcripts

Criminal Background Checks

A criminal background check is initiated by CERTIPHI via AMCAS when an applicant is admitted to the program (beginning in January of the year the applicant plans to enroll). Each M.D. program develops its own criteria for continuing an offer of acceptance based on information received.

Choose Your Medical School Tools

UCF has established the following deadlines for Plan to Enroll (PTE) and Commit to Enroll (CTE):

Plan to Enroll: May 1, 2025

Commit to Enroll: June 16, 2025

Accepted students must make their selections via the CYMS dashboard by the dates above. Students who have selected CTE must remove themselves from other acceptances and waitlists.

Applicants should review the policies of any M.D. program to where they have applied and view their stated policies and deadlines regarding accepted or wait listed applicants.

For more details please visit our website: <https://med.ucf.edu/admissions/md-program-accepted-applicants/>

International Applicants

Only U.S. Citizens or Permanent Resident Aliens with a green card in their possession will be considered.

Transfer Admissions

The M.D. program is not currently accepting applications for advanced standing or transfer.

Standards for Admission, Progression, & Graduation

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The COM educates physicians who are capable of entering residency training (graduate medical education) and meet all requirements for medical licensure. All candidates are evaluated according to the same standards and criteria.

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Delineation of technical standards is required for the accreditation of U.S. medical schools by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME). The technical standards describe the essential abilities required of all candidates.

Reasonable accommodation in achievement of the standards is defined under federal statutes applied to individuals with disabilities. Such accommodations are intended to support the successful completion of all components of the M.D. degree. The technical standards for the M.D. degree are applied in concert with other policies of the university, including academic policies, academic standards established by the faculty, and student conduct policies. The technical standards include the following principles and understandings:

- The M.D. program at the COM supports a broad, undifferentiated degree attesting to the acquisition of general knowledge in all fields of medicine and the basic skills requisite for the practice of medicine.
- The guidelines for admission as set forth by LCME must continue to govern the decisions of medical school faculties.
- The medical education process, which focuses on the safety and well-being of patients, differs markedly from postsecondary education in fields outside the health sciences.

- The primary responsibility for the selection of students and the content of the curriculum rests with the medical school and its faculty.
- All candidates in the M.D. program must possess the physical, cognitive, and emotional capabilities required to undertake the full curriculum and to achieve the levels of competence required by the faculty.
- Candidates who meet the academic criteria and who demonstrate the ability to meet the technical standards listed in this document are eligible for consideration for admission, progression, and graduation.

Admission to the COM is conditional based on the ability to meet these technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodation. Candidates are asked to certify that they are able to meet the technical standards of the program.

Individuals with questions regarding technical standards are encouraged to contact the COM Associate Dean for Students. UCF Student Accessibility Services provides strategies to candidates with disabilities. Case-by-case consideration of alternate styles of achievement are applied to candidates in advanced stages of screening for admission and those who are enrolled.

Standards *in* Five Areas Must Be Met *by* All Candidates:

OBSERVATION, COMMUNICATION, MOTOR FUNCTION, COGNITION, AND PROFESSIONALISM

Observation

Candidates are reasonably expected to:

- observe demonstrations and participate in experiments in the basic sciences
- observe patients at a distance and close at hand
- demonstrate sufficient use of the senses of vision and hearing and the somatic sensation necessary to perform a physical examination
- integrate findings based on these observations and to develop an appropriate diagnostic and treatment plan

Communication

Candidates are reasonably expected to:

- communicate in verbal and written form with health care professionals and patients, including eliciting a complete medical history and recording information regarding patients' conditions
- perceive relevant non-verbal communications such as changes in mood, activity, and posture as part of a physical examination of a patient
- establish therapeutic relationships with patients
- demonstrate reading skills at a level sufficient to individually accomplish curricular requirements and provide clinical care for patients using written information

Accommodation through use of a trained intermediary or other communications aide may be appropriate when this intermediary functions as an information conduit.

Motor Function

Candidates' motor and sensory functions must be sufficient to diagnose and deliver effective patient care by consistently, quickly, and accurately integrating all data gathered through whatever sense(s) employed.

Candidates are reasonably expected to:

- perform physical examinations and diagnostic procedures, using such techniques as palpation, auscultation, and percussion
- complete routine invasive procedures as part of training, using universal precautions without substantial risk of infection to patients
- perform basic laboratory tests and evaluate routine diagnostic tools such as EKGs and X-rays
- respond in emergency situations to provide the level of care reasonably required of physicians
- participate effectively in physically taxing duties over long hours and complete timed demonstrations of skills

Cognition

Candidates must have sufficient cognitive abilities and effective learning techniques to assimilate the detailed and complex information presented in the medical curriculum.

Candidates are reasonably expected to:

- measure, calculate, analyze, synthesize, extrapolate, and reach diagnostic and therapeutic judgments
- recognize and draw conclusions about three-dimensional spatial relationships and logical sequential relationships among events
- formulate and test hypotheses that enable effective and timely problem-solving in diagnosis and treatment of patients in a variety of clinical modalities
- understand the legal and ethical aspects of the practice of medicine
- remain fully alert and attentive at all times in clinical settings

Problem-solving, the critical skill demanded of physicians, requires all of these intellectual abilities.

Professionalism

Candidates are expected to demonstrate behavior and social attributes that enable the effective practice of medicine.

Candidates are reasonably expected to:

- demonstrate the judgment and emotional stability required for full use of their intellectual abilities
- possess the perseverance, diligence, and consistency to complete the medical college curriculum and prepare to enter the independent practice of medicine
- exercise good judgment in the diagnosis and treatment of patients
- complete all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients within established timelines
- function within both the law and ethical standards of the medical profession
- work effectively and professionally as part of the health care team
- relate to patients, their families, and health care personnel in a sensitive and professional manner
- participate effectively in physically taxing duties over long work hours, function effectively under stress, and display flexibility and adaptability to changing and uncertain environments
- maintain regular, reliable, and punctual attendance for classes and clinical responsibilities
- contribute to collaborative, constructive learning environments, accept constructive feedback from others, and respond with appropriate modification

Compassion, integrity, interpersonal skills, interest, and motivation are all personal qualities that are assessed during the admission and educational processes.

All candidates are responsible for meeting acceptable standards for behavior and intellectual functioning.

Early Decision Program

The Early Decision Program (EDP) is for highly motivated, capable, and passionate applicants who have demonstrated excellence in academics. Applicants should only be applying to this institution with full intentions of attending if accepted. EDP is only available to undergraduates who have achieved a cumulative overall and science GPA of 3.8 or better and a 513 MCAT or better on the MCAT with no score below a 128 in any single category.

EDP Timeline

- AMCAS verified by August 1
- All supplemental materials to the COM Admissions Office by August 15
- Interviews to be conducted in the month of September
- Notifications of outcome by October 1

Applicants not accepted under EDP will be given consideration for admissions during the regular admissions cycle and will also be eligible to apply to any other medical school desired. For detailed information about EDP and all application requirements, please visit the admissions website.

Financial Services

The COM Office of Student Financial Services assists M.D. students in obtaining resources to fund their educational expenses while attending the medical school. The office provides financial aid process and program counseling, as well as budgeting and money management counseling. Financial aid programs consist of institutional scholarships, institutional need-based grants, Stafford loans, outside/private scholarships, and GradPLUS loans.

To apply for financial aid, please complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at studentaid.gov/fafsa as soon after October 1 as possible. The Title IV code for UCFCOM is **003954**.

For more detailed information regarding financial aid and counseling, please call **407.266.1381**, you may also e-mail medfinaid@ucf.edu.

ESTIMATED COST OF ATTENDANCE FOR 2024-2025 *

TRADITIONAL STUDENT	FL RESIDENT	NON-FL
Tuition & Fees	\$29,680	\$56,554
Books & Supplies	\$1,363	\$1,363
Room & Board	\$18,600	\$18,600
Disability Insurance	\$55	\$55
Health Insurance	\$3,540	\$3,540
Personal Expenses	\$3,146	\$3,146
Transportation	\$1,498	\$1,498
TOTAL:	\$57,882	\$84,756

* EXPECT TUITION TO INCREASE BY APPROXIMATELY 3% EACH YEAR.

Contact Admissions

Admissions Office Contact Information

E-mail: mdadmissions@ucf.edu
 Website: med.ucf.edu/admissions
 Telephone: 407.266.1350
 Fax: 407.266.1399
 Postal: UCF College of Medicine
 Office of Admissions
 6850 Lake Nona Boulevard, Suite 115
 Orlando, FL, 32827

M.D. Program Admissions Office Staff

Director: Laurel Poole
 Assistant Director: Luke van Blaricom
 Coordinator: Annette Ortiz-Rivera
 Coordinator: Grace Guilliams

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Prescription for Success

✓ FRESHMAN YEAR

- Join and actively participate in a student pre-med organization while in college
- Evaluate speed reading/comprehension and test-taking skills
- Establish good study habits and begin to establish a strong GPA
- Generate a four-year academic program with your academic advisor—pay attention to scheduling courses needed for entry to medical school
- Visit your school's pre-med health advising office to learn about applying to medical programs
- If available at your school, enroll in a course that provides you with information regarding application to medical school
- Start to build a consistent history of research, medical clinical-related volunteerism, community service volunteerism, and activities that you believe in and that satisfy your interests—continue to participate throughout your undergraduate college years
- Get to know the faculty who are teaching you—let them know that you may request a reference for medical school from them in the future
- Make productive use of your winter, spring, and summer breaks

✓ SOPHOMORE YEAR

- Continue volunteer work, research, and clinical shadowing opportunities
- Investigate alternative career options
- Continue to visit with your academic advisor and pre-med health advising office
- Start planning to cover health professional school application costs
- Begin to research medical school requirements; attend an annual medical school forum in your area
- Begin to consider MCAT preparation methods
- Use the summer for volunteering, shadowing, research, work, classes, study abroad, and summer programs; consider visiting medical schools of high interest
- Begin putting funds aside for interview expenses

✓ JUNIOR YEAR


- Continue to participate in research and volunteer opportunities
- Continue visits with your academic advisor and pre-med health advising office
- Prepare for MCAT (spring/summer semester)
- Complete required course work for MCAT (spring/summer semester)
- Sign up for a mock interview session if available
- Work with Pre-Health Advising Office to construct your Faculty/Committee letter of recommendation package for medical school applications (spring semester)
- Complete medical school requirements review and organize hierarchy list of schools for application; attend an annual medical school forum if not done previously (spring semester)
- Register for MCAT; take initial MCAT no later than August of the summer between your junior/senior year
- Try to find a clinical shadowing/internship experience if you have not done it yet
- Start AMCAS application (summer between junior/senior year)
- Explore medical school scholarship resources
- Use late summer to address supplementary applications, possible MCAT retake, continue volunteerism


✓ SENIOR YEAR


- Complete secondary applications (fall semester)
- Review and apply for scholarships to finance medical school
- Continue to excel in research and extra-curricular involvement
- Prepare to travel to interviews (September–March of senior year)
- Keep the pre-med health advising office informed of the progress of your application to each medical program (interview/accept/wait list/not accepted)
- Provide significant updates and fall semester transcripts to medical schools of interest where an interview has not yet been offered
- Prepare for reapplication process if necessary (spring semester)



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Serving Our Community

UCF medical and other healthcare students work together to provide care to Orlando's underserved communities. Thanks to a partnership with Orlando's Grace Medical Home, the student-run free KNIGHTS Clinic helps Orlando's uninsured receive ongoing care. A multidisciplinary group of faculty and students provide evening clinics at the Florida Farmworkers Association in Apopka, serving patients from newborns to seniors. The Chapman Compassionate Care Clinic provides wound clinics and Hepatitis A vaccines to downtown Orlando's homeless population and is working with government officials to begin a needle exchange program.



Join the **21st Century** Medical School

