

# PRE-MEDICINE



THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

## MISSION

The mission of the University of New Mexico School of Medicine is to advance the health of all New Mexicans by educating and increasing the diversity of health professionals, leaders and scientists; providing outstanding and compassionate medical care; advocating for the health of all New Mexicans and pursuing new knowledge and excellence of practice.

# A MESSAGE FROM DEAN ROTH

Welcome to the exciting field of Health Sciences. This a momentous and empowering time in your professional pursuits. The pace of medical advances is truly breathtaking, but the UNM School of Medicine is well equipped to provide extraordinary training for tomorrow's health professionals.

Problem-based learning in medical education – the contemporary academic standard – was developed at our School of Medicine in the 1970s. Today, our dynamic program reflects ongoing advances in science and medical technologies, as well as a commitment to addressing the social determinants of health. Our students are introduced very early in the curriculum to medical cases and patients. They experience a unique variety of health cultures, epidemiology, access and other insightful training opportunities unavailable elsewhere.

Our nationally recognized faculty members consistently deliver nationally ranked programs in primary care, family medicine and rural medicine. UNM Hospital is home to New Mexico's only Level I trauma center, and it also includes a children's hospital, adult and child behavioral health and a network of community clinics. School of Medicine students also work alongside students and faculty from the UNM Cancer Center, with its elite "comprehensive" designation from the National Cancer Institute, the Clinical & Translational Science Center and the Colleges of Nursing, Pharmacy and Population Health.

We know that it's important for students to have connections, resources and support to help them succeed. Our students can take advantage of scholarship and mentoring programs, academic and professional organizations, specialty student groups and clubs to fully develop academic, social and professional proficiency within a benevolent community.

Finally, our clinical rotations, statewide preceptorships and international internships are buoyed by a vigorous network of practicing physicians who share our health vision and mission. There truly is no other program like ours. Together, we are advancing New Mexico health care, one physician at a time.

I wish you all the best,



Paul B. Roth, MD, MS  
Chancellor for Health Sciences  
CEO, UNM Health System  
Dean, UNM School of Medicine



# HISTORY

The University of New Mexico School of Medicine (SOM) was established in 1961 and admitted its first class in 1964. The School's inaugural motto was "Students first, buildings later," and the premiere entering class of 24 students attended lectures in a converted mortuary! Since these humble beginnings, the UNM School of Medicine has continuously grown and improved through the expansion of our innovative curriculum, state-of-the-art research and compassionate, high quality patient care. The founding goal of the School of Medicine was to serve the people of New Mexico, and today - nearly 50 years later - the SOM continues to improve the healthcare of New Mexico.



## ENTERING CLASS STATISTICS

REGION	2016			2017			2018		
	INTERVIEWED	ACCEPTED	MATRICULATED	INTERVIEWED	ACCEPTED	MATRICULATED	INTERVIEWED	ACCEPTED	MATRICULATED
New Mexico	280	119	98	261	114	95	257	121	93
Non-Resident	39	12	5	39	19	8	51	21	10
WICHE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>103</b>

## 2018 ACADEMICS

- Average MCAT: 506
- Average GPA: 3.75

## 2018 DEMOGRAPHICS

- Applicant age upon matriculation ranged from 20 to 40 with an average age of 23.9.
- 41.7% of the matriculants were URM (racial/ethnic groups under-represented in medicine).
- 34% of the matriculants were men and 66% were women.

# SCHOOL OF MEDICINE HIGHLIGHTS

## LOCATED IN THE LAND OF ENCHANTMENT

New Mexico is a wonderful blend of cultural diversity and striking natural beauty. With some of the best weather in the country, we take pride in our beautiful blue skies and mild, yet differentiated seasons. Known as a cultural melting-pot, New Mexico has a very unique historical background. Visitors and locals alike can spend days strolling around Albuquerque's Old Town, checking out the Indian Pueblo and National Hispanic Cultural Centers, shopping at the Plaza in Santa Fe, and eating as much of our mouth-watering New Mexican food as possible!

## NATIONALLY RANKED

The UNM School of Medicine ranked third in the nation for its Rural Medicine program in the U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Graduate Schools for 2018." UNM SOM also ranked highly in Family Medicine (#11) and Primary Care (#18). Additionally, four of the School of Medicine departments are ranked in the top 40 National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant funded departments including Pathology (#11), Family Medicine (#18), Neurosciences (#35), Neurosurgery (#35) and Radiology (#36).



# ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

## COLLEGE DEGREE

Although a college degree is not required, 99% of our applicants have earned a bachelor's degree; therefore, it is highly recommended that applicants complete a four-year degree program in the field of their choice. Many students select majors in biology, chemistry and biochemistry (~ 50%). The School of Medicine encourages applications from all interested students, regardless of their area of academic study.

## PREREQUISITE COURSES

The minimum prerequisite course requirements to apply to the UNM School of Medicine are:

REQUIRED COURSE	LABORATORY REQUIRED	DURATION
■ General Biology I & II	Yes	1 academic year (2 semesters or 3 quarters)
■ General Chemistry I & II	Yes	1 academic year (2 semesters or 3 quarters)
■ Organic Chemistry I & II	Yes	1 academic year (2 semesters or 3 quarters)
■ General Physics I & II	No	1 academic year (2 semesters or 3 quarters)
■ Biochemistry (400 level)	No	1 semester or 2 quarters

All prerequisites must be completed in full prior to the submission of the AMCAS application, except for the organic chemistry laboratories and biochemistry (these may be in progress at time of application but must be completed prior to matriculation). Additionally, each course must be completed with a letter grade of C or better (C- is not acceptable). Pass/Fail (CR/NC) grading is not accepted. It is not recommended that any of the required prerequisite courses be taken through an online course. However, applicants are allowed to take a maximum of two required, prerequisite lecture courses online. Labs taken online will not be accepted for any of the required prerequisite labs.

## MCAT & GPA

To receive consideration for the admissions process, applicants must have a minimum total numerical Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) score of 494 and a cumulative undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or better.



## RESIDENCY

To receive consideration for the admissions process, applicants must be residents of New Mexico for at least one year (12 consecutive months) prior to the submission of the AMCAS application or have strong ties to the state. Strong ties include having graduated from a New Mexico high school in which you've attended at least one year, being a financial dependent of a current New Mexico resident, or being stationed in the state for active military duty.

Consideration is also given to enrolled members of federally recognized American Indian Tribes and Alaska Natives and Villages (AI/AN) and residents of participating WICHE states that at present have no medical schools (Montana and Wyoming only). It is requested that AI/AN applicants provide their Tribal Affiliation, Certificate of Indian Blood, Enrollment Number and/or a written description of their involvement with their tribal community upon invitation to complete the Secondary Application.

Please note that foreign national applicants are expected to have the equivalent of at least two years of full-time undergraduate or graduate studies (i.e. 60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) at an accredited college or university in the United States, and to have all the same required course prerequisites. Foreign national applicants must also reside in New Mexico for a least one year prior to application in order to fulfill the residency requirement.

## CLINICAL & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

The Committee on Admissions values the motivation and dedication of individuals who take the initiative to seek out clinical opportunities in hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, hospices, etc. The intent is to provide the individual with the opportunity to demonstrate to the Committee that medicine is the career in which they wholeheartedly wish to study and work. Direct patient contact is the key to a quality clinical experience, and working to gain insight into New Mexico's healthcare issues is a critical component of the experience. Community involvement aside from clinical experience is also important. The Committee believes that individuals who have participated in community service activities are more likely to relate well to others while gaining a sense of altruism and compassion.

## LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Applicants are required to submit a minimum of three, or a maximum of four letters of recommendation. It is suggested that applicants obtain letters from the following:

- Academic letter(s) from professors/faculty instructors
- Clinical letter(s) from a healthcare professional with whom you've worked
- Letter from someone that knows you well (i.e. research mentor, program director, commanding officer, etc.)

*For more detailed information on admissions requirements please visit the UNM SOM website, <https://som.unm.edu/education/md/admissions/how-to-apply.html>, or call our office at 505-272-4766.*

# FINANCIAL AID

## TUITION

The UNM School of Medicine offers quality medical education at an affordable price. A breakdown of costs for an independent student living off campus for the 2018 -19 academic year is below.

NM RESIDENT OFF CAMPUS LIVING	1ST YEAR	2ND YEAR	3RD YEAR	4TH YEAR
Tuition*	15,848	15,848	15,848	15,848
Curriculum Fees	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,700
Cost of Living	20,880	21,932	21,932	19,866
Books & Supplies	1,584	1,584	1,584	1,584
Computer	2,200	-	-	-
Diagnostic Equipment	640	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Fees	792	692	692	692
Miscellaneous	3,132	3,290	3,290	2,980
Student Health Insurance	2,032	2,032	2,032	2,032
Disability and Needlestick Insurance	163	163	163	163
USMLE Exam Fees	-	590	1,850	420
4th Year Residency Interview Expenses	-	-	-	4,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49,971</b>	<b>48,831</b>	<b>50,091</b>	<b>50,285</b>

\*All tuition fees are approximate and subject to change; please check the UNM SOM financial aid website for updates.  
\*\* Non-Resident Tuition is \$45,376 per year.



## SCHOLARSHIPS

The School of Medicine offers both need- and merit-based scholarships. Need-based scholarships require the completion of FAFSA, [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

## SOM FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

Phone: (505) 272-8008 • Fax: (505) 272-8063



# APPLYING

## APPLICATION DEADLINES

	<b>Early Decision Program (EDP)</b>	<b>All Other Programs</b>
Earliest Date to Apply	June 1	June 1
Latest Date to Apply	August 1	November 1
Admissions Status Notifications Sent	October 1	March 15

All applicants to the UNM School of Medicine must submit their applications through the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS). Go to: [www.aamc.org/students/applying/amcas/](http://www.aamc.org/students/applying/amcas/).

Applicants who meet all of the minimum residency, prerequisite, MCAT and GPA requirements will be invited via email by the UNM SOM Office of Admissions to complete the Secondary Application.

### EARLY DECISION PROGRAM (EDP)

Applicants who apply through the Early Decision Program can only apply to the University of New Mexico School of Medicine. WICHE applicants MUST apply through the EDP to receive consideration. WICHE applicants must have at least the average MCAT/GPA as the previous year's entering class to be given consideration for admission.



### REGULAR MD

Approximately 95% of all UNM SOM applicants apply through the Regular MD Program. Regular MD applicants may apply to multiple medical schools.

### COMBINED MD/PHD PROGRAM

This competitive combined degree program consists of 18 months of the SOM curriculum, followed by 3-4 years of PhD dissertation research, and concludes with the remaining 2 years of the SOM curriculum. The MD/PhD Program is fully funded and has the same application requirements as Regular MD; however, a research presentation is also required.

### COMBINED MD/MPH PROGRAM

This program is designed to provide an integrated learning experience by enhancing opportunities for medical students to acquire public health knowledge and skills through this 5-year program. Applicants must apply through AMCAS as well as to the MPH Program directly, and must be accepted into both programs in order to matriculate as a combined degree student.



## SCHOOL OF MEDICINE OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

**HOURS:** Monday – Friday, 8AM – 5PM

### PHYSICAL LOCATION

Health Sciences Library & Informatics Center  
(Building #234), Room 125

### MAILING ADDRESS

UNM SOM Office of Admissions  
1 University of New Mexico  
MSC 09 5085  
HSLIC, Rm 125  
Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001

**PHONE:** 505-272-4766 • **FAX:** 505-925-6031

**EMAIL:** [somadmissions@salud.unm.edu](mailto:somadmissions@salud.unm.edu)

### WEBSITE

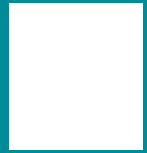
For additional information about the UNM School of Medicine and admissions requirements and recommendations, please visit <https://som.unm.edu/education/md/admissions/index.html>.

### WORKSHOPS/ADVISEMENT

The Office of Admissions provides students interested in medicine with information regarding the application and admissions process for medical school. Workshops are held on a monthly basis. Please be aware that you will be required to attend a pre-med workshop before scheduling a pre-med advisement appointment with an advisor at the SOM Office of Admissions. One-on-one advisement is by appointment only. For additional information on the workshop schedule and location, please visit <https://som.unm.edu/education/md/admissions/advisement.html>.



# ***IMPROVING NEW MEXICO'S HEALTHCARE***



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