

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE

Program Requirements

The Degree of Doctor of Medicine Core Curriculum

The 4-year curriculum provides the basic science and clinical foundations that will prepare medical students for supervised medical practice in residency and beyond.

First Year

Fall		Semester Credit Hours
PRE-CLERKSHIP PHASE ¹		
MEID 605	Foundations of Medicine I	7
MEID 606	Foundations of Medicine II	5
MEID 607	Medical Gross Anatomy	8
MEID 619	Practice of Medicine I	7
Semester Credit Hours		27
Spring		
MEID 608	Neuroscience	6
MEID 609	Introduction to Disease	9
MEID 616	Cardiovascular	5
MEID 617	Respiratory	3
MEID 618	Medical Student Grand Rounds	2
MEID 620	Practice of Medicine II	6
Semester Credit Hours		31

Second Year

Fall		
MEID 701	Hematology/Oncology	4
MEID 704	Renal Genitourinary	3
MEID 706	Metabolism/Gastrointestinal/Nutrition	3
MEID 707	Endocrinology and Reproductive Sciences	3
MEID 708	Integument-Musculoskeletal	2
MEID 711	Evidence Based Medicine	1
MEID 712	Practice of Medicine III	4
Semester Credit Hours		20

Third Year

Fall		
CLINICAL PHASE ²		
Clerkship ³		
EMED 800	Emergency Medicine Clerkship	4
IMED 800	Internal Medicine Clerkship	8
MEID 685	Directed Studies	8
MEID 821	Practice of Medicine IV	1
MEID 822	Practice of Medicine V	1
MEID 823	Practice of Medicine VI - Interprofessional Social and Ethical Dilemmas in Healthcare	1
MFCM 800	Family Medicine Clerkship	6
MPED 800	Pediatrics Clerkship	6
MPSY 800	Psychiatry Clerkship	6
MRAD 800	Radiology Clerkship	2

OBGY 800	Obstetrics and Gynecology Clerkship	6
SURG 800	Surgery Clerkship	8
Semester Credit Hours		57
Fourth Year		
Fall		
MEID 985	Special Topic	8
Acting Internship (4 weeks) ⁴		
Select one of the following:		4
IMED 896	Internal Medicine Acting Internship	
MEID 998	Acting Internship - Student Initiated Elective	
MFCM 806	Family Medicine Acting Internship	
MPED 829	Pediatric Acting Internship	
OBGY 809	Obstetrics and Gynecology Acting Internship	
SURG 816	Surgery Acting Internship	
Critical Care Medicine (4 weeks) ⁴		
Select one of the following:		4
IMED 831	Medical Intensive Care Unit	
MEID 997	Critical Care - Student Initiated Elective	
MPED 802	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit	
Semester Credit Hours		16
Spring		
Practice of Medicine (2 weeks)		
MEID 850	Practice of Medicine Capstone	2
Electives ⁵		41
Semester Credit Hours		43
Total Semester Credit Hours		194

¹ Pre-Clerkship Phase

The first 18 months of the curriculum (pre-clerkship portion) focus on the fundamentals of biomedical science and consist of two components, Foundations and Organ Systems administered in consecutive blocks.

Foundations blocks emphasize the basic structure of the human body and basic principles of other medical science disciplines, i.e., gross anatomy, histology, basic principles of biochemistry, genetics, pharmacology, and cell physiology. Students take integrated courses which cover medical humanities, ethics, leadership, important professional development topics, and Introduction to Clinical Skills, which includes patient history-taking and doctor-patient communication skills and physical diagnosis.

By mid-April of the first year, students transition into the **Organ Systems** blocks. The Organ Systems blocks cover normal function, pathophysiology and disease-related aspects of the specific organ systems including the basic therapeutic approach to disease. The disciplines covered in Organ Systems blocks include organ-based physiology, organ system/disease-related biochemistry and genetics, pathology, microbiology, immunology, pharmacology, introductory pediatrics and introductory internal medicine. During the Organ Systems blocks, students continue to build skills in integrated humanities and clinical skills.

² Clinical Phase

During the **Clinical** portion of the curriculum, students rotate on clinical service in required clerkships and have opportunities for elective rotations in areas of interest. During this time, students have the opportunity to experience clinical training in several different patient

care venues and locations, including private-practice, academic, and governmental institutions in Austin, Bryan-College Station, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Houston, Round Rock and Temple.

³ 18 month curriculum: Courses may be taken beginning with the Spring of Year 2 through the end of Spring of Year 3.

⁴ Required rotations/courses. These courses are available all year.

⁵ Electives are offered on all COM campuses. Students may choose from predetermined electives, design custom learning experiences, or participate in offerings at other medical colleges on a limited basis.

- Selective Courses: Within the elective time provided to students, 15 credit hours must follow the specialty specific recommendations.

The selective courses were created to help students maximize opportunities and focus training that is complementary to their career goals. Selectives are based on career specialty choice.

- Elective Courses: The Texas A&M College of Medicine electives have been developed to accommodate the diverse educational needs of our students. Students must obtain 24.5 credit hours of electives. The electives provide students the opportunity to further develop their medical knowledge, skills and attitudes. In addition to the electives that have been developed by the college, students may develop student-initiated electives. Student Initiated Electives (SIEs) allow students in good standing great latitude in designing unique elective experiences. All other electives rules/guidelines must also be followed.

Requirements for Graduation for MD Degree

The Doctor of Medicine degree is awarded at the completion of the four-year program to those students who have attained at least a grade of P or S (or higher) in all courses and clerkships in the medical curriculum, who are not on probation, and who have satisfactorily demonstrated to the faculty the personal and professional qualities essential to the practice of medicine. Students are expected to complete requirements for the MD degree within six (6) years, not counting time away on leave of absence or pursuit of advanced degrees, such as an MD/PhD.

- A passing grade in all required courses and clerkships must be achieved in order to receive the Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree.
- The student must obtain at least 194 credit hours to qualify for graduation.
- Passage of USMLE Step 1 and Step 2-CK is required for graduation.
 - Student must pass USMLE Step 1 for promotion to the 4th year.

COM students who qualify for the MD degree and who attain a GPA of 3.50 or above in their professional medical curricula, are awarded a degree "With Honors." Students who enter the curriculum with advanced standing are not eligible to be named honor graduates.

Commencement for COM students who have earned the MD degree takes place at the end of the spring semester.