The George Washington University does not unlawfully discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation. This policy covers all programs, services, policies, and procedures of the University, including admission to education programs and employment. The University is subject to the District of Columbia Human Rights Act. Inquiries concerning the application of this policy and federal laws and regulations concerning discrimination in education or employment programs and activities may be addressed to Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action, Suite 320, 2033 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20052, (202) 994-9656; the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education, or the Director of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission/Washington Field Office. To request disability accommodations, students should contact the Office of Disability Support Services, (202) 994-8250 (TDD/voice), and employees should contact the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, (202) 994-9656 (voice) or 9650 (TDD).

GW is committed to assisting all members of the GW community in providing for their own safety and security. The annual security compliance document is available on the UPD website at http://gwired.gwu.edu/upd/compliance. If you would like to receive a booklet called “The Pride Brochure” which contains this information, you can stop by the University Police Department at Woodhull House, 2033 G St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20052, or you can request a copy by mailed to you by calling (202) 994-6948. The website and booklet contain information regarding campus security and personal safety including topics such as: crime prevention, university police, law enforcement authority, crime reporting policies, disciplinary procedures, and other matters of importance related to security on campus. They also contain information about crime statistics for the three previous calendar years concerning reported crimes that occurred on campus; in certain off-campus buildings or property owned or controlled by GW; and on public property within, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus. The information is required by law and is provided by The George Washington University Police Department.

This information is generally accurate as of November 2011. The University reserves the right to change courses, programs, and fees, or to make other changes deemed necessary or desirable, giving advance notice of change when possible.
The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) is home to an exciting array of opportunities for students to pursue their dreams through study, research, and the practice of medicine under the guidance of nationally and internationally recognized faculty and physicians. You will be joined on the journey by a diverse group of student colleagues who share your desire to make a difference in the lives of others.

Steps away from the White House in the heart of the nation’s capital, SMHS is unique in its location and in its aspirations for its students. Nowhere else but here will you have the ability to participate in internships with prestigious scientific, professional, and government agencies and organizations that serve the local community, shape national health policy, or make a difference in the world. At GW we are dedicated to the personal growth of each of our students, so that not only do our students graduate as expertly trained physicians, but they are also prepared to participate in the critical health care decisions facing our country and the world.

A GW medical education offers the training and experiences that, paired with your own intellectual curiosity, will prepare you for selection by some of the most prestigious residency programs in the nation; building careers that can transform the landscape of medicine.

As an alumnus of the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences, I encourage you to take that first step to learn more about our school, our facilities, our faculty, and all the exciting opportunities we offer that will change your life and prepare you to pursue your calling.

JEFFREY S. AKMAN, M.D. ’81
INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS and DEAN, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES
The George Washington University (GW) combines the power of cutting-edge research with exceptional instruction and high-quality patient care to find solutions to the most pressing medical challenges of our time.

LOCATION & FACILITIES

The George Washington University has an intimate campus nestled in one of the most powerful cities in the world. GW is within walking distance of government offices and non-governmental organizations and historic and cultural landmarks such as the White House; U.S. Department of State; World Health Organization; National Academies of Sciences; the Lincoln, World War II, and Korean and Vietnam war memorials; the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and the Smithsonian Institution. The campus has its own stop on the D.C. Metro system (Foggy Bottom-GWU), located between Ross Hall and the GW Hospital.

Our students become deeply involved in the community by serving at local clinics, providing care for medically underserved populations through the HEALing Clinic, volunteering at the nearby homeless shelter and spearheading the collection of donations when there is a need, volunteering with kids and serving as mentors as they explore careers in medical fields through the Upward Bound program, and visiting the elderly at St. Mary’s Court, where they conduct a regular clinic to ensure the elderly residents are getting exercise and taking care of their bodies. GW medical students are very active in the arts and contribute to hundreds of special interest organizations in the Washington, D.C., metro area.

Our location in the heart of Washington, D.C., enables our students to capitalize on long-standing relationships with leading health agencies such as the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the National Institutes of Health, the World Health Organization, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and others. Leadership from these organizations regularly come to the GW campus and address students at large-scale policy events, as well as lecture in classes across campus. These relationships give SMHS faculty, students, and residents the opportunity to advance their research and contribute to policy discussions. GW’s relationships with and access to the nation’s leaders can give GW students unique opportunities, both inside and outside the classroom.
GW’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) is the 11th-oldest medical school in the country and has been at the forefront of medical and health sciences training since its founding in 1825. Based in Ross Hall, a self-contained research, education, and administrative facility, SMHS provides students and faculty unmatched opportunities to engage with nearby government, non-government, and non-profit organizations. The school boasts approximately 2,600 basic science and medical faculty who train more than 700 medical students and 900 health sciences students annually.

Inside the school, students are exposed to innovative education facilities and techniques, such as the Clinical Learning and Simulation Skills Center (CLASS Center), a facility that enables students to practice essential skills, procedures, and critical care training on human patient simulators. Students are also exposed to state-of-the-art equipment and like the da Vinci Si surgical system and other cutting-edge clinical techniques used in the most advanced treatments. Because of these resources, SMHS produces competent, compassionate professionals who are exceptionally prepared to influence the future of health care.

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Located adjacent to SMHS, the George Washington University Hospital is a 371-bed facility featuring a Level 1 Trauma Center, some of the most technologically advanced care in the region, and leading-edge medical equipment and patient accommodations. The more than 800 physicians and 845 nurses serving the hospital are renowned for their clinical expertise in a wide array of specialties, including cancer care, cardiovascular care and cardiac surgery, emergency medicine, minimally invasive surgery, and robotic surgery.

Already offering one of the largest robotic surgery programs in the country, GW Hospital is taking steps to become the regional leader among multi-specialty robotic observation centers. With the addition of two new robots, GW Hospital has become the first in the Washington/Baltimore area offering da Vinci Si robots with dual-console capability and fluorescence imaging and skills simulation for surgical training.

The GW Hospital Cardiac Surgery program earned the highest designation — a three-star ranking — from the Society of Thoracic Surgeons. The hospital’s Cardiac Catheterization lab serves as a national leader for training residents in transradial catheterization — a specialized cardiac catheterization procedure that offers a safer route to the heart.
The George Washington University Hospital has one of the premier emergency departments in the country, and a long history of providing leading-edge medicine in a caring, efficient, and cost-conscious environment. The Ronald Reagan Institute of Emergency Medicine at The George Washington University was established in 1991, in recognition of the department’s role in saving the life of President Reagan following the 1981 assassination attempt. Overseen by GW’s Department of Emergency Medicine, the Maritime Medical Access program provides a vital link to the delivery of appropriate medical care for shipping vessels, aircraft, yachts, and teams in remote locations. It delivers worldwide telemedicine advice, clinical case management, repatriation, and training.

MEDICAL FACULTY ASSOCIATES

The GW Medical Faculty Associates (MFA) is a nonprofit physician group practice composed of academic clinical faculty at SMHS. It’s the largest multi-specialty practice in Washington, D.C. MFA physicians are an invaluable resource for SMHS students, often mentoring them throughout their clinical rotations and education.

HIMMELFARB HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY

The Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library puts a world of resources at students’ fingertips. Electronic resources include more than 2,500 journal titles; major databases, such as MEDLINE and PsycINFO; and more than 300 online textbooks and resources for handheld computing devices. Conveniently located adjacent to Ross Hall, Himmelfarb offers around-the-clock access to its expansive computer space, newly renovated study space, and wireless Internet access.

“I feel aspiring physicians are naturally drawn to where they are needed and can effect the most positive change in the world around them. As the seat of our federal government and home to some of the worst health disparities in America — especially having the unfortunate distinction of suffering from the highest prevalence of HIV/AIDS — Washington, D.C. is a city where medical students are both desperately needed and can fight for this change at both the local and national level. I only wanted to complete my medical training in D.C. at the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences because of its strong clinical focus and the unique opportunities it gave me to help the underserved and to lobby for improvements to our future health care system.”

Dan O’Neill, MSIV
Many Backgrounds, One Commitment

The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS) seeks to graduate “physician citizens” committed to local, national, and global public service through excellent patient care, leadership, advocacy for change and innovation, and scholarly inquiry.

Although their backgrounds are varied, students are drawn to GW SMHS for the same reason: the partnership of academics and action. Not only are our classes diverse in race, ethnicity, age, and geography, but our students also have a collection of diverse experiences. GW seeks applicants who have a balance of scholarly and humanistic interests. Along with traditional sciences, GW students have majored in foreign languages, economics, music, public health, anthropology, and international relations. The core values of doctoring — empathy, compassion, and altruism — are essential. Our students are typically defined by their integrity, motivation, maturity, leadership, and responsibility, and they take an active role in their own learning and share their knowledge with fellow students.

GW medical students bring more than just strong academic backgrounds to campus. They each bring a demonstrated commitment to the community, through service, research, volunteering, or international missions. Not only are our students academically successful, but they also possess an innate curiosity and drive toward research or scholarly achievements in health services, public or global health, clinical care, health policy, humanities, or basic biomedical sciences.

Diversity is a crucial facet of any medical school community, preparing students to work more effectively with peers and patients from varied backgrounds. GW is proud of its diverse community, and SMHS is dedicated to admitting students who represent its broad and growing population. Throughout the medical education process, cross-cultural awareness raises the level of service to all patient groups, and GW prides itself on a commitment to nurturing and developing these skills.

GW SMHS students represent a variety of interests, majors, education, backgrounds, languages, races, ethnicities, talents, and life experiences. SMHS students have varied histories before beginning medical school. They have participated in international missions, from Bolivia to Zambia, some members participating through prestigious Fulbright awards. Our students showcase a commitment to their local, national, and global communities through service to the ACLU, AmeriCorps, Habitat for Humanity, Teach for America, the Peace Corps, the Public Health Reserve Corps, and the United Nations. Many students have also worked in clinics and shelters that provide care to underserved populations.

Our students also possess many talents and pursue passions outside the academic arena. They are black belts, marathon runners, and professional lacrosse players, as well as photographers, guitarists, and salsa dancers. In addition, many SMHS students previously established careers in education, law, politics, and the military, and have now decided to pursue medicine as a second career.
Match Day
Match Day is one of the most important and anticipated moments for doctors in training. Each March, fourth-year medical students receive their residency appointments as part of the National Resident Matching Program and learn where they will begin the next phase of their medical careers. SMHS maintains a national reputation for placing graduates into prestigious medical programs throughout the country.

Some of the institutions to which GW’s Class of 2012 were matched:

Stanford University, California
University of California–Irvine Medical Center, California
University of California–San Francisco Medical Center, California
Yale–New Haven Medical Center, Connecticut
Children’s National Medical Center, District of Columbia
The George Washington University Hospital, District of Columbia
Emory University, Georgia
Johns Hopkins Hospital, Maryland

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Massachusetts
Harvard, Massachusetts
Einstein/Montefiore Medical Center, New York
Mt. Sinai Hospital, New York
New York–Presbyterian Columbia University Medical Center, New York
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania
Hahnemann University Hospital, Pennsylvania
Baylor University Medical Center, Texas
University of Washington Medical Center, Washington

Specialties and/or programs to which the Class of 2012 were matched include:

- Anesthesiology
- Dermatology
- Emergency Medicine
- General Surgery
- Internal and Family Medicine
- Neurology
- Obstetrics–Gynecology
- Orthopaedic Surgery
- Otolaryngology
- Pediatrics
- Plastic Surgery
- Psychiatry
- Radiation Oncology
- Radiology
- Research Medicine
The curriculum leading to the Doctor of Medicine degree is designed to provide a medical education that prepares graduates comprehensively for residency training, gives them the experience on which to base their career selection, and grooms them for professional lives of continuous learning.

SMHS takes an innovative approach to medical education, requiring all students to participate in the Practice of Medicine, a course that spans all four years: offers early patient exposure; and provides the means to develop outstanding clinical thinking, technical skills, and a sense of professionalism.
**Year One**

**Concentration:**

Normal Human Structure and Function

**Courses**

- Anatomy
- Behavioral Medicine and Psychopathology
- Biochemistry
- Immunology
- Microanatomy
- Neurobiology
- Physiology

The summer following the first year is unscheduled, allowing students to take advantage of the many local, national, and international volunteer, internship, research, or service opportunities available to them.

**Humanities Electives:**

- Doctors as Authors
- Literature and Medicine
- First-Person Medicine
- Biomedical Ethics

**Year Two**

**Concentration:**

Abnormal Human Biology

**Courses**

- Core Pathology
- Core Pharmacology
- Integrated Microbiology / Infectious Diseases
- Introduction to Clinical Medicine (ICM)

ICM consists of clinical lectures, laboratory sessions, and small group discussions that are coordinated to provide an integrated picture of pathophysiology and the natural history of various diseases as they relate to the organ systems.

**Humanities Electives:**

- Film and Medicine
- Borderlands
- Literature and Public Health
- History of Medicine
- Intermediate Medical Spanish

**Practice of Medicine**

**Doctor, Patient, and Society (DPS)**

Students are assigned to eight-member “mentor groups” led by two mentors from the medical and behavioral sciences faculty.

The Clinical Learning and Simulation Skills Center (CLASS) in the GW Hospital is the setting for much of this experience, where students learn about:

- The doctor-patient relationship
- Essential communication skills
- The basic clinical assessment skills of interviewing and physical examination
- Professionalism
- Ethics
- Issues related to the medicine/society interface

**Clinical Apprenticeship Program**

Participating in clinical medicine from the first month of their studies, students have one-on-one relationships with Medical Center-based or community-based physicians for a longitudinal (two-year) experience in which they practice their newly learned skills.

**Problem-Oriented Case-Based Learning (PCL)**

This section of the Practice of Medicine course challenges students with weekly clinical cases that integrate bio-medicine, psychosocial issues, the art and science of clinical problem solving, medical informatics, and critical appraisal of the medical literature. PCL is taught in a small-group tutorial format under the guidance of expert clinicians.
CONCENTRATION:

The beginning of a two-year continuum of clinical clerkships and electives includes eight-week clerkships in each of the six major clinical disciplines (Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Psychiatry, and Primary Care) conducted at the GW Hospital and affiliated institutions, including:

- Holy Cross Hospital
- Veterans Administration Hospital
- Inova Fairfax Hospital
- St. Elizabeths Hospital
- Walter Reed National Military Medical Center
- Children’s National Medical Center

Lectures, seminars, small group discussions, readings, and clinical simulations supplement these experiences.

CAPSTONE — PRACTICE OF MEDICINE (POM) IV

The final year of study includes an intensive, one-month capstone experience involving the refinement of many technical skills and reinforcement of essential clinical competencies. Students are grouped by future specialty for much of this course, receiving direct mentorship from faculty physicians in their specialty. The primary objective of the course is to prepare students to perform at a high level as they transition to their residency training.

Students may also choose to participate in a unique course known as the TALKS Elective, “Teaching Senior Students to be Educators.” Six teaching skills workshops and a practicum provide instruction in general adult learning theory, teaching skills, and provision of feedback. Students also have the opportunity to serve as standardized patients and co-teach physical examination skills to first- and second-year students.
GW provides a cooperative, collaborative, and supportive learning environment for its students. Students team up to explore and learn the material needed to succeed. During lectures, students are provided with printed copies of the PowerPoint presentations utilized by their professors. Through our free note-taking service, students are given a detailed transcript of each lecture. All lectures are also digitally recorded and posted online for students to access. Students can download the audio lectures onto an MP3 player or listen to them on a computer.

Virtual microscopy gives medical students the opportunity to work side by side on computers, studying high-resolution images of slide samples during first-year Microscopic Anatomy and second-year Pathology courses. This digital system offers seven levels of magnification and the ability for students to access slides from any computer.

The medical school has services in place to support the physical, spiritual, and emotional well-being of all students, as well as many programs to help them academically and socially. These programs ease the journey through medical school so the experience will be comfortable and fulfilling. GW is committed to providing students with the best support system possible, through an extensive network of advisors and mentors during their education at GW. Beginning with orientation, each student is assigned a “big sibling,” a second-year medical student matched by similar interests, who helps with the transition to GW and adjustment to life as a medical student.

CLINICAL LEARNING AND SIMULATION SKILLS CENTER (CLASS Center)

The CLASS Center provides an innovative, hands-on education environment. Exemplifying the adage “practice makes perfect,” this facility enables students to supplement their classroom learning with the kind of comprehensive clinical exposure, feedback, and evaluation that prepares them to become both technically adept and compassionate caregivers. The interactive environment proves invaluable in preparation for the United States Medical Licensing Examination, Step 2 Clinical Skills.

The CLASS Center features high-tech human patient simulation and human models to provide students with hands-on practice of essential skills, procedures, and critical care training. Highly realistic scenarios are created using virtual reality and two full-scale mock operating rooms that can be configured to match the conditions of an operating room, emergency room, or intensive care unit.

The CLASS Center also contains a 12-room suite of examination rooms in which instructors teach and evaluate medical students’ basic clinical skills, including history taking, physical examination, communication, and relationship building. Beginning early in their medical school experiences, students have live encounters with “standardized patients,” actors playing the role of patients.

I was intimidated by the idea of medical school, but GW had a very different atmosphere. All of the faculty told us, ‘You’ve made it. We expect you all to graduate, and our doors are always open if you need any help,’ That made all the difference.

2012 School of Medicine and Health Sciences Graduation Ceremony Keynote Speaker Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen, M.D. ’70, (D–V.I.)
Medical research is a key feature of the GW experience and mission. Groundbreaking research takes place in our biomedical research laboratories as well as in clinical settings and with our community partners. Medical students can experience research firsthand through a variety of programs, including the research track and a summer fellowship program between the first and second years. Ongoing research projects funded by the National Institutes of Health and other sponsors are as varied as genomic and microRNA studies and telemedicine in end-stage renal disease to ensure that disadvantaged cancer patients receive the best guidance as they navigate through multiple health care providers.

Clinical and Translational Science Institute at Children’s National
GW and partner institution Children’s National Medical Center are collaborating on a five-year, $20 million National Institutes of Health Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA). The partnership established the Clinical and Translational Science Institute at Children’s National (CTSI-CN) with CTSA funds, to provide unique resources for translating discovery into improved health. The CTSI-CN provides highly integrated, cost-effective, investigator-focused resources designed to overcome research barriers, promote collaborative research, and provide research training across the lifespan of patients. With an emphasis on health disparities and childhood antecedents of adult diseases, CTSI-CN builds upon its pediatric research strengths in areas such as rare diseases, asthma, and neurodevelopmental disabilities, collaborating with a national network of 1,200 community health centers.

Crafting a Road Map for Cancer Patient Navigation and Survivorship
A major grant promises to help the GW Cancer Institute (GWCI) create a road map to guide patients along the route from diagnosis to post-cancer care. The American Cancer Society (ACS) and GWCI were awarded $4.25 million by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to establish a National Cancer Survivorship Resource Center. The five-year grant will allow GWCI and ACS to collaboratively guide national progress toward improved health outcomes for cancer survivors, and to develop a strategic plan for enhancing nationwide surveillance of cancer survivors.
The D.C. Developmental Center for AIDS Research (D.C. D-CFAR)
The GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences and the School of Public Health and Health Services serve as the administrative home of the Washington, D.C., Developmental Center for AIDS Research. The National Institutes of Health–funded center brings together five of the District's leading academic health institutions—GW, Children's National Medical Center, Georgetown University, Howard University, and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center—to combat the District's HIV/AIDS epidemic.

The D.C. D-CFAR aims to lead and support the scale-up of HIV/AIDS research activities in Washington, D.C.; assist with the development, recruitment, and retention of HIV/AIDS investigators in D.C.; and contribute to the prevention and treatment response to the epidemic. D.C. D-CFAR investigators work toward making a difference in the lives of persons infected with and at risk for HIV/AIDS in the D.C. area.

Taking Aim at Neurological Disorders
The GW Institute for Neuroscience brings together basic biomedical scientists, neuropsychologists, and clinicians with the goal of understanding the basis of debilitating brain diseases. Neuroscience research combines genetic models of human disease with confocal imaging, MRI, and other advanced imaging methodologies. Areas of research strength include developmental disorders such as autism that are due to inappropriate cortical connectivity, and degenerative diseases including multiple sclerosis and myasthenia gravis.
STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Office of Student Opportunities (OSO)

The GW OSO collects and coordinates exciting and challenging opportunities in the nation’s capital and throughout the world, and works to match students with those programs and internships. Whether learning about health policy from lawmakers on Capitol Hill, conducting research at the National Institutes of Health, or working overseas to gain a global perspective on fighting disease, students can enrich their education experiences with unique hands-on training. Through OSO, students can pursue opportunities that allow them to influence the future of our health care system or to fulfill their scholastic and professional goals.

www.gwumc.edu/smhs/students/opportunities

I am very lucky to be in an environment filled with such considerate faculty who are truly concerned about the well-being of their city and my preparedness as a student to learn from and serve its diverse population.

My decision to attend GW is continuously reaffirmed by the example of the faculty who influence our medical education.

Anne Mooser, MS III

METEOR Program Mentored Experience Expands Student-Research Opportunities

GW’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences recently launched a new fellowship opportunity for admitted, under-represented students who are interested in research. The METEOR Program is part of GW’s collaboration with the Clinical and Translational Science Institute at Children’s National Medical Center (CTSCIN.org).
The Office of Student Opportunities coordinates a formal program with elective tracks of study to provide GW students the option of pursuing an area of interest beyond the core curriculum. Features of the Track Program include unique learning objectives, special lectures, one-on-one mentorship, and hands-on experience.

There are nine tracks of study that students can pursue:

**Community Health**  
*Making a Difference One Patient at a Time*  
Students gain knowledge and skills to help them address the health challenges of diverse and underserved communities. They participate in the design and implementation of interventions that reduce health disparities and positively impact vulnerable and disadvantaged communities.

**Emergency Management**  
*On the Front Lines*  
Students are introduced to and involved in all phases of disaster management. Exposure to renowned leaders in mitigation, preparation, response, and recovery efforts provides students with a rich experience.

**Environmental Health**  
*Going Green for Healthier Populations*  
Students gain understanding and capabilities related to how the environment influences human health. Interacting with leaders in the field, students explore issues as diverse as greening a hospital or practice, the impact of air pollution, and how to take an environmental health history.

**Global Health**  
*A Healthier World in Our Hands*  
Through exposure to experts and placements abroad, students increase their awareness of international health systems and assess the needs of countries at various stages of development. They learn strategies for promoting global health and delivering health care to the underserved.

**Health Policy**  
*Making an Impact*  
The policy-makers are the teachers. The classroom is Capitol Hill, a think tank, or a state legislature. Students assist lawmakers in developing programs and policies that affect clinical practice and the health care system.

**Integrative Medicine**  
*A Holistic Approach for Healthier Lives*  
Students obtain experience and understanding of combining complementary and alternative medicine within a clinical setting. They learn various modalities in the field and obtain practical experience.

**Medical Education Leadership**  
*Today’s Experience for Tomorrow’s Educators*  
Mentoring others is a cornerstone of professional education, and students learn skills that make them superior educators. They participate in curricular review and reform, undertake research, lead tutoring programs, and learn teaching skills.

**Medical Humanities**  
*Insight into the Human Condition*  
By utilizing humanities, social science, and the arts, students develop observational, analytical, empathetic, and introspective skills.

**Research**  
*Under the Microscope of Change*  
Students gain experience in research methodology while pursuing opportunities in basic, clinical, and translational research. They can choose a focus area with local, regional, or national research institutions.

Each year, OSO enables students to pursue programs in bioethics, community health, emergency preparedness, global health, health policy, medical education, public health, and research here in the United States and countries, such as Argentina, Brazil, China, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Japan, Liberia, Switzerland, and Thailand. GW students spend their summers in internship positions at the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Association of Medical Colleges, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Mayo Clinic, the United States Navy (aboard the USNS Comfort), the United States Surgeon General’s Office, and the World Health Organization.
INTERNATIONAL MEDICINE PROGRAMS

With the mission of improving the health and well-being of our global communities, the Office of International Medicine Programs (IMP) offers a wealth of education and training programs. Students have the opportunity during the summer between their first and second years to pursue international internship projects through IMP.

INTERNATIONAL CLINICAL ROTATIONS

International clinical rotations are available to fourth-year students and residents. IMP has opportunities in countries such as Austria, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Ghana, Haiti, India, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, St. Lucia, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam.

ISCOPES

The Interdisciplinary Student Community-Oriented Prevention Enhancement Service (ISCOPES) is a yearlong service-learning experience geared toward providing a wide range of health-related services to the medically underserved in Washington, D.C. Students from the Medicine, Nursing, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant, and Public Health programs work together with local community-based organizations in mutually beneficial partnerships to promote health. ISCOPES offers students an invaluable learning experience while assisting these organizations in providing a wide range of services to those in need.

Each year the program also presents the “Walk in My Shoes” simulation, an exercise designed to introduce students to the issues of health disparities among different populations and communities. By gaining a better understanding of the challenges to accessing sound health care, students can become better practitioners and policy-makers and help promote high-quality, accessible health care for all members of the community.

HEALing CLINIC

Students in SMHS put their lessons into practice by running two Health Education Active Living (HEALing) Clinics offering health care to the city’s most medically underserved communities. Founded in 2006 through a partnership with local nonprofit Bread for the City, the student-run HEALing Clinics give GW students the opportunity to be more closely engaged with the D.C. community. Hundreds of students have volunteered at the clinics, helping expand access to health care for vulnerable residents of Washington, D.C.

Supervised by volunteer clinical faculty, students offer comprehensive primary care and social services to a wide array of patients, including providing clinical care, facilitating access to specialty health referrals, and engaging in patient education.

www.gwumc.edu/healthsci/healing_clinic
GW students have an opportunity to provide pediatric health care in underserved areas of the world through the Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children (FIMRC). Founded in 2002 by Vikram Bakhru, M.D. ’05, M.B.A., FIMRC is an international nonprofit organization boasting more than 3,000 active volunteers and 50 chapters. Clinical electives at FIMRC project locations in Central America, sub-Saharan Africa, and South Asia are an option for students during the summer following the first year of medical school or during the fourth year.  

www.fimrc.org

D.C. Rape Crisis Center — Opportunities include staffing a 24-hour crisis hotline and serving as an advocate at D.C. area hospitals (primarily through Washington Hospital Center), in police stations, and in court.  

www.dcrcc.org

Deaf-REACH — Provides referrals, education, advocacy, counseling, and housing support to maximize the self-sufficiency of deaf adults in the D.C. area.  

www.deaf-reach.org

La Clinica del Pueblo — Health center that serves the Latino and immigrant populations of the Washington, D.C., metro area and provides culturally appropriate health services regardless of ability to pay.  

www.lcdp.org

AIDS Walk Washington — Whitman-Walker Clinic sponsors this annual event to raise money for AIDS research, education, and care in the D.C. area.  

www.aidswalkwashington.org

Arlington Free Clinic — Provides free, high-quality medical care to low-income, uninsured Arlington County adults through the generosity of private donations and volunteers.  

www.arlingtonfreeclinic.org

Bread for the City — Provides vulnerable residents of Washington, D.C., with comprehensive services including food, clothing, medical care, and legal and social services in an atmosphere of dignity and respect.  

www.breadfortheacity.org

Latin American Youth Center — LAYC is a nationally recognized multicultural, multi-service agency serving all low-income youth across D.C. and in Maryland’s Prince George’s and Montgomery counties.  

www.layc-dc.org

My Sister’s Place — Provides advocacy, community education, and services to those, primarily women and children, harmed by domestic violence.  

www.mysistersplac edc.org


www.whitman-walker.org/
Although coursework is an integral part of any medical student’s life, it is only a portion of the experience at GW. There are plenty of education-related opportunities outside the classroom. Dozens of organizations and associations are available to GW students. Medical interest groups in specialties such as Oncology, Surgery, and Emergency Medicine enable students to interact with others who have similar career and research interests. National organizations such as the American Medical Student Association, the National Boricua Latino Health Organization, the Student National Medical Association, and the Asian Pacific American Medical Students Association are all active at GW. Also available are intramural sports teams, a running club, global medicine groups, religious interest groups, and more.

A beautiful area rich with outdoor activities, Washington, D.C., and its neighboring communities are filled with trails for hiking, biking, and running. Our students are afforded a multitude of recreational, cultural, and entertainment opportunities. Stylish restaurants, celebrity chefs, and fresh local fare are all on the menu in Washington, D.C. Take in a free performance at the neighboring Kennedy Center’s Millennium Stage every evening at 6 p.m. Performances include everything from the National Symphony Orchestra and gospel groups to jazz musicians and poetry slams. Just a short metro ride away, students can visit any of the Smithsonian museums or the national monuments, including the Washington, Jefferson, Vietnam War, Korean War, and World War II Memorials; the Lincoln Memorial is only a short walk down 23rd Street. They can also see the original Constitution at the National Archives or visit the pandas, Mei Xiang and Tian Tian, at the National Zoo. Each spring, the Cherry Blossom Festival attracts tens of thousands of people to witness the stunning beauty of the blossoms that line the Tidal Basin.
ANNUAL EVENTS

White Coat Ceremony (Fall)
Each year during orientation, first-year students attend a White Coat ceremony. At the event, students receive their first white medical coats, signifying the beginning of their journey and career in the medical profession. They recite the Honor Code in recognition of their shared commitment to the profession and the community. Friends and family are invited to attend the ceremony, which is sponsored by the GW Medical Alumni Association.

Community Service Day (Fall)
Each August, students spend a day working in partnership with nonprofit organizations throughout the city to act on their commitment to the community.

A Day in the Life of a Medical Student (Spring)
Families are invited to campus every other year for a daylong event at which they get an insider’s view of life as a GW medical student. The day features a variety of classroom and clinical experiences, including a sample lecture, hands-on activities, small group discussions, and a mini-commencement ceremony.

Match Day (Spring)
Fourth-year medical students receive their residency appointments as part of the National Resident Matching Program.

Lobby Day (Fall)
As part of the Practice of Medicine (POM) course, third-year students visit Capitol Hill for a firsthand introduction to the health policy side of medicine. Students learn lobbying tactics and then break into small groups to meet with legislative aides to discuss the health care topics of the day.
Cookies (Fall)
Each fall semester, students mingle with the deans and faculty of the medical school over cookies. The only rule is that there can be no discussion of school or exams. This is a great opportunity for students to relax and get to know their deans, professors, mentors, and peers.

Follies (Spring)
This Broadway-like show features student talent as each class presents skits and choreographed dance numbers.

Memorial Service (Spring)
This event commemorates the selfless sacrifice of the individuals who donate their bodies for study by medical students during Gross Anatomy. Students commemorate each donor, put on musical performances, and write and read literary works about their experiences with death and the importance of the donor’s sacrifice.

HEALing Clinic Auction (Spring)
The student-run HEALing Clinic holds an annual auction to support its mission to provide additional care to the underserved. The auction is organized by students and includes an online auction and a silent auction with items donated by physicians, students, professors, and local businesses.

Medical Student Formal (Spring)
This event allows medical students and friends or significant others to enjoy a night on the town. The event is a great time for students and has become affectionately known as the “Medical School Prom.”

Research Day (Spring)
This event features keynote addresses and panel discussions on leading-edge research topics. Students and residents have the opportunity to submit research abstracts and present oral and poster reports on their research initiatives.

Follies (Spring)
This Broadway-like show features student talent as each class presents skits and choreographed dance numbers.
The GW SMHS application process is very competitive. We receive many applications each year to fill the first-year seats in our entering class. Because interviews and acceptances are offered on a rolling admissions basis, we strongly urge applicants to complete their file as early as possible. Requirements are detailed below.

**AMCAS Application**
Applicants must complete an online application from the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS). This application must be submitted by December 1. More information about applying can be found through AMCAS at www.aamc.org/students/amcas.

**GW Medical School Secondary Application**
We will provide each applicant with a secondary application via e-mail and information about GW after the Admissions Office receives the online application from AMCAS. Applicants must return the completed application and all supporting materials (including the application fee and letters of recommendation) to the Admissions Office by January 1.

**Letters of Recommendation**
GW participates in the AMCAS letter service. All letters of recommendation are submitted to AMCAS, which then electronically forwards the letters to the participating medical schools. For full information, see the AMCAS application site at www.amcas.org. All letters of recommendation must come through the AMCAS letters system. Please do not send letters directly to our office.

To complete their file, applicants are required to submit either:

- A Pre-Health or Pre-Medical Committee (required if available to the applicant)
- At least three letters from individuals (but no more than five). One should be from a science faculty member familiar with the applicant’s academic work; another should be from a person more acquainted with an applicant personally.

A file will be considered complete once AMCAS reviews all letters. If an applicant submits additional letters after that review, they will be included in the review of the applicant’s file ONLY if the file has not yet been reviewed.

A letter of good standing is required and will be requested from any graduate programs in which an applicant is currently enrolled.

**MCAT**
Take the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) no more than three years prior to matriculation and no later than September of the current application cycle. Be sure to release the scores to the GW SMHS Admissions Office. For more information on registration, visit the MCAT section on the AMCAS website at www.aamc.org.

The School of Medicine and Health Sciences participates in the AMCAS criminal background check program. Students accepted to the school will be required to undergo a criminal background check as a condition of matriculation. In addition, an inquiry regarding any institutional action will be made for all colleges attended.

The faculty of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences consider it essential for all medical graduates to have the knowledge and skill to function in a variety of clinical situations and to provide a wide spectrum of patient care as required by the curriculum. Therefore, every medical student must master a common body of basic science knowledge and master the principles, knowledge, and procedures of the major required clinical specialty clerkships, including Internal Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Psychiatry, and Primary (Ambulatory) Care Medicine. This requires that every student have sufficient capacities and abilities in:

- Communication
- Observation
- Motor/Tactile Function
- Emotions/Intellect

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The application process is very competitive; we receive many applications each year to fill our 177 seats. Because interviews and acceptances are offered on a rolling admissions basis, we strongly urge applicants to complete their file as early as possible.
APPLICATION PROCESS

The M.D. degree is, thus, an undifferentiated degree requiring that each student independently demonstrate these capabilities. Surrogates cannot be used to accomplish the essential requirements. Students may not have undue dependence on technology or trained intermediaries.

Communication includes the ability to speak, hear, read, and write sufficiently to achieve adequate exchange of information with other health care professionals and patients and their support network.

Observation includes the ability to perceive, using senses and mental abilities, the presentation of information through lectures, small groups, one-to-one interactions, and written and audiovisual materials. Students must be able to directly observe a patient’s medical condition. Other examples of the use of perceptual abilities include, but are not limited to: gross and microscopic studies of organisms, cadaver dissections, and various diagnostic studies (including, but not limited to: interpreting electrocardiograms, chest X-rays, mental status examinations, and auscultatory findings).

Motor function includes the ability to perform physical examinations, basic laboratory, diagnostic, and therapeutic procedures. These procedures include, but are not limited to: urinalysis, airway management, insertion of nasogastric tubes and urinary catheters, pelvic and rectal examinations, obstetrical maneuvers, suturing, venipuncture, and arterial blood draws.

Emotional and higher-level intellectual abilities must be demonstrated. These include aptitude for rapid problem solving; rational thought; visual-spatial comprehension; understanding, synthesizing, and recalling materials; interpreting the results of patient interactions, examinations, and procedures; and the ability to formulate diagnostic and treatment plans. Students must have the ability for sound judgment and be able to function under physically taxing and stressful situations such as overnight call and lengthy working hours.

Reasonable accommodations will be made for applicants with disabilities who can meet the requirements noted above. These accommodations must be accomplished without altering the essential requirements of our medical education.

Applicants must:

> Have completed a minimum of 90 semester hours, including the premedical coursework, at an accredited U.S. or Canadian college or university prior to matriculation. A completed bachelor’s degree before the start of the first year of medical school is preferred.
> Be a U.S or Canadian citizen or a current U.S. permanent resident. If neither status applies, please visit www.gwumc.edu/imp/education/internatmd.cfm.
> Have completed the required premedical coursework prior to matriculation. This includes:
  Biology...........................................................8 semester hours (6 lecture, 2 lab)
  General Chemistry.....................................8 semester hours (6 lecture, 2 lab)
  Organic Chemistry.....................................8 semester hours (6 lecture, 2 lab)
  Physics..........................................................8 semester hours (6 lecture, 2 lab)
  English...........................................................6 semester hours
B.A./M.D. Program with GW’s Columbian College of Arts and Sciences
A joint program of GW’s Columbia College of Arts and Sciences and SMHS, the seven-year B.A./M.D. program is designed for high school seniors who exhibit academic excellence, leadership in activities, community service, and health care experiences, and have confirmed their goal of becoming a physician. No MCATs are required to progress to the M.D. program, and tuition for this program is set for the seven years. For more information, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.
www.gwu.edu/apply/undergraduateadmissions/learningatgw/acceleratedprograms/bamdprogram

B.A./B.S./M.D. Program with St. Bonaventure University
GW and St. Bonaventure University have established an eight-year B.S./M.D. program. Prior to attending SMHS, accepted students attend St. Bonaventure for four years studying Biology, and complete a summer internship at a health care facility aiding the underserved. For students accepted into this program, no MCATs are required to progress to the M.D. program. For more information, contact the St. Bonaventure University Office of Undergraduate Admissions.
www.sbu.edu

Post-Baccalaureate Linkage Programs
This program is for students seeking a strong post-baccalaureate, premedical experience in an organized program. GW has linkage programs that can fulfill medical school entrance course requirements and allow students linkage admission to the M.D. program, including programs with Brandeis University, Bryn Mawr College, California State University–Fullerton, Goucher College, Johns Hopkins University, New York University, Scripps College, University of Virginia, and University of Pennsylvania.
Please contact the specific post-baccalaureate program for more information.

Early Selection
The M.D. program has Early Selection agreements with several colleges for applicants who have demonstrated academic distinction and a proven commitment to medicine. Students apply to the Early Selection program near the end of their sophomore year as an undergraduate, and, if selected, are given a provisional admittance to the M.D. program at GW. Students in the Early Selection program do not need to take the MCATs. We offer the Early Selection program through GW’s Columbia College of Arts and Sciences and School of Engineering and Applied Science, as well as through the following undergraduate colleges: Hampden-Sydney College, Claremont McKenna College, Scripps College, Colgate University, St. Bonaventure University, Knox College, Randolph-Macon College, Rowan University, Franklin & Marshall College, Rhodes College, George Mason University, and the University of Maryland, College Park.
Please contact the premedical advisor at the corresponding school for more information.

AMCAS Early Decision
The American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) Early Decision program is an accelerated application process recommended only for exceptional applicants. It allows prospective students to receive a decision by October 1. Applicants may apply to only one medical school and must attend that school if accepted, or wait until the Octo-

There’s no way I could have predicted five years ago when I started medical school that GW would have such an enormously positive impact on the person and physician I am today. The resources and opportunities here in Washington, D.C., are second to none; but it’s the people in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences and at the hospital who really set our community apart as a leader in training compassionate, motivated, and diverse physicians. These people — the dean with an open door policy, the anatomy professor who stays late to help you with a difficult muscle dissection, the attending who encourages as much as she critiques — add the spirit to a school that already offers so many opportunities those seeking a career in the health profession.

Hope Jackson, M.D. ’09, third-year general surgery resident
Program Options

Advanced Standing
Transfer applications are accepted for our second- or third-year classes from allopathic or osteopathic schools in the United States or Canada.
smhs.gwumc.edu/mdprograms/advancedstanding

International M.D.
GW may admit only U.S. citizens, Canadian citizens, and U.S. permanent residents into the regular four-year M.D. program. As a result, the school developed the International Medicine Program to prepare international students for medical practice and leadership in their home countries. Applicants must be sponsored by their government or a medical institution in their home country and must matriculate from a U.S. or Canadian undergraduate school. For more information, contact the Office of International Medicine Programs at (202) 994-2796 or visit its website.
www.gwumc.edu/imp

M.D./Master of Public Health
A five-year, fully accredited joint M.D./M.P.H. program is offered together with GW’s School of Public Health and Health Services (SPHHS). M.D./M.P.H. students may begin the M.P.H. program during a summer session beginning the June before or after their first year of the M.D. program. Applicants must apply to the M.D. and M.P.H. programs separately, and can contact the SPHHS Admissions Office for more information.
smhs.gwumc.edu/mdprograms/jointprograms/mdmph

M.D./Ph.D.
In collaboration with GW’s Columbian College of Arts and Sciences and the Children’s National Medical Center, SMHS also hosts the Institute for Biomedical Sciences (IBS), the administrative and academic home for interdisciplinary Ph.D. training in the Biomedical Sciences. Established in 1996, the institute brings together a wealth of teaching and research opportunities for doctoral-level students.

This eight-year program integrates an M.D. degree with a Ph.D. degree granted by selected Biomedical Science graduate programs. The Ph.D. portion of the dual degree can be completed in Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, Molecular Medicine, or Microbiology and Immunology. Applicants must apply to the Ph.D. program separately from applying to the M.D. program.
www.gwumc.edu/ibs

Financial Aid
SMHS students enjoy the advantage of a specialized Office of Financial Aid, which offers individual consultations to discuss financial aid options, such as federal subsidized and unsubsidized Stafford Loans, federal Graduate PLUS loans, and a limited number of other private loan programs. SMHS offers need-based scholarship assistance for medical students each year. These resources come from a variety of different endowed and restricted scholarship funds. To qualify, an applicant must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident and demonstrate significant need as determined through the medical school’s awarding process. No separate application process is necessary.

Prospective students may also visit the Financial Aid Office website for more detailed information. Questions concerning financial aid may be directed to medfinan@gwu.edu.
www.gwumc.edu/smhs/financial-aid
APPLICATION DEADLINES

Regular Deadlines
AMCAS Application .................................. DEC. 1
Secondary Application and Letters of Recommendation .................................. JAN. 1

Early Decision Deadlines
AMCAS Application ................................. AUG. 1
Secondary Application, Letters of Recommendation, and Transcripts ... SEPT. 1

QUICK LINKS
HEALTH SCIENCE PROGRAMS: www.gwumc.edu/healthsci/
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES: sphhs.gwumc.edu
SCHOOL OF NURSING: nursing.gwumc.edu
GRADUATE ADMISSIONS: www.gwu.edu/apply/graduateprofessional
All letters of recommendation must arrive via AMCAS.

Applicants must have completed a minimum of 90 semester credit hours, including all premedical course work, at an accredited U.S. or Canadian college or university. A completed bachelor’s degree before the start of the first year of medical school is preferred.

Applicants must take the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) no more than three years prior to matriculation and no later than September of the current application cycle.

Applicants should not send transcripts unless requested.

Applicants should notify AMCAS directly of any changes in contact information.

Credentials submitted become the property of the Office of Admissions and are not returned to the applicant.