

Academics

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Doctor of Medicine (M.D.)

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About

The Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) degree at the UNLV School of Medicine prepares a diverse student body for the delivery of patient-centered care and meaningful careers in clinical practice, research, and community service. The program integrates foundational science and primary care clinical experiences with community-based service learning that addresses population health and social disparities, incorporates independent research projects that contribute to the growth of scientific knowledge and community health resources, and develops strong commitments to public service and lifelong learning. The curriculum includes instruction in biomedical ethics, ethical decision-making, patient safety, population health, interprofessional skills, and professionalism, as well as addresses non-traditional medical needs, such as aspects of hospitality, cultural competence, bias recognition and reduction, legal, and cultural facets of medicine.

Accreditation

For information regarding accreditation at UNLV, please head over to [Academic Program Accreditations](#).

Learning Outcomes

Medical Knowledge

- Apply principles of the sciences integral to medicine (biomedical, clinical, and cognate) to determine the etiology, pathophysiology, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of significant human diseases.
- Demonstrate clinical reasoning to develop and narrow a differential diagnosis by systematically merging clinical information with knowledge of mechanisms and epidemiology of disease.
- Display critical judgment by formulating clinically relevant questions, identifying and appraising salient evidence in a self-directed manner, and combining this knowledge with patient contextual factors, characteristics, and values in medical decision-making.

Interpersonal & Communication Skills

- Communicate effectively and professionally with patients, families, peers, and other healthcare personnel.
- Share knowledge with others in an organized and effective manner.

Patient Care & Procedural Skills

- Conduct and document a situation-appropriate patient history and physical examination.
- Identify and propose an appropriate shared treatment plan for acute and chronic diseases that reflects medical knowledge, patient contextual factors, and the best available evidence.
- Correctly perform basic procedural skills with attention to patient comfort and safety.
- Provide appropriate patient-centered counseling to promote disease prevention and optimize health outcomes.
- Apply principles of integrative medicine, wellness, hospitality, nutrition, and pain management to patient care.

Task-Based Learning & Improvement

- Demonstrate the self-reflection necessary to identify personal strengths and weaknesses in the learning and practice of medicine.
- Address personal weaknesses and continuously work to improve the learning and practice of medicine through personal change and utilization of appropriate educational and other resources.
- Apply an understanding of the scientific method to appraise data, research, and evidence relevant to the effective care of patients.

Professionalism

- Demonstrate professional conduct and accountability in learning and patient care.
- Display respect and empathy for patients as humans and awareness of their diverse and unique qualities.

- Recognize ethical issues that arise in clinical cases and research, apply the principles of medical ethics, and explain ethically justifiable options.

Systems-Based Practice

- Advocate for the improvement of public health outcomes through community engagement and the analysis of social determinants of health and disease.
- Recognize the key elements of the healthcare system in the United States, and describe how these elements interact to impact the delivery of healthcare.

Career Possibilities

Doctorate of Medicine, M.D., graduates pursue careers as physicians, researchers, and/or medical scientists. Depending on a student's interest, a student may enter into the practice of medicine (residency) or pursue several different research disciplines from laboratory science, clinical research or health sciences research. Physicians and M.D. researchers often work at academic medical centers or in private practices, as well as for the pharmaceutical industry, and even in the government sector.

Requirements

Plan Description

The mission of the UNLV School of Medicine is to prepare a diverse student body for the delivery of patient-centered care and meaningful careers in clinical practice, research, and community service. The program integrates foundational science and primary care clinical experiences with community-based service learning that addresses population health and social disparities, incorporates independent research projects that contribute to the growth of scientific knowledge and community health resources, and develops strong commitments to public service and lifelong learning. The curriculum is community-based, and includes instruction in biomedical ethics, ethical decision-making, patient safety, population health, as well as training in interprofessionalism, professionalism, cultural competence, bias recognition and reduction, and non-traditional medical needs; such as, hospitality, legal, and business facets of medicine.

The Doctor of Medicine (MD) program emphasizes the basics of medicine: communication, physical exam and diagnosis, clinical skills, advanced clinical reasoning and interpretation, professionalism, and ethics using technologically advanced tools and genomic data to foster medical student learning. Overall, the curriculum is community-focused, but places great importance on relationships through faculty to student mentorship, extensive experience with health care professionals in the delivery of primary care and longitudinal patient-centered care, in addition to immersion in community service projects and initiatives. Students will directly apply their learning in the service of others, providing compassionate care in collaboration with many other health professionals including: physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, dentists, physical therapists, social workers, occupational therapists, and other community practitioners in the pursuit of providing the best patient outcomes and satisfaction.

Plan Admission Requirements

1. ~~A conferred Bachelor's degree is required for admission to the UNLV School of Medicine.~~

A U.S. regionally accredited, conferred Bachelor's degree is required for admission to the UNLV School of Medicine.

~~Required courses for consideration by UNLV School of Medicine:~~

Required prerequisite courses are:

- Biology: three semesters; one course must include a lab
- Biochemistry: one semester
- Behavioral Science/Psychology or Sociology: one semester

Students cannot use "Advanced Placement" credits or online courses to satisfy the required premedical coursework. Recommended courses include these: Genetics, Immunology, Molecular Biology, Physiology and Statistics. A basic understanding of the concepts taught in these courses is helpful to students seeking a M.D. degree. **Add Anatomy and Physics to the recommended courses here. So it reads: Genetics, Immunology, Molecular Biology, Physiology, Anatomy, Statistics, and Physics.**

2. **MCAT:** Applicants must submit a Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) score by the final application deadline. ~~Only the new MCAT scores will be accepted~~ (<https://students-residents.aamc.org/video/new-mcat-exam/>). The most recent exam score will be used during the admissions process.
3. **Metric Requirements:** Minimum scores for the MCAT are set at 499. An undergraduate GPA of 3.2 overall is required.
4. **AMCAS Application:** UNLV School of Medicine will only accept applications via [AMCAS](#) .
5. **Secondary Application:** The secondary application will be completed online. Selected applicants will be invited to complete the secondary. There is a \$75 application fee. Students who qualify for the AMCAS fee assistance program will not be required to pay the \$75 fee.
6. **Applicant Photographs:** Each applicant must submit a professional photograph (head shot only) with his/her secondary application. The photo will be used during the "Interview Day" and by the Admissions Committee.
7. **Letters of Recommendation, Personal Statement, and experiences:** Applicants are required to submit three to five letters of recommendation **and a personal statement**. Applications submitted with no letters of recommendation will be considered incomplete. Letter of recommendations can be written from an individual or a committee. Applicants should select letter writers who will reflect their major activities and who know them well. The Admissions Committee prefers letters that address the applicant's suitability for a career in medicine and as a medical student. Letters of recommendation should provide new information in the application, not restate activities the applicant has already provided. Letters only will be accepted through the AMCAS Letter Service. UNLV School of Medicine will not accept letters of recommendation by any other process.
8. **Transcripts:** Applicants are required to submit transcripts of coursework completed after AMCAS submission directly to the Office of Admissions for UNLV School of Medicine. Check the UNLV School of Medicine website for application deadlines: <https://www.unlv.edu/medicine/admissions/applicants>

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Documents/Downloads

▶ Doctor of Medicine (M.D.)

PLANS OF STUDY

- NA

SYLLABI

- [MED 801](#) I have provided updated syllabi. This should list:
- [MED 802](#) MED 801
- [MED 811](#) MED 802,
- [MED 832](#) MED 823,
- [MED 901](#) MED 832, and,
MED 901-904

DEGREE WORKSHEETS

- [2017-18](#) Can we remove this degree worksheet?

CAREERS

- **NA** Can we insert this AAMC careers link: <https://students-residents.aamc.org/choosing-medical-career>

GRADUATE HANDBOOKS

- **Program Handbook** Can we replace this and direct students to the School of Medicine's Graduate page here (to ensure information is always up-to-date): https://catalog.unlv.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=31&poid=9451

ADDITIONAL DOWNLOADS

- NA

RELATED LINKS

- **Program Handbook** Can we remove this link since it is cited above?
- [Student Handbook](#)

Contacts

GRADUATE COORDINATOR

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More

UNLV SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

UNLV is creating a world-class center for medical education, patient care, and research that prepares Nevada's doctors with the most innovative and technologically advanced forms of medical training while serving the health care needs of a diverse and urban population through community partnerships.

 Website

<https://www.unlv.edu/medicine>

 Phone

Admissions
[702-895-4928](tel:702-895-4928)

More

 Update Degree Info