

**NM** COMBINED BA/MD  
DEGREE PROGRAM

▶ COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES ◀

▶ SCHOOL OF MEDICINE ◀





# THE UNM COMBINED BA/MD DEGREE PROGRAM

The Combined BA/MD Degree Program is a partnership program between the UNM College of Arts & Sciences and the UNM School of Medicine. The Program is designed to help address New Mexico's physician shortage by assembling a class of diverse students who are committed to serving communities across the state.

Students first earn a baccalaureate degree through the College of Arts & Sciences in a challenging four-year curriculum specifically designed to prepare them for medical school, and more importantly, to practice medicine in New Mexico. Upon successfully completing the undergraduate academic and eligibility requirements of the program, students will then transition to the School of Medicine to complete their doctor of medicine (MD) degree.

All students who are a part of the Combined BA/MD Degree Program receive exceptional student support to ensure the successful completion of their education.



## ALUMNI PROFILE



### **PACHELY MENDIVIL AGUAYO, MD**

**COHORT 2016**

**LAS CRUCES, NM**

“Having been born and raised in Las Cruces by a farm-working Mexican immigrant family, my decision to join UNM’s combined BA/MD program was not only uncontested, but one of the greatest decisions I have made throughout my academic journey. Being part of a diverse cohort of like-minded individuals, supporting each other through a significant new chapter, has facilitated a meaningful learning environment that ensures we each achieve our goals and fulfill our own unique ambitions. The program’s reserved seat in the School of Medicine, individualized academic counseling, and last-dollar scholarships alleviate the stress of new beginnings, allowing students to dedicate themselves fully to their passions and their education.”

# ACADEMIC OVERVIEW

BA/MD students pursue one of three undergraduate degree options, each of which emphasizes science and liberal arts coursework. The curriculum is designed to provide a strong foundation for practicing medicine with sensitivity to New Mexicans, their public health and medical needs.

## THREE UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE OPTIONS

- ▷ Arts & Sciences major (48 undergraduate program options)
- ▷ Health, Medicine and Human Values major with a Health, Humanities and Society concentration
- ▷ Health, Medicine and Human Values major with a Biomedical Sciences concentration

## UNM SCHOOL OF MEDICINE HIGHLIGHTS

- ▷ Problem-based and student centered learning
- ▷ Early exposure to clinical medicine coupled with sustained, community-based learning
- ▷ Consistently ranked as one of the top medical schools nationally for Rural Medicine by *US News and World Report*

## FOUNDATIONS OF SCIENCE:

An opportunity for incoming freshmen

Foundations of Science is an eight-week Summer course designed for students going into the life sciences with special emphasis on medicine. The course takes an active learning approach that challenges students to apply their knowledge and work in small groups to solve real-world problems. The course teaches scientific thinking and problem-solving content, providing the context for learning and practicing the tools of science.

## STUDENT PROFILE

### HALEY HUGHES

COHORT 2020  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM



“The Combined BA/MD Program provides valuable academic and social support to students throughout the entirety of the program. Through small class sizes, specialized academic advising, a Rural Health Practicum, an MCAT Prep Course, and BA/MD’s Wellness Initiative, the Combined BA/MD Program has equipped me both inside and outside the classroom to eventually serve the place I call home.”



# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Connecting BA/MD students with the healthcare needs of New Mexico's communities is an important goal. UNM's Combined BA/MD Degree Program includes a month-long summer practicum between the second and third undergraduate years. Students spend the month in rural New Mexico communities for experiential learning.

With guidance from local community mentors, students examine community health issues through a variety of lenses, including a public health perspective, literature reviews and conversations with community leaders and residents. By observing health professionals in their communities, students learn how interactions between team members, patients, and family members can improve outcomes.

## STUDENT PROFILE

**AUDREY EAKMAN**  
COHORT 2018  
BOSQUE FARMS, NM



"The BA/MD program's commitment to diversity, inclusion, equity, and justice gave me the opportunity and support to become the first signing Deaf medical student at UNM. They strive to help students from underserved backgrounds and better represent the variety of communities in New Mexico within the healthcare system. I have a tremendous amount of respect and appreciation toward the program for all of their encouragement and advocacy."



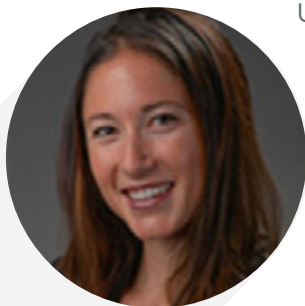


# WHY THE UNM COMBINED BA/MD DEGREE PROGRAM?

- ▷ Reserved seat in the UNM School of Medicine, which is consistently recognized by the US News and World Report as one of the top-ranked programs in the nation
- ▷ Personalized academic advisement
- ▷ Unique curriculum addressing New Mexico's healthcare needs
- ▷ A living learning community that fosters a supportive environment encouraging cohort bonding and academic success
- ▷ MCAT Prep Course
- ▷ The BA/MD "Last Dollar" Scholarship

## ALUMNI PROFILE

**KARA SHAIN, MD**  
COHORT 2011  
SANTA FE, NM



"I recently graduated OB/GYN residency from the University of Arizona College of Medicine-Phoenix program. I had an absolutely wonderful experience, but am very excited to head back to my home state after four years. I am starting as an OB/GYN generalist in Albuquerque, NM in October. The BA/MD was largely impactful in my journey. The program instilled a large appreciation for my home state, and motivated me to return after residency. The program also was extremely generous with financially supporting my dreams to become an OB/GYN and serve the people of NM."

### BA/MD "LAST DOLLAR" SCHOLARSHIP

The BA/MD "Last Dollar" Scholarship, which all BA/MD students are eligible to receive, meets basic educational costs that are not covered by other scholarships. The BA/MD Program considers basic educational costs to include tuition, student fees, housing, meals, and books. This scholarship is only applicable to the undergraduate portion of the Program.

**56:1**

Student to  
Advisor Ratio

**28**

Class Size  
Health, Medicine and  
Human Values track

**100%**

Priority Course  
Registration

**50-60**

Pre-Medical  
Science Class Size

# ADMISSION INFORMATION



## ELIGIBILITY

Applicants to the Combined BA/MD Degree Program **must**:

- ▷ Be a New Mexico or Navajo Nation resident at time of application
- ▷ Be a current New Mexico high school senior (high school seniors outside of New Mexico who are enrolled members of the Navajo Tribe and live on the Navajo Reservation are eligible)
- ▷ Meet and submit minimum ACT or SAT score requirements prior to the application deadline.

For specific scores see our website: <https://hsc.unm.edu/medicine/education/ba-md/admissions/>

- ▷ Have a personal commitment to pursue a medical career in New Mexico's rural or underserved areas

Applicants who achieve the **required** ACT and/or SAT minimum test scores, and complete the online application by the application deadline, will be invited for two individual interviews with members of the BA/MD Admissions Committee.

## CONSIDERATIONS

The Combined BA/MD Degree Program Admissions Committee considers all aspects of an applicant's background, experience and academic progress including:

- ▷ Academic excellence (e.g., GPA, honors courses, advanced placement/IB courses and dual credit)
- ▷ Community involvement and volunteer service
- ▷ Commitment to practice medicine in New Mexico<sup>1</sup>
- ▷ Honors and awards
- ▷ Extracurricular activities
- ▷ Three recommendations
- ▷ Personal statement

**Apply Online  
and get up-  
to-date info**



## APPLICATION TIMELINE

**Application available:** August 1

**Application deadline:** 1st Thursday of November, 5:00PM (MST)

**Interviews:** November - February

**Final decision notification:** April 1

**Applicant commitment:** May 1

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

**First Thursday of November  
at 5:00PM (MST)\***

\*of the applicant's senior year in high school

1. Please view the Statement of Commitment (<https://hsc.unm.edu/medicine/education/ba-md/admissions/>) that all BA/MD students are required to sign upon their admission into the program. Students accepted into the Combined BA/MD Program may only attend the UNM School of Medicine and cannot apply to other medical schools.



## HOURS

Monday - Friday, 8AM - 5PM

## PHYSICAL LOCATION

Health Sciences and Services  
Building, Suite 102  
2500 Marble Avenue  
Albuquerque, NM 87106

## MAILING ADDRESS

Combined BA/MD Degree Program  
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1 University of New Mexico  
Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001

## PHONE

505.925.4500  
Toll free: 1.877.977.BAMD (2263)

## EMAIL

[HSC-CombinedBAMD@salud.unm.edu](mailto:HSC-CombinedBAMD@salud.unm.edu)

## FACEBOOK

UNMBAMD

## INSTAGRAM

@unmcombinedbamd

**For additional information about the Combined BA/MD Degree Program, please visit:**

[hsc.unm.edu/medicine/education/ba-md/](https://hsc.unm.edu/medicine/education/ba-md/)





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LEARN MORE**

