

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE

**Catalog**  
**Academic Year 2020-2021**



**Catalog**  
**Academic Year 2020-2021**

**Baylor College of Medicine's Mission, Vision and Values**

College's Mission

Baylor College of Medicine is a health sciences university that creates knowledge and applies science and discoveries to further education, healthcare and community service locally and globally.

College's Vision

Improving health through science, scholarship and innovation

College's Values

Respect

- ❖ Value others and treat them with courtesy, politeness and kindness
- ❖ Promote and support diversity, inclusion and equity
- ❖ Encourage civil dialogue that considers diverse opinions and ideas

Integrity

- ❖ Interact with honesty, consistency and transparency
- ❖ Operate in ways that demonstrate ethical behaviors
- ❖ Foster personal accountability to build trust

Innovation

- ❖ Cultivate creative ideas and unique talents across the organization
- ❖ Embrace a culture of continuous improvement
- ❖ Inspire the creation and application of new knowledge

Teamwork

- ❖ Sustain a culture that values collaboration
- ❖ Communicate openly to enhance understanding
- ❖ Establish effective partnerships

Excellence

- ❖ Promote the highest standards of safety, quality and service
- ❖ Strive to excel in every aspect of our mission
- ❖ Support an environment that inspires the best from our people

Baylor College of Medicine is committed to a safe and supportive learning and working environment for its learners, faculty and staff. College policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, veteran status, disability or genetic information.

Harassment based on any of these classifications is a form of discrimination and also violates College policy (02.2.25, 02.2.26) and will not be tolerated. In some circumstances, such discriminatory harassment also may violate federal, state or local law.

Baylor College of Medicine fosters diversity among its students, trainees, faculty and staff as a prerequisite to accomplishing our institutional mission, and setting standards for excellence in training healthcare providers and biomedical scientists, promoting scientific innovation, and providing patient-centered care.



**Catalog**  
**Academic Year 2020-2021**

Diversity, respect, and inclusiveness create an environment at Baylor that is conducive to academic excellence, and strengthens our institution by increasing talent, encouraging creativity, and ensuring a broader perspective. Diversity helps position Baylor to reduce disparities in health and healthcare access and to better address the needs of the community we serve. Baylor is committed to recruiting and retaining outstanding students, trainees, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds by providing a welcoming, supportive learning environment for all members of the Baylor community.

**School of Medicine’s Mission and Vision**

Our Mission

BCM School of Medicine develops diverse, compassionate physician leaders and educators who provide expert patient-centered care to diverse populations, supported by evidence based practice and scientific innovation.

Our Vision

BCM School of Medicine serves as a model for innovation and excellence in medical education pedagogy. Through personalization of training, we empower our learners and faculty to:

- Care for a diverse community of patients
- Educate the next generation of physician leaders
  - Pursue scientific discovery

Description of Program

Our 18-month Foundational Science curriculum includes early, one-on-one patient contact, state-of-the-art technological resources, and small group settings to learn skills that make them effective. With our integrated approach, first you learn the core scientific concepts that underlie medicine and apply these to each of the body’s organ systems in their healthy state. Then you learn about pathology and pharmacology and carry these themes through each of their organ systems in their disease states. Early introduction to seeing patients provides meaning and context as you gain the foundational knowledge required to practice medicine. Our location in the Texas Medical Center, the world’s largest medical complex, provides exceptional diversity of clinical settings and patient populations. You will have opportunities to care for patients with conditions rarely seen in other medical centers. Through interacting with patients from diverse cultural backgrounds, you will gain a deep understanding of how culture influences health practices and beliefs.

Students and faculty will adhere to the policies, procedures, and guidelines referenced within this Catalog.

Course Catalogs include an overview of BCM’s health sciences mission and values (e.g., preamble), student handbooks (which detail expectations of students and obligations of the institution), course descriptions, and degree requirements for each academic year that are generated by, and specific to, each BCM school and its corresponding academic program(s).

Five years of archived catalogs are available online at [www.bcm.edu/registrar](http://www.bcm.edu/registrar)

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# M.D. Program Student Handbook



2019 PRN Orientation Retreat Coordinators and Facilitators

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Have questions? Find out who to [contact for answers](#).

### Dean's Message

View message from [Dean's Message from Dr. Jennifer Christner](#).

### Student Responsibilities

The [Student Responsibilities](#) section contains information about and links to policies, procedures, rules, and regulations. Students are responsible for all the information presented.

In this section:

- Student responsibilities for all [policies and procedures](#)
- [Requirements regarding official communications/publications](#)
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- [Reporting & Responding to Breaches of Professionalism and Ethical Conduct](#)

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## Principles and Learning Environment

Baylor College of Medicine is committed to creating an environment for students that is conducive to academic success and academic freedom commensurate with all applicable laws and regulations. View information about our [Principles and Learning Environment](#).

In this section:

- [Links to](#) policies, statements and guidelines, as well as offices and resources designated to support this commitment
- [Release of Information](#) - description of your rights under FERPA

## Organization and Governance

View information about [Organization and Governance](#) and its sections below:

- [College and School of Medicine Leadership](#)
- [Committees with Student Involvement](#)

## Medical Student Professionalism

A student pursuing the degree of Doctor of Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine assumes responsibility to develop in-depth knowledge, acquire and apply special skills, and demonstrate professionalism.

View information about [Medical Student Professionalism](#) and its sections below:

- [Policies and Guidelines Governing Medical Student Professionalism](#)
- [Honor Council](#)

## Career Advising

Visit the [Career Advising](#) page and its sections below:

- Deans of Student Affairs
- Learning Community Advisors
- Specialty Mentors
- Office of Student Services Career Development Center
- Career Advising Activities

- Learning Community Advisors and Specialty Mentors
- Career Planning Resources
- [Academic Advising and Elective Counseling](#)
- [Medical Student Performance Evaluation](#)
- [Medical Licensure](#)

## Academic Standards & Requirements

Visit the [Academic Standards & Requirements](#) page and its sections below:

- [Links to academic standards](#) related to conduct, technical specifications and more.
- [Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine](#) including Core Competency Graduation Goals and Graduation Requirements by Year
- [Attendance/Participation and Absences](#)

## Academic Schedules and Calendars

Current students can view the curriculum schedule and additional content on the Baylor Intranet (login required). [View the schedules and calendars](#). (BCM Intranet Login required)

## M.D. Curriculum

View information about the [M.D. Curriculum](#) and its sections below:

- [Links to pages about the curriculum](#) outside the Student Handbook
- [Foundational Sciences Curriculum](#)
- [Clinical Curriculum](#)
- [Examinations](#)
- [Satisfactory Academic Progress and Criteria for Academic Advancement](#)
- [Course Credit Policy](#)
- [Academic Standards of Progress for Financial Aid Eligibility](#)
- [Student Promotions and Academic Achievement](#)
- [Transcripts](#)

## Learning Communities

Learning Communities are networks of clinical faculty advisors for medical students. Advisors follow assigned students longitudinally beginning in the first-year through the final year, which culminates in the awarding of the Doctor of Medicine degree.

View information about [Learning Communities](#) on the Office of Student Affairs web pages.

## Student Health, Wellness & Career Services

Visit the [Student Health, Wellness & Career Services](#) page and its sections below:

- [Baylor College of Medicine Gathering Guidance](#) (Baylor login required)
- [Student Wellness Resources](#)
- [Student Health Requirements and Services](#)
- [Infection Control](#)
- [Benefits: Student Insurance](#)
- [Leave of Absence](#)
- [Substance and Alcohol Abuse Policy](#)

## Student Life Services

Visit the [Student Life Services](#) page and its sections below:

- [Services for Students with Disabilities](#)
- [Employment](#)
- [Student Travel \(Baylor Funded\)](#)
- [Food Services](#)
- [Mail Services](#)
- [Campus Security and Public Safety](#)
- [Recreational Facilities and Programs](#)
- [Texas Residency-Tuition Status](#)
- [Student Lounge](#)
- [Parking and Transportation](#)

## Social Media and Its Use

The [Social Media and Its Use](#) page contains information on College policies related to the use of social media.

## Student Government, Student Societies, Organizations and Committees with Student Involvement

- [Student Organization Handbook](#)
- [Student Senate](#)
- [Student Societies and Organizations](#)
- [Committees with Student Involvement](#)

## Policies and Procedures

In addition to the policies and procedures presented in this handbook, all students are expected to abide by all policies of Baylor College of Medicine as published in the College's [Policy and Procedures Manual](#) (Intranet Link). The [Academic Policies](#) website provides links to policies of particular relevance to students.

Services for Baylor College of Medicine are offered both by individual programs and by the College. Students are encouraged to visit the [Office of Student Services website](#) for updated listings of services provided by the College.

## Statement of Student Rights

Read about the [Statement of Student Rights](#) and the Code of Conduct.

## Accreditation

Baylor College of Medicine is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award masters and doctorate degrees. Questions about the accreditation of Baylor College of Medicine may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling (404) 679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website ([www.sacscoc.org](http://www.sacscoc.org)).

[View All Baylor Accreditation Information.](#)

### Abbreviations used in the School of Medicine Student Handbook

Abbreviation	Definition
AAMC	Association of American Medical Colleges
ACCME	Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education
ACGME	Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education
AMA	American Medical Association
BCM	Baylor College of Medicine
CME	Continuing Medical Education
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974
GME	Graduate Medical Education
HLC	Higher Learning Commission
LCME	Liaison Committee on Medical Education
MD	Doctor of Medicine Degree



## Abbreviations used in the School of Medicine Student Handbook

Abbreviation	Definition
MDPC	Committee on Student Promotions and Academic Achievement
MSPE	Medical Student Performance Evaluation
SACSCOC	Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
SOM	School of Medicine
SPRINT	Student Professionalism Response Intervention Team
UME	Undergraduate Medical Education

## Office of Admissions

Phone

[713-798-4842](tel:713-798-4842)

Email

[admissions@bcm.edu](mailto:admissions@bcm.edu)

## Contact Information

- [Office of Student Affairs](#)
- [General Contacts](#)
- [Medical School Directory](#)
- [Academic Contacts](#)



America's fourth largest city is a great place to live, work and play. Find out why.

[Get To Know Houston](#)

## Connect with us

# M.D. Program Dean's Message



Dear Students,

Welcome to Baylor College of Medicine, School of Medicine. You are among the nation's best and brightest students and are now a part of the mission of Baylor College of Medicine to produce the top physicians and scientists in the world. Located in the Texas Medical Center, the opportunities available to you are truly limitless.

From the very beginning you will be exposed to more than study and classrooms. You will be introduced to direct patient care and asked to develop as critically thinking, compassionate professionals. As you progress your interests will diverge, however the Mission, Vision, and Values of the College will remain as the foundation of your training.

Your dedication to the study of medicine is invaluable to your patients, the College, and society. Your success is Baylor's success.

I hope the information you receive in this [handbook](#) serves as a stepping stone for building a solid foundation of expectations as a student.

[Jennifer Christner, M.D.](#)

Dean, School of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine

# Student Responsibilities

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As a student enrolled in the Baylor College of Medicine, you should be knowledgeable of the College's policies, rules, regulations, and administrative procedures that affect you. The Student Handbook provides guidelines and policies for all Medical students. Students are responsible for all the information presented in this book.

While every effort has been made to verify the accuracy of information, Baylor College of Medicine reserves the freedom to change, without notice, degree requirements, curriculum, courses, teaching personnel, rules, regulations, tuition, fees, and any other information published herein. This publication is not to be regarded as a contract.

Further information can be obtained from the [Office of Student Affairs](#).

## Policies and Procedures

In addition to the policies and procedures presented in this [handbook](#), all students are expected to abide by all policies of Baylor College of Medicine as published in the College's [Policy and Procedures Manual](#). The [Academic Policies](#) website provides links to policies of particular relevance to students.

Adherence to policies, procedures and deadlines is considered a professional duty of the medical student and compliance will be reflected in the professionalism section of the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE). The School of Medicine reserves the right to impose additional penalties, including adverse action, against medical students for repeated non-responsiveness to official email requests and/or non-compliance with requirements, policies, procedures, and deadlines published in official publications.

See links below for additional information.

- [Statement of Student Rights](#)
- [Code of Conduct](#)
- [Baylor College of Medicine Mission, Vision and Values](#)
- [Policies and Procedures \(Baylor login required\)](#)
- [Educator Conflict of Interest Policy - This policy applies to all Educators, Health Providers, and Learners at BCM. \(Baylor login required\)](#)
- [Faculty Handbook](#)

# Student Services

Services for Baylor College of Medicine are offered both by individual programs and by the College. Students are encouraged to visit the [Office of Student Services website](#) for updated listings of services provided by the College.

## Requirements Regarding Official Communication/Publications

**Email is the official and primary method of communication at Baylor College of Medicine.** Students are responsible for checking their email on a minimal daily basis while school is in session, so that they stay informed of all official educational/administrative communication, which often include important deadlines.

Baylor College of Medicine will communicate by email important information about requirements and deadlines for completion of mandatory activities, as well as changes to relevant academic policies and procedures, by publishing this information in either the [Student Commons Newsletter](#) or the Student Affairs Thursday News (“official publications”).

Students are on notice that *NO* exceptions will be made to either the deadlines or adherence requirements communicated via BCM email or published in official publications. Lack of awareness of requirements, policies, procedures, and deadlines does not constitute an excuse for non-compliance with these requirements.

# Medical Student Professionalism

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## Standards and Policies Governing Professional and Ethical Conduct

All members of the Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) community are expected to adhere to the highest standards of professional and ethical behavior. The BCM School of Medicine [Technical Standards](#) establish certain behavioral and social attributes, as well as ethical standards and professionalism expectations for all medical students. Students must exercise good judgment and exhibit professionalism, personal accountability, compassion, integrity, concern for others, the ability to accept and apply feedback and to respect boundaries and care for all individuals in a respectfully regardless of gender identity, age, race, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or any other protected status. Students must understand and function within the legal and ethical framework of the practice of medicine and act morally, commensurate with the role of a physician in all interactions with patients, faculty, staff, fellow students, and the public.

In addition to the School of Medicine Technical Standards, several other policies govern the behavior of BCM community members, including medical students, such as:

- [Student Appeals and Grievances](#)
- [Respectful & Professional Learning Environment Policy](#)
- [Standards for Student Conduct and College Oversight \(23.2.01 – login required\)](#)
- [Code of Conduct](#)
- [Compact Between Teachers, Learners and Educational Staff](#)
- [Social Media Policy \(login required\)](#)
- [Policy Regarding Harassment, Discrimination and Retaliation \(login required\)](#)
- [Sexual Misconduct and Other Prohibited Conduct Policy \(login required\)](#)

These policies, along with the School of Medicine [Honor Code](#), establish the types of attitudes and behaviors expected of students pursuing the Doctor of Medicine degree.

# Medical Licensure

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Medical Licensure requirements are published in the Directory of Residency Training Programs. Specific requirements for licensure in a particular state may be obtained by visiting the [state's board of medical examiners web site](#).

Visit the [National Board of Medical Examiners web site](#) for Medical Licensure requirements information.

# Reporting and Responding to Breaches of Professionalism and Ethical Conduct

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Reporting a BCM community member's lapse in professionalism is easily achieved by contacting either the Integrity Hotline at (855) 764-7294 or visiting <http://bcm.ethicspoint.com>. The hotline is staffed 24/7, and reports can be anonymous. All reports are confidential. Students may also want to visit the Student Grievances website and the [Integrity Hotline Policy: Reporting Improper Activity or Wrongdoing \(login required\)](#) for additional information that may be helpful prior to contacting the Integrity Hotline.

A report made through either Ethics Point or the Integrity Hotline about a medical student's unprofessional behavior is forwarded by the Provost's Office to the Director of Medical Student Professionalism for review and triage to the appropriate responding entity.

The Director of Medical Student Professionalism categorizes a medical student's alleged breach of professionalism as a low, moderate, or serious behavior. The approach to each breach level is explained below:

## Low level breaches

- Examples: punctuality issues, personal phone calls during educational time, or unprofessional appearance.
- Response: The Director of Medical Student Professionalism will meet individually with a student accused of a low-level breach. The meeting is not punitive but is meant to afford the student an opportunity to share his or her perception of the alleged breach, identify any stressors that may have contributed to the behavior, and help the student to gain insight into the unprofessional nature of the behavior (if the allegation is substantiated). No report is made to a Dean or the [Committee on Student Promotions and Academic Achievement](#).

## Moderate level breaches

- Examples: repeated minor offenses or an unexcused absence from required curricular element.
- Response: The [Student Professionalism Response Intervention Team \(SPRINT\)](#), led by the Director of Medical Student Professionalism, meets with the student. The meeting is not punitive but is meant to afford the student an opportunity to share his or her perception of the alleged breach, identify any stressors that may have contributed to the behavior, and help the student to gain insight into the unprofessional nature of the behavior (if the allegation is substantiated). No report is made to a Dean or the Committee on Student Promotions and Academic Achievement.

## Serious Level breaches

- Examples: repeated moderate offenses, illegal activity, including failing to report allegations of illegal activity in a timely manner, intoxication in clinical/learning setting, destruction of property; bullying, committing violent act, mistreating others, lying, cheating, falsifying records, or plagiarizing.
- Response:
  - Honor Council Jurisdiction: Any allegation that involves dishonesty, such as lying, cheating, plagiarizing, defaming, or falsifying academic or medical records, is sent to the Medical Student Honor Council for fact finding. If the allegation is substantiated, and the student is found to have violated the BCM Honor Code, the student's name and the Honor Council report will be forwarded to the Committee on Student Promotions and Academic Achievement via the Associate Dean of Student Affairs.
  - Not Within Honor Council Jurisdiction: All other serious level breaches will be sent directly to the Associate Dean of Student Affairs (or designee) for investigation and response. Some serious breaches implicate the safety of the learning and clinical environment and require either placing a student on administrative leave or subjecting the student to the Adverse Action of Suspension as specified in the [Student Progression and Adverse Action Policy \(28.1.05 - login required\)](#) pending investigation.
  - A breach of professionalism may result in course failure independent of academic performance. Furthermore, the Committee on Student Promotions & Academic Achievement may determine that a student's serious breach of professionalism standards warrants an Adverse Action (see [Student Progression and Adverse Action 28.1.05 – login required](#)) of Probation or Dismissal. Serious level breaches of professionalism that may lead to an Adverse Action include, but are not limited to, the following:
    - acting unethically
    - violating the law
    - violating the Code of Conduct
    - violating the [Honor Code](#)
    - falling to meet the School of Medicine Technical Standards
    - violating the [Respectful & Professional Learning Environment Policy 23.2.01 \(login required\)](#) with a serious breach
    - violating the [Social Media Policy \(login required\)](#) with a serious breach
    - violating the [Policy Regarding Harassment, Discrimination and Retaliation \(login required\)](#)
    - violating the [Sexual Misconduct and Other Prohibited Conduct Policy \(login required\)](#)
    - violating the [Compact Between Teachers, Learners and Educational Staff](#) with a serious breach
    - lying, cheating, defaming, plagiarizing, or falsifying academic or medical records
    - engaging in patient care activities without appropriate supervision or through false representation of clinical competency or role on the healthcare team
    - willfully destroying property
    - intentionally or recklessly violating rules of patient confidentiality
    - presenting to duty in a condition of intoxication or other impairment
    - engaging in bigoted, discriminatory, or harassing behavior
    - engaging in disorderly assembly on campus or otherwise misusing or misappropriating BCM property or facilities
    - failing to report allegations of criminal behavior
    - failing to meet academic responsibilities
    - failing to meet clinical responsibilities
    - failing to pay invoices owed to BCM
    - engaging in other behaviors compromising the public trust that are inappropriate for a medical professional



# Honor Council

## Baylor College of Medicine Honor Council

The Baylor College of Medicine School of Medicine (SOM) Honor Council works to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in all academic matters. The Honor Council has jurisdiction to assist administration in enforcing the SOM Honor Code by investigating, reviewing, and presenting findings of fact to the Committee on Student Promotions and Academic Achievement after investigating accusations of academic misconduct based on dishonesty.

Examples of academic misconduct based on dishonesty that are within the jurisdiction of the Honor Council include, but are not limited to:

- Cheating
- Plagiarism or utilizing the work or ideas of other individuals without proper acknowledgement or permission
- Sabotaging the work or performance of other students or trainees
- Falsification of academic records
- Tolerating breaches of the Honor Code or academic misconduct performed by other students or trainees

The scope of practice of the Honor Council does not include offenses or accusations that comprise violations of federal, state or municipal law, since such issues should be handled by the proper authorities. However, to the extent that these violations also implicated the SOM Honor Code, the Honor Council will maintain jurisdiction for determining whether an Honor Code violation has also occurred. The Honor Council has the discretion to notify the appropriate BCM administrators and/or external agencies of any potential violations of the federal, state, or municipal law that the Council encounters in response to a complaint or during the course of an investigation. For further information regarding confidentiality practices in the context of legal violations, see Article V, Section 4 of the Honor Council Constitution.

The scope of practice of the Honor Council does not include issues of professionalism that do not constitute violations of the Honor Code. Issues of professionalism are with the scope of practice of the Student Professionalism Response and Intervention Team (SPRINT), the director of Medical Student Professionalism, and the Office of Student Affairs.

## Attestation

“On my honor, as a member of the Baylor community, I have neither given nor received any unauthorized aid on this [assessment / assignment]”

# Honor Code

“I pledge to maintain a high level of respect and integrity as a student representing BCM. I understand and will uphold the Honor Code in letter and spirit to help our school advance authentic learning. I will not lie, cheat, plagiarize or be complicit with those who do. I will encourage fellow students to uphold these same values. I make this pledge in the spirit of honor and trust.”

## Honor Council Constitution

Please refer to the [PDF of the Honor Council Constitution](#) for easy reference to the following information:

Article I: Duties and Scope of Practice

Article II: Structure and Organization

- Section 1: Composition
- Section 2: Eligibility
- Section 3: Application and Election Process for Student Members
- Section 4: Removal and Replacement of Student Members
- Section 5: Leadership Roles Within the Honor Council

Article III: Incident Reporting

Article IV: Process of Incident Investigation

- Section 1: Fact finding
- Section 2: Preliminary review
- Section 3: Formal hearing
- Section 4: Documentation
- Section 5: Recusal
- Section 6: Appeal

Article V: Confidentiality and Accountability

- Section 1: Confidentiality of Investigation
- Section 2: Anonymity of Incident Reports
- Section 3: Confidentiality of Other Witnesses

Article VI: Annual Report

Article VII: Constitutional Review

Article VIII: Constitutional Amendments

## Contact Information

### Faculty Advisor:

Dr. Jean Leclerc Raphael, M.D., M.P.H.  
[raphael@bcm.edu](mailto:raphael@bcm.edu)

### HC Student Chair:

Eugenia Chen  
[eugenia.chen@bcm.edu](mailto:eugenia.chen@bcm.edu)

## Related Links

### Ethics Point

[www.bcm.ethicspoint.com](http://www.bcm.ethicspoint.com) or 855-764-7292

[BCM Regulations Concerning Conduct](#)

[BCM Medical Student Professionalism](#)

## Honor Council Representatives:

### Class of 2023

Jae Eun Lee  
Seth Mattson  
Samantha Neal  
Denise Robson

### Class of 2020

Christopher Hyde  
Meera Namireddy

David Oleson  
William Porter

**Class of 2021**

Eugenia Chen  
Elaine Dong  
Lindsey Limbaugh  
Wynne Zhang

# Reporting of Criminal Allegation, Arrest, or Conviction

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All Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) students enrolled in any School of Medicine (SOM) program, including students on an approved leave of absence, must report all criminal allegations, arrests, and convictions to the Associate Dean of Student Affairs within five days of such event. This mandatory reporting requirement extends to any jurisdiction, whether domestic or international, in which the student faces or has been the subject of at least one of the following legal actions:

- Cited or charged with any violation of the law, except for a class C misdemeanor traffic violation or the equivalent (i.e., a moving violation for speeding or a parking ticket);
- Served with an Order of Protection or an equivalent court order restricting the student's access to a specific location or proximity to a specific individual or organization;
- Arrested, arraigned, or indicted on criminal charges;
- Convicted of a misdemeanor or felony other than a class C misdemeanor traffic violation or equivalent;
- Sentenced to serve jail or prison time or to pay a fine other than for a class C misdemeanor traffic violation or equivalent; or
- Subjected to a court martial.

Compliance with this policy is a professionalism requirement of the SOM, and prompt reporting of any of the legal actions enumerated above offers the student immunity from an Adverse Action as may arise from an undue delay or failure to report the legal action. The Committee on Student Promotions and Academic Achievement (MDPC) has discretion to determine when an undue delay in reporting has occurred or alternatively to excuse delays in reporting based on the circumstances of a particular case. Failure to report alleged criminal activity, convictions, or arrests (as provided above) or other legal activity enumerated above may result in an Adverse Action as defined in the [Student Progression and Adverse Action Policy \(28.1.05\)](#). The MDPC determines the impact of either an alleged or a substantiated violation of the law on the student's status in the SOM, as provided in the [Background Checks and Criminal Convictions Policy for Program Applicants and Current Students \(23.1.00\)](#) and the [Student Progression and Adverse Action Policy \(28.1.05\)](#).

# Criminal Background Check Policy

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Baylor College of Medicine seeks to ensure that all incoming and current students in programs that involve patient care or that lead to a role in a licensed professions meet both the high excellence and professionalism standard of Baylor and the profession for which they are being trained. Students and trainees at Baylor practice in confidential environments and bear responsibility for the health and safety of patients, which requires both ethical behavior and the exercise of sound judgment.

Baylor will notify all applicants that any criminal convictions (including deferred judgments) may impact their ability to become licensed following the completion of a Baylor academic program. Baylor will also perform criminal background checks to determine whether Applicants and Current Students are at risk of licensure restriction, and communicate the potential impact on future licensure and eligibility to matriculate or maintain enrollment at BCM.

Read more about the [Baylor Background Check Policy](#) (login required).

# Falsification of Admission Application

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Occasionally candidates will make inaccurate statements or submit false material in connection with their application. In most cases these misrepresentations are discovered during the application process and the application is rejected.

- If the misrepresentation is discovered after the candidate is admitted the offer for admission is normally withdrawn.
- If misrepresentation is discovered after a student is registered the offer of admission normally will be revoked and the student will be required to leave the school.
- If the discovery is made after a degree has been awarded the degree normally will be rescinded.

The determination that the application is inaccurate or contains misrepresentation rests solely with the Admissions Office and will be resolved outside the student disciplinary process.

# Tuition and Fee Assessment

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## Traditional School of Medicine Students

All Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) medical students are required to pay tuition and fees for every academic term in which they are a matriculated student unless they are on an approved LOA.

## Medical Research Pathway Students

The five-year Medical Research Pathway (MRP) is a program designed for medical students desiring increased exposure to either basic or clinical research. The student will spend a full year conducting either basic or clinical research. There are two entry points into this program either January of the second year or January of the third year of medical school. Students are charged as Traditional Students for every year except the MRP research year. During the research year, MRP students are paid a stipend and receive a scholarship covering tuition, but they are responsible for all other fees and charges. MRP students are not eligible to receive Financial Aid during the research year.

## Medical Scientist Training Program M.D./Ph.D. Students

Students pursuing the M.D./Ph.D. program as part of the NIH-funded Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) typically complete the three semesters of the foundational sciences curriculum and one semester of the clinical curriculum before starting the Ph.D. portion of the MSTP in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. After completing the Ph.D., MSTP students return to medical school, for two to three additional semesters. MSTP students are charged medical school tuition and fees only for the semesters they are registered for medical school courses.

## Baylor College of Medicine/ Rice University M.D./M.B.A. Students

The M.B.A. program is a three-semester program, and students typically complete this dual-degree program with Rice University in five years. Students typically begin the M.B.A. program between the third and fourth year of medical school but are rarely allowed to complete the program between the second and third year of medical school. Students are charged regular School of Medicine (SOM) tuition and fees for all semesters leading up to the semester in which they matriculate at Rice University for the M.B.A. Even when enrolled at Rice University, M.D./M.B.A. students maintain less-



than-half-time enrollment status at Baylor College of Medicine (BCM). Therefore, students are charged by BCM while they are at Rice according to a modified tuition and fees schedule:

Fall (semester student matriculates at Rice) – billed July 1:

Tuition: No tuition is charged

Fees:

- Annual Long-Term Disability Insurance
- Yearbook Fee
- Student Services Fee
- Malpractice Insurance
- Health Insurance (6 months, unless waiver is approved)

Spring – billed January 1:

Tuition: No tuition is charged

Fees:

- Malpractice Insurance
- Student Services Fee
- Health Insurance (6 months, unless waiver is approved)

Fall – billed July 1:

Tuition: Texas Residents will be charged \$1,500 and non-residents will be charged \$3,500.

Fees:

- Annual Long-Term Disability Insurance
- Yearbook Fee
- Student Services Fee
- Malpractice Insurance
- Health Insurance (6 months, unless waiver is approved)

Students return to BCM in the Spring. Standard SOM tuition and fees apply for all semesters of enrollment after the M.B.A. is complete. See diagram for approximate attendance dates at both schools.

Rice University tuition and fees must be paid directly to that institution. Students should consult with the dual-degree Program Director for more information.

See [Joint M.D./M.B.A. Degree Program diagram](#) for approximate attendance dates at both schools.

## M.D./M.P.H Students

Students in the dual degree M.D./M.P.H. program with the UTHealth - University of Texas Health Sciences Center-Houston School of Public Health (UTSPH) typically begin their year at UTSPH in either May of the third year or September following the third year of medical school.

Due to differences between the BCM and UTSPH academic calendars, there may be a 1-to-2 month gap between the end of the student's MS3 year and the beginning of the M.P.H. program, and/or between the conclusion of the M.P.H. program and the beginning of BCM's Fall term. During these periods, M.D./M.P.H. students may either:

- A) Register for the USMLE Preparation Course (see below) and be billed accordingly. OR
- B) Be billed standard medical student tuition and fees, subject to the institutional refund and LOA return policies. This option allows students to do clinical rotations during this time.

See [Joint M.D./M.P.H. Degree Program diagram](#) for approximate attendance dates at both schools.

## Dual-Degree Students Taking the USMLE

The USMLE Preparation Course is offered at the end of the Spring and at the beginning of the Fall. Students are not permitted to do clinical rotations while enrolled in the USMLE Preparation Course.

Students enrolled in the USMLE Preparation Course will be charged tuition of \$125 per month and long-term disability insurance. In addition, they will be billed malpractice and health insurance for the months of enrollment in the USMLE Preparation Course.

Students may enroll in the USMLE Preparation Course for one or two months according to these guidelines:

- Spring - Students may register for the months of both May and June OR the month of June only
- Fall - Students may register for the months of both July and August OR the month of July only.

[USMLE Examination Preparation Course Registration Form](#)

## All School of Medicine Students

*Repeating or Extending SOM Coursework:* Medical students who either repeat coursework or otherwise extend their enrollment beyond the traditional four-year length of the SOM program will be charged tuition and fees for each additional semester of enrollment. Title IV Federal financial aid

recipients who meet degree requirements prior to the end of the semester will be subject to the Return of Title IV Funds Policy. All other students will be subject to the Institution's Refund and Repayment Policy.

*Returning from Leave of Absence Mid-Semester:* Students who return from an approved leave of absence mid semester will be charged the full cost of fees for the semester, plus tuition for the number of months remaining in the semester. A month's tuition charges will be assessed if the student returns to enrollment prior to the sixteenth of the month. Health Insurance will be billed for all remaining months of the semester, including the month in which the student returns from leave, unless the Benefits Office has approved a health insurance waiver. Note that Graduation Fees are only charged once for each BCM program the student completes.

*Taking a Leave of Absence Mid-Semester:* Students who take a leave of absence after the start of the semester will have their tuition refunded according to the following schedule:

	<b>Tuition Percent Refunded</b>
Leaves prior to the first day of classes or never attends classes	100%
Date of last attendance is during the first three weeks of classes	90%
Date of last attendance is during the fourth week of classes	80%
Date of last attendance is during the fifth week of classes	70%
Date of last attendance is during the sixth week of classes	60%
Date of last attendance is during the seventh week of classes	50%
Date of last attendance is during the eight through thirteenth week of classes	25%
Date of last attendance is after the thirteenth week of classes	No refund

Fees are not refunded if the student begins Leave of Absence on or after the first day of classes. Full payment for the student's account balance must be received before the student starts his or her leave of absence.

Student Account Services will refund health insurance to the student for all remaining full months of the semester. Students may remain on the student health insurance plan while on leave and should contact the [BCM Benefits Office](#) (Baylor login required) for more information. Students who remain on the plan must remit payment directly to the Benefits Office for the months they are on Leave of Absence.

*Separation from BCM Prior to Graduation:* Individuals who withdraw, are dismissed, or otherwise terminate their student status at BCM prior to graduation must clear their BCM student account prior to obtaining a signature of clearance from the Student Account Services Office. If a department or office has advised the student that it is paying certain fees, the student is responsible for obtaining a charge source from that department or office before the clearance form will be signed by the Student Account Services Office.

When a student is clearing his or her balance upon checkout, the student must pay any account balance using a secured method of payment, such as a cashier's check, money order, or credit card. Student Account Services does not accept checks from students as final payment for clearing a balance when separating from BCM. Payment must be made prior to the date the student ceases enrollment.

*Timing of Billing Statement:* Tuition and fees for all students are billed twice a year. A billing statement will be available on the Student Portal following each billing cycle. Partial tuition and fees for the academic year are billed in July or August for the Fall semester and the balance is billed in January for the Spring semester. Tuition and fee payments are due in-full on Sept. 1 for Fall and Feb. 1 for Spring following each billing cycle. Students may pay online via the Student Portal, by mail, or in person at the Cashier's Window in Main Baylor at T-140. [Click here for the full list of available payment options](#). **A \$50 late payment fee and an Academic Hold will be added to a student's account if he or she fails to pay all tuition and fees by the respective due date.**

*Failure of Timely Payment:*

**Academic Holds:** Students and former students who have not paid their tuition and fees when due will have a "Hold" placed on their academic records. Verification of attendance, transcripts, diplomas and/or other information in the student's file will not be released until the Academic Hold is removed. In addition, current students who are delinquent in meeting their financial obligations to the College will not be allowed to transfer credits to another school or to graduate from the College until the Academic Hold is removed.

**Registration Holds:** Current students whose accounts have a balance exceeding \$200 that is over 120 days delinquent will not be permitted to register for courses until their balance is settled or payment arrangements have been made with the Office of Student Account Services.

[Financial Responsibilities, Financial Aid Eligibility, and Satisfactory Academic Progress Requirements for Students](#) (Baylor login required)

# Student Account Services

Phone: (713) 798-4322

Email: [SAS@bcm.edu](mailto:SAS@bcm.edu)

Location by appointment:

O'Quinn Medical Tower,

6624 Fannin,

St. 20th Floor

Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday – Friday

# Principles and Learning Environment

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Baylor College of Medicine is committed to creating an environment for students that is conducive to academic success and academic freedom commensurate with all applicable laws and regulations. The links below will take you to information on policies, statements and guidelines, as well as offices and resources designated to support this commitment.

- [Statement of Student Rights](#)
- [Commitment to Diversity, Inclusion and Equity](#)
- [Office of Institutional Diversity, Inclusion and Equity](#)
- [Diversity and Inclusion Policy](#)
- [Title IX and Gender Discrimination](#)
- [Notice of Nondiscrimination](#)
- [Learner Mistreatment Policy \(Baylor Login Required\)](#)
- [Student Appeals and Grievances Policy \(Baylor Login Required\)](#)
- [Respectful and Professional Learning Environment Policy: Standards for Student Conduct and College Oversight \(Baylor Login Required\)](#)

**Notice of Nondiscrimination:** Baylor College of Medicine is committed to a safe and supportive learning and working environment for its learners, faculty and staff. College policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, veteran status, disability or genetic information. Harassment based on any of these classifications is a form of discrimination and also violates College policy (02.2.25, 02.2.26) and will not be tolerated. In some circumstances, such discriminatory harassment also may violate federal, state or local law.

## Living Our Values

Baylor College of Medicine is committed to the values of integrity, respect, teamwork, innovation, and excellence. Should you face situations that do not align with our values, resources are available to help you with interpersonal or personal challenges.

[Find Resources.](#)

# Release of Information

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Baylor College of Medicine adheres to the [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, or FERPA](#), which affords students over 18 years of age certain rights with respect to their student records.

- The right to inspect and review the student's education record.
- The right to request the amendment of the student's education record that the student believes are inaccurate or misleading.
- The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent (directory information).
- The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by Baylor College of Medicine to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

Students may request in writing that Baylor College of Medicine withhold their directory information from inquiring educational sources. Directory Information includes but is not limited to:

Name, local address and telephone number, major field of study, dates of attendance, class schedules, degrees granted and graduation dates, class standing, Baylor e-mail address.

Official Grades may only be transmitted from Baylor College of Medicine to another institution through an official transcript issued by the Office of the Registrar.

If a student requests a letter of recommendation, the individual faculty member may state only the official letter grade received in the course and a narrative. Official letter grades are Honors, High Pass, Pass, Marginal Pass and Fail. Departments and faculty of Baylor may not transmit any numerical grade to another institution or individual faculty member.

Departments may discuss grades with individual students and release an individual sealed, confidential report to each student. Departments may post or release general information about course grades including: mean scores and grade distributions; however, Federal Law prohibits the general posting or group release of individual grade information which in any way identifies individual students including the use of a code.

Read the [BCM Student Notification of Family Education Rights and Privacy Act \(FERPA\)](#).

Read about the [BCM Student Records Policy](#) (login required).

# Organization and Governance

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## Executive Offices



### Office of the President

Dr. Paul Klotman is the President, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Dean of Baylor College of Medicine. The President has responsibility for all decision-making that affects the academic policies and administrative operations of the School, and for reporting directly to the Board of Trustees. Serving under the President's authority are the Department Chairs and Center and Institute Directors, the Deans, Associate Deans and Assistant Deans, and the Executive Leadership Team.



### Office of the Provost

Baylor College of Medicine's Provost and SVP of Academic and Faculty Affairs, Dr. Alicia Monroe, serves as the College's chief academic officer. Working closely with the president and the deans, the Office of the Provost provides centralized infrastructure to leverage resources across the institution, design and apply research for evidence-based approaches, and ensure a highly efficient, effective organization in which all our initiatives are aligned with our mission, vision and values. The Office of the Provost provides oversight to meet the needs of students and faculty across the College.

## Dean, School of Medicine





Jennifer

Christner

**M.D.**  
Dean

[View Profile](#)

Dr. Jennifer Christner serves as the dean of the School of Medicine. This position reports to the President, CEO and Executive Dean of the College with general oversight responsibility for the offices of Admissions, Student Affairs, Curriculum, Graduate Medical Education and Continuing Medical Education.

This position is responsible for the academic programs of the School of Medicine, including the M.D. Degree program, Dual degree programs, Graduate Medical Education programs, Continuing Medical Education programs and Baccalaureate/M.D. programs.

## Office of Curriculum



### Associate Dean, Curriculum

Nadia Ismail, M.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.



### Associate Dean, Foundational Sciences

J. Clay Goodman, M.D.

### Assistant Dean, Evaluation, Assessment and Education Research

Joel Purkiss, Ph.D.



### Assistant Dean, Interprofessional Education

Anne Gill, D.Ph., M.S., R.N.



### Medical Director, Simulation and Standardized Patient Program

M. Tyson Pillow, M.D., M.Ed.



### Director, Simulation and Standardized Patient Program

Kelly Poszywak, M.S.



### Director, Foundational Sciences

David R. Rowley, Ph.D.



### Director, Clinical Sciences

Stacey Rubin Rose, M.D.

## Office of Student Affairs



### Associate Dean, Student Affairs

Joseph Kass, M.D., J.D., F.A.A.H.



[Assistant Dean, Student Affairs](#)

Edward Lee Poythress, M.D.



[Assistant Dean, Student Affairs](#)

Andrea Gail Stolar, M.D.



[Sr. Director, Student Affairs](#)

John Rapp, M.Ed.

**Sr. Administrative Coordinator**

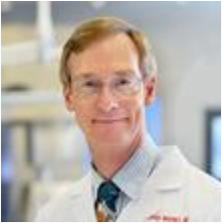
Yvette R. Pinales



## Sr. Administrative Coordinator

Dianne Ohnstad, B.B.A.

## Dual Degree Programs



Stephen Whitney, M.D., M.B.A.



## M.D./J.D. Program Director

Susan Raine, M.D., J.D., L.L.M.



Julieana Nichols, M.D., M.P.H.



## Director, Medical Scientist Training Program

Sharon Plon, M.D., Ph.D.



Medical Scientist Training Program Administrative Operations Director

Krista Defalco, M.H.A., M.B.A.

# Committees with Student Involvement

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The following Committees have student members: Curriculum, Admissions and Student Services. Students are encouraged to participate.

Students on [At Risk Status, Academic Probation or on Suspension](#) may not serve on these official college committees.

Read more about all [Baylor Standing Committees](#) (BCM login required).

## Curriculum Committee

The Curriculum Committee has the integrated institutional authority to oversee and direct the overall design, management and evaluation of a coherent and coordinated curriculum for the medical education program. In collaboration and partnership with the Curriculum Office deans, it ensures faculty, medical student, and administrative participation; utilizes expertise in curricular design, pedagogy, and evaluation methods; and leverages empowerment, from bylaws to work in the best interests of the institution without regard for parochial or political influences or departmental pressures.

[Read more](#) about the Curriculum Committee.

## Admissions Committee

The Admissions Committee seeks those applicants possessing the academic and personal qualities conducive to furthering the high standards and ethics, of the profession of medicine. The committee recognizes that these goals are fully realized when the richness and diversity of our society is reflected in the graduating classes of the College. Accordingly, the committee seeks to attain a student of the highest caliber which reflects the educational, cultural, and ethnic diversity of our society. Medical students are eligible to assist in committee activities in recruiting, meeting and interviewing applicants selected, and upper classmen are full voting members of the Admissions Committee.

## Student Services Committee

Students from all the schools at Baylor College of Medicine serve on committees that help ensure that resources and initiatives are meeting the needs of the students they are designed to support.

# Academic Standards and Requirements

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## Standards

- [Compact between Teachers, Learners, and Educational Staff](#)
- [Attendance/Participation and Absences](#)
- [Leave of Absence/Change in Status](#)
- [Medical Student Professionalism](#)
- [Technical Standards](#)
- [Academic Standards & Progression](#)

## Academic Schedules and Calendars

Current students can view the curriculum schedule and additional content on the Baylor Intranet (login required). [View the schedules and calendars](#). (BCM Intranet Login required)



# Requirements for the Degree Doctor of Medicine

On the recommendation of the faculty, the President of the Baylor College of Medicine confers the degree Doctor of Medicine on students who satisfactorily complete the School of Medicine curriculum, demonstrate the intellectual, professional, and interpersonal skills to function as a physician, and adhere to the high moral and ethical standards of the noble profession of medicine.

A student must first earn credit in each of the required courses in the [foundational sciences curriculum](#) before progressing to the [clinical curriculum](#). Students typically complete the foundational sciences curriculum in 18 months but must complete this portion of the curriculum in more than 30 months from original matriculation date or risk dismissal from the School of Medicine.

Only students who have earned credit for each component of the foundational sciences curriculum (including passing the NBME Comprehensive Basic Science Examination) within the prescribed time frame are allowed to advance to the [clinical curriculum](#). During the clinical curriculum, a student must earn credit for each of the core clinical clerkships, a sub-internship, selectives, electives, CABS, DDASH, and APEX. In addition, a student must pass [USMLE Step 1 and USMLE Step 2 CK](#) as well as the BCM CPX examination. Students typically complete the clinical curriculum in 30 months but must complete this portion of the curriculum in 42 months or risk dismissal from the School of Medicine.

Unless part of a dual degree or other academic or professional program approved by the Committee on Student Promotions and Academic Achievement, students typically complete the entire School of Medicine curriculum in 46 months from matriculation but must complete the entire curriculum within 72 months of the original matriculation date or face dismissal from the School of Medicine. [Apply for Step 1 and Step 2 CK through NBME on NLES \(NBME Licensing Examination Services\)](#).

**Note:** Updated graduation requirements include recent Curriculum Committee approved changes/waivers due to COVID-19.

## Core Competency Graduation Goals

- [Core Competency Graduation Goals](#)

## Graduation Requirements by Year

- [Graduation Requirements 2021 Graduates](#)

- [Graduation Requirements 2022 Graduates](#)
- [Graduation Requirements 2023 Graduates](#)
- [Graduation Requirements 2024 Graduates](#)

# Attendance/Participation and Absences

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During all phases of training (Foundational and Clinical), students may be excused for necessary health care services to maintain their physical and mental well-being (such as preventive health services, care for chronic illnesses, physical therapy and counseling / psychological services).

Students must communicate planned absences to the course coordinator, course director or other supervisors as outlined in the guidelines for Foundational Sciences Curriculum, Clinical Curriculum and Clinical Rotation Absence Guidelines sections below. Students need not disclose the specific type of healthcare that is being sought. A student's decision to seek healthcare during a foundational or clinical course should have no impact on his or her performance evaluation or grade for the course.

# School of Medicine Technical Standards

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**A.** Baylor College of Medicine’s School of Medicine seeks to produce highly skilled and compassionate doctors. Medical students are expected to develop a robust medical knowledge base and the requisite clinical skills, with the ability to appropriately apply their knowledge and skills, effectively interpret information, and contribute to patient centered decisions across a broad spectrum of medical situations and settings.

**B.** The following technical standards have been formally adopted by the School of Medicine. School of Medicine faculty members, through service on school committees, apply these standards when selecting, retaining, promoting, and graduating candidates. Candidates for the M.D. degree program must demonstrate abilities and skills with respect to observation, communication, motor, intellectual-conceptual, integrative, and quantitative abilities, behavioral and social attributes, and ethical standards and professional expectations as described below. Candidates must acknowledge that fulfillment of the technical standards required for graduation from the School of Medicine does not guarantee that a graduate will be able to fulfill the technical requirements of any specific residency program.

**C.** A qualified candidate with a disability is one who is able to meet the degree program’s admission, academic, and technical standards with or without reasonable accommodation. Candidates with disabilities are strongly encouraged to contact the Office of Title IX and Disability Services early in the application process to begin a confidential consultation about accommodations that may be required. Candidates must acknowledge their personal responsibility to initiate disability accommodation procedures.

## Stakeholders Affected by this Policy

All BCM faculty appointed and/or elected to serve on a SOM committee will apply with these standards when evaluating candidates for admission, retention, promotion, and graduation. All candidates for admission, promotion, and graduation must meet these standards (i.e., demonstrate requisite skills and abilities) with or without reasonable accommodation.

## Definitions

- BCM – Baylor College of Medicine.
- Candidate – individual who is an applicant for admission to or a currently enrolled student seeking promotion or graduation in the BCM SOM M.D. Degree Program.
- M.D. – Doctor of Medicine.

- SOM – School of Medicine.
- Technical Standards – personal attributes and capabilities that are essential to an individual’s eligibility for admission to, participation in, and graduation from the BCM SOM M.D. Degree Program.

## Policy

A. Technical Standards. In addition to admission and academic standards provided in the M.D. Program Handbook and other BCM policies, these technical standards establish criteria by which all candidates for admission, retention, promotion and graduation from the School of Medicine will be assessed. Consistent with the requirements of the [Background Checks and Criminal Convictions Policy for Program Applicants and Current Students \(23.1.00\)](#), it is a breach of professional conduct for provisionally accepted applicants or currently enrolled BCM students to knowingly misrepresent their skills or abilities or to otherwise provide false information for purposes of admission, academic assessment, promotion, or graduation.

1. Observation Skills and Abilities. Candidates must acquire information through demonstrations and experiences in the foundational sciences. In addition, Candidates must be able to evaluate patients accurately and assess their relevant health, behavioral, and medical information. Candidates must be able to obtain and interpret information through a comprehensive assessment of patients, correctly interpret diagnostic representations of patients’ physiologic data, and accurately evaluate patients’ conditions and responses.
2. Communication Skills and Abilities. Candidates must exhibit interpersonal skills that enable effective caregiving of patients, including the ability to communicate effectively both in person and in writing with all members of a multidisciplinary health care team, patients, and those supporting patients. Candidates must be able to record information clearly and accurately and interpret verbal and nonverbal communication accurately.
3. Motor Skills and Abilities. Candidates must perform routine clinical skills including physical examination, diagnostic maneuvers, and procedures. Under the appropriate supervision of a licensed physician, candidates must be able to provide or direct general care and emergency treatment for patients and respond to emergency situations in a timely manner. Candidates must meet applicable safety standards for the environment and follow universal precaution procedures.
4. Intellectual-Conceptual, integrative, and Quantitative Abilities. Candidates must effectively interpret, assimilate, and understand the complex information required to function within the medical school curriculum, including, but not limited to, the ability to comprehend three-dimensional relationships and understand the spatial relationships of structures; effectively participate in individual, small-group, and lecture learning modalities in the classroom, clinical, and community settings; learn, participate, collaborate, and contribute as a part of a team; synthesize information both in person and via remote technology; interpret causal connections and make accurate, fact-based conclusions based on available data and information; formulate a hypothesis and investigate potential answers and outcomes; and reach appropriate and accurate conclusions.
5. Behavioral and Social Attributes. Candidates must exercise good judgment; promptly complete all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients; and develop mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients. The skills required to do so include the ability to handle and manage heavy workloads effectively, function effectively under stress, adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and learn to function in the face of the uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of patients. Candidates are expected to exhibit professionalism; personal accountability; compassion; integrity; concern for others; and interpersonal skills, including the ability to accept and apply feedback,

to respect boundaries, and care for all individuals in a respectful and effective manner regardless of gender identity, age, race, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or any other protected status.

6. Ethical Standards and Professional Expectations. Candidates must adhere to the legal and ethical aspects of the practice of medicine, and maintain and display ethical and moral behaviors commensurate with the role of a physician in all interactions with patients, those who support patients, faculty, staff, students, and the public. Interest and motivation throughout the educational processes are also expected of all candidates and students.

## **B. Accommodations for Candidates with Disabilities.**

1. Disclosure of Disability. Disclosure of disability status is voluntary. Candidates who do not believe they require disability services may choose not to disclose their disability. BCM is not obligated to identify Candidates who may have a disability, nor is any Candidate obligated to inform BCM that they have a disability. However, Candidates are responsible for notifying BCM of their disability if they require disability-related services.
2. Requests for Reasonable Accommodation. Candidates with a disability who may be entitled to reasonable accommodation pursuant to state and federal laws, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (as amended in 2008) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, must contact the Office of Title IX and Disability Services (713-798-8646 or [disability@bcm.edu](mailto:disability@bcm.edu)) to request accommodations. The Office of Title IX and Disability Services will grant requests for accommodations that are reasonable, do not cause a fundamental alteration of the M.D. degree program or an undue hardship on the College, and are consistent with the standards of the medical profession. Consult the [Student Disability Policy \(23.1.07\)](#) for more information.

## **Responsibilities**

School of Medicine faculty must implement this policy's standards across the educational continuum, primarily through the operation of the SOM Admissions, Curriculum, and Student Promotions & Academic Achievement Committees. It is the responsibility of all elected and appointed members to these faculty committees to interpret and apply the standards in individual cases. The Office of Title IX and Disability Services handles sensitive personal information necessary to document disabilities, reviews accommodation requests, and grants reasonable accommodations.

## **Procedures for Implementation and Review**

This policy may be reviewed and revised as necessary to maintain compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and standards or changes in BCM operations, but at least every three years.

## **Stakeholder Compliance**

Questions regarding this policy's technical standards, what constitutes a "disability" under applicable laws, or how to request reasonable accommodation(s) in order to meet technical or other academic

standards should be directed to the Office of Title IX and Disability Services (713-798-8646 or [disability@bcm.edu](mailto:disability@bcm.edu)).

# M.D. Program Curriculum

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In addition to the pages in this section of the handbook, important information about the M.D. Program curriculum can also be found on the following:

## [Elective Program](#)

The electives listing gives students the opportunity to select approximately 25 percent of their medical curriculum and thereby places a major share of the responsibility for determining the direction of the educational effort directly on the student. To provide the student with wide latitude in designing their elective program, the faculty offers a wide variety of elective courses.

## [Pathways](#)

Baylor College of Medicine has developed pathways to help students explore their interests and customize their education to match their career goals.

## [Curriculum Committee](#)

The Curriculum Committee has the integrated institutional authority to oversee and direct the overall design, management and evaluation of a coherent and coordinated curriculum for the medical education program, which is codified by decanal mandate.

## [Dual Degrees](#)

View options for pursuing a dual degree while in the M.D. program at Baylor College of Medicine.

## Academic Schedules/Calendars

Current students can view the curriculum schedule and additional content on the Baylor Intranet (login required).

[View Schedules And Calendars](#)



# Foundational Sciences Curriculum

Medical students are expected to remain in academic residence during the published academic terms (i.e., reside in the Houston vicinity). Personal time away from Baylor College of Medicine School of Medicine, within the timeframe of required academic activities without prior approval, is considered a breach of professionalism. As described in the Student Handbook, personal time away during an academic term will require prior approval from the Dean of the Medical School or designee and will not be granted without cause (e.g., emergencies, natural disaster, and illness). **Requests for planned absences, within a term, must be submitted for consideration no later than two weeks prior to the start of the term.**

Furthermore, while a student is actively enrolled in the School of Medicine, attendance and participation in SOM courses takes precedence over all other obligations including but not limited to enrollment in courses outside the SOM (both online and in person) and SOM committee participation.

Foundational sciences courses entail a variety of educational experiences, each with its own attendance requirement. Unless otherwise specified in a Course Overview Document, attendance at lectures is recommended and expected but not is not mandatory. However, streaming services of individual classes is not an enumerated right. Technical difficulties or system failures may occur, and it is the responsibility of the student to become familiar with that content if they choose not to attend a lecture session.

Educational experiences such as laboratories, active learning sessions, team-based learning sessions, live patient sessions (even when occurring in a large lecture hall), clinical preceptorship experiences, and other small group learning activities require in person attendance. Active learning sessions – such as those involving patients or faculty panels, may change on short notice that is not predictable. It is the expectation that students, unless they have already received prior approval to be absent, will be available for any rearranging of sessions in a course within their academic residence.

Course directors may factor satisfactory attendance in deriving a student's final course grade and may limit absences. The criteria for satisfactory attendance and the impact of attendance on a student's final course grade are specified in the Course Overview Document of each course.

**Revised April 18, 2019.**

# Clinical Curriculum

Students who register for Clinical Rotations (Clerkships, Sub-Internships, Selectives, and Electives) are expected to honor their commitment to the course. **A student desiring to change their schedule must adhere to the [add/drop policy](#) (outlined under academic policies).** Clinical Rotation (including research) may be added four weeks prior to the start of the rotation. Clinical rotations must be dropped six weeks prior to the start of the rotation. Students must complete the requisite form, which must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar prior to the start of the rotation.

**Attendance and full participation during all aspects of Clinical Rotations, Electives, DDASH, APEX and any other clinical year(s) required course are expected and considered an important part of the student's responsibility and education. Furthermore, attendance and participation are both important components in the evaluation of student performance.**

Students form an integral part of the hospital or office team and are accorded real roles based on the expectation that they will be there to fulfill their educational and patient care responsibilities. For this reason, it is expected that absences from clinical rotations will be minimal and only for legitimate reasons that are described below (Clinical Rotation Absence Guidelines).

**All students are required to be present on the first day of a Clinical Rotation.** Participation in the orientation session of a new Clinical Rotation is mandatory since important information regarding Clinical Rotation expectations and procedures is covered on the first day. Course expectations and attendance requirements for all Clinical Rotations are determined and recorded by the department. In addition, students are expected to remain available to discharge clinical responsibilities until 5 p.m. of the final day of the applicable quarter, term, month or two-week selective.

In addition to following the Guidelines on Clinical Rotation Absences, the student must provide a written physician's note to the Office of Student Affairs for medical absences. This letter should not contain Private Medical Information.

## [Religious Holiday and Activity Absence Guidelines](#)

Students will not be scheduled to perform clinical duties on [official Baylor College of Medicine holidays](#).

# Examinations

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All web-based [Medical School Clinical National Board Subject Examinations \(NBME\)](#) are managed by the Office of Evaluation, Assessment and Education Research. All students must provide their own laptop in order to take these examinations, as well as the Comprehensive Basic Science Exam given at the end of Foundational Sciences classes during the second year of medical school.

The Office of the Curriculum is responsible for the management of all Foundational Sciences examinations. View [Foundational Sciences examination schedule](#).

[View the NBME Clinical Exam Schedule](#).

The [Simulation Program](#) is responsible for the management of all simulation activities and exams.

Students are expected to complete and pass all medical school exams as defined in individual courses and clerkships.

For foundational sciences exams, students will not be permitted to bring backpacks, notes, purses, bags, electronic devices (including cell phones, smart watches, or calculators) or medical equipment into the exam testing area unless otherwise indicated by exam proctor prior to exam. Students should leave these items at home or in the lockers assigned to them by Student Affairs. For clinical exams, students are required to bring laptops, as the exams are administered electronically. Other items will not be permitted in the examination area. For Simulation exams and activities, no personal items (except stethoscopes) or outside notes will be allowed into the exam room.

Students are required to act with integrity while taking all medical school examinations. Contents of all exams are considered confidential and are not to be shared with other students through verbal or written communications. In addition, the use of outside materials (i.e. written materials, electronic devices) is strictly forbidden on all exams (except in specific cases, in which the students will be notified by the exam proctor ahead of exam). Failure to adhere to these policies could result in corrective actions up to and including dismissal from Baylor College of Medicine.

## Exam Absence

Students are required to sit for examinations as scheduled. Unauthorized absences will result in a grade of Fail for the examination.

If a student is ill, he/she will be required to have the student's own personal physician submit a written report of the illness, without including private health information, to a dean in the Office of Student Affairs to be granted an authorized absence. In cases of emergencies (e.g., death of immediate family member) or a conflict with religious holiday a dean in the Office of Student Affairs must be notified and may authorize absence from the examination. The dean in the Office of Student Affairs will notify the applicable curricular faculty and/or clerkship directors of any emergency or excused absences.

Students who have an excused absence from a foundational sciences or clinical course examination for any reason are required to notify the Office of Student Affairs and to find out the date and time of the make-up examination. Dates and times of make-up examinations are determined by the Office of Student Affairs/The Office of the Curriculum.

Students who will be absent from a Simulation exam or activity must immediately contact a dean in the Office of Student Affairs who will notify the Simulation Program manager, as well as the course/clerkship director and course coordinator to determine the appropriate course of action.

The Office of Student Affairs will provide the student with a written summary of the plan and any action items.

## Exam Tardiness

Students should report to the exam area in advance of the scheduled exam, as communicated in email prior to the exam by the exam proctor.

Students who are late for pre-clerkship exams should quietly enter the exam testing area and check in with the proctor at the front of the room. If a student is late, he/she will be required to sign an Exam Observation Form. Should the student be late two or more times, he/she will be reported to a dean in the Office of Student Affairs and the PACE Committee.

Students who arrive late for clinical exams (CBSE and NBME Shelf Exams) will not be permitted to enter the exam testing area and will need to report to a dean of Student Affairs. The student will be responsible for rescheduling the exam with the dean.

Students who are late for required Simulation activities and exams may not be permitted to take the exam and may be required to pay a rescheduling fee. The rescheduled date will be determined by the course director and Simulation Program manager. The student will be required to pay the rescheduling fee at the time of the make up exam.

## Exam Accommodations

Read about [requesting accommodations](#).

## Foundational Sciences Curriculum

Examinations in all foundational sciences courses are given officially only at the conclusion of each term. Course directors are responsible for informing students in writing at the beginning of the course the relevant weight to be given to various examinations and evaluation procedures used to determine the final grade. The number of hours of examination in a course is usually proportional to the amount of time given to the course in the curriculum.

In general, multiple choice examinations will follow the format of the National Board of Medical Examiners. Narrative evaluations may be submitted by course directors for foundational sciences courses but are not obligatory.

At the conclusion of the foundational sciences curriculum, all students are required to take the web based Comprehensive Basic Science Examination (CBSE) developed by the National Board of Medical Examiners. A passing grade is required on this examination before a student can begin core clinical clerkships.

Students failing to receive a passing grade are offered a make-up examination usually administered in February of a student's second year. The repercussions for failure to pass the Comprehensive Examination a second time is left to the discretion of the Committee on Student Promotions and Academic Achievement, but may result in a student repeating a substantial part of the foundational sciences curriculum.

# Core Clinical Clerkships and Electives

A grade and narrative summary are rendered by the faculty for all academic work on the [Core Clinical Clerkships](#) and full-time clinical electives. Departmental examinations, oral examinations and clinical skills examinations may be required at the discretion of the department and the course director.

National Board Subject Examinations are required in the Core Clerkships of Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Psychiatry, Neurology and Family Medicine (Family Medicine began in the 2015-2016 academic year) are administered by the Office Evaluation, Assessment, and Education Research. Subject examinations are given at the conclusion of the clerkship.

The weight given to the National Board Subject Examination in determining the final grade is at the discretion of the department. However, a passing grade is required of each student before a final grade for the course can be entered on the student's transcript. All make-up and repeat examinations of the National Board Subject Examinations for course work taken during the first three years of enrollment must be completed by June of the year prior to the students' graduation.

Any grade of Fail, Incomplete, or Deferred rendered during the students last year of enrollment must, in any event, be cleared of all course requirements by April of the year of graduation. This policy has been established by the Committee on Student Promotions and Academic Achievement, so that all Incomplete and Deferred grades would be cleared by July of the student's senior year. It also allows these grades to be included on transcripts and dean's letters required for residency applications. There are no exceptions to these policies.

National Board Subject Examinations are given on the last day of the respective rotation. All students are required to take the web based examination at the conclusion of the rotation. Examinations can be changed only with the permission of a dean in the Office of Student Affairs. The student is responsible for scheduling the make-up examination with a dean in the Office of Student Affairs. **At the time of the make-up examination, the student must be officially enrolled at Baylor.**

*Revised Nov. 15, 2017*

# Satisfactory Academic Progress and Criteria for Academic Advancement

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- [Examinations](#)
- [Grading Policy](#)
- [Grade Verification and Grade Appeal](#)
- [Adding or Dropping Courses in Medical School](#)
- [Clinical Rotation Scheduling Guidelines](#)
- [Transcripts](#)
- [Criteria for Academic Advancement](#)
- [Defining and Awarding Course Credit](#)
- [USMLE License Exam \(Step 1 and Step 2CK\) Guidelines](#)
- [Academic Performance for Financial Aid Eligibility](#)

## Satisfactory Academic Progress

All medical students enrolled at the Baylor College of Medicine are considered to be making satisfactory academic progress unless otherwise determined by their respective Committee on Student Promotions and Academic Achievement. Satisfactory academic progress in the various health professions education programs is an eligibility criteria for all students who receive Title IV student financial assistance.

Students on [At Risk Status, Academic Probation or on Suspension](#) may not serve on official college committees. While on At Risk Status, Academic Probation or on Suspension it is highly recommended that a student closely evaluate their extra-curricular activities and their impact on academic performance.

## Withdrawal from the College

A student who wishes to withdraw must personally meet with a dean in Student Affairs and submit a letter indicating his/her withdrawal.

The official academic record of a student, who does not officially withdraw from the College, will not be released until the student has obtained required departmental signatures on the clearance process (checkout) form and finalizes the procedure in the Office of the Registrar.

# Reinstatement

A student who wishes to be re-admitted to Baylor College of Medicine should apply to the Office of Admissions in the same way as any new applicant. The Office of Admissions shall have available to it the student's entire permanent record at Baylor College of Medicine. The committee may request any additional information which might help them in their decision. This might include documentation of additional academic and work experience, medical and psychiatric data, etc.

This procedure is applicable to the following:

- Students dismissed for academic reasons
- Students who have withdrawn from Baylor College of Medicine



# Credit Hour Policy

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This policy generally defines credit hours as well as specific credit hour requirements for degree programs. Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) is a private, health-sciences university composed of four schools offering graduate level programs in the health sciences. Because each school has unique programs featuring differing methods of instruction, this policy is intended to offer guidance on how academic credit is awarded. In addition, the policy provides overall guidance on the number of credits required for the Doctor of Medicine degree.

Read more about the [Credit Hour Policy](#) (login required).

# Academic Standards of Progress for Financial Aid Eligibility

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All medical students enrolled at Baylor College of Medicine are considered to be making satisfactory progress unless otherwise determined by the Committee on Student Promotions and Academic Achievement.

This policy has been developed to ensure that the BCM Student Financial Aid Program meets or exceeds the requirements set forth by federal regulations governing Academic Standards of Progress for Financial Aid Eligibility for students who receive Title IV funding.

## Scope

This policy applies to those students receiving Title IV financial aid. The policy may also serve as a guide to regulate non-Title IV or private funding.

## General Requirements

### Time Limits on Financial Aid Eligibility

A student will be permitted a time limit of 150 percent the length of the standard required length of study as a full-time student to complete the program for which he or she is enrolled.

Program name: **Doctor of Medicine/Research Track**. Standard: 60 Months. Maximum: 90 Months

Program name: **Doctor of Medicine/Joint Doctorate GSBS**. Standard: 96 Months. Maximum: 144 Months

Program name: **Doctor of Medicine/Joint Masters**. Standard: 63 Months. Maximum: 95 Months

Program name: **Doctor of Medicine/Joint Doctorate**. Standard: 84 Months. Maximum: 126 Months

Transfer students completing only the Clinical Phase of training at Baylor College of Medicine will be permitted a time limit of 150 percent the length of the standard required length of study to complete the clinical phase.

Program name: **Clinical Phase - Doctor of Medicine**. Standard: 24 Months. Maximum: 36 Months

There is no lightened-load program at Baylor College of Medicine. Students in joint degree programs are considered less than half-time, but are progressing at a full-time pace while enrolled in the other program.

Students electing a leave of absence for academic or personal reasons will be measured for financial aid eligibility based on the timeline during their full-time academic enrollment only.

A student failing to meet completion of the program by the maximum permitted time will be suspended from financial aid eligibility.

## Completion of Course Requirements

**Each student will be evaluated for Academic Progress at 5 points during their academic career:**

January, upon completion of Fall 1

July, upon completion of Spring 1

January, upon completion of Fall 2

June 30, upon completion of the MS2 year

June 30, MS3 students with incomplete requirement

## Grade Requirements

Baylor College of Medicine's School of Medicine does not measure academic progress by means of a cumulative grade point average. The student is required to complete all required courses in the curriculum with a passing grade in order to graduate. Therefore, grade performance as a measure of satisfactory academic progress for financial aid eligibility must be reviewed in the context of each course for which the student registers. The standards of academic progress are based on the guidelines used by the Committee on Student Promotion and Academic Achievement, who determine whether a student is making Satisfactory Academic Progress. The following standards for financial aid eligibility have been established:

### **Medical Students**

A student's academic progress for financial aid purposes will be reviewed in accordance with the guidelines used by Committee on Student Promotion and Academic Achievement. Any student required to remediate or repeat coursework will be reviewed by the Office of Student Financial Aid at the end of Fall 1, Spring 1 and Fall 2. Third and fourth year students will be reviewed on advice from

the Committee on Student Promotion and Academic Achievement. If a student has not achieved satisfactory academic progress, the Office of Student Financial Aid will be notified by written notification from an associate dean in Student Affairs.

## Appeals of Financial Aid Probation or Suspension

A student placed on probation or suspension may submit a written appeal to the Financial Aid Subcommittee of the Student Services Committee (a) reasons why he/she did not achieve minimum academic standards and (b) reasons why his/her aid eligibility should not be terminated or should be reinstated if the aid has been terminated. Each appeal will be considered on its own merit. Individual cases will not be considered as a precedent. The financial aid process will be on hold and funding will not be provided for the individual student during the process of an appeal of suspension.

The Financial Aid Subcommittee will review the appeal within three weeks of its receipt and determine if exceptional circumstances exist. The Office of Student Financial Aid will be advised in writing of the decision within one week of the appeal's consideration. A student wishing to appeal the Financial Aid Committee to the Dean of Medical Education may do so in accordance with these procedures:

- A written appeal must be sent to the Dean, School of Medicine within two weeks of the Financial Aid Subcommittee's decision.
- The Dean, School of Medicine will review the student's appeal and communicate his decision to the Financial Aid Subcommittee.
- The Financial Aid Subcommittee will notify the student in writing of a final decision within one week.

## Reinstatement

A student shall be reinstated for financial aid eligibility at such time as he or she successfully remediates any deficiency in meeting eligibility requirements as set forth in this policy. The Office of Student Financial Aid will confirm with the Registrar the ruling made by the Committee on Student Promotions and Academic Achievement indicating whether the student has met the minimum requirements for reinstatement.

## Enforcement

The Office of the Dean of Medicine shall have the primary responsibility for enforcing this policy. The Office of the Registrar and the Office of Student Financial Aid and other offices that maintain student information relevant to the enforcement shall provide information, when requested by the dean of Medicine.

# Committee on Student Promotions and Academic Achievement

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The Committee on Student Promotions and Academic Achievement (MDPC) is the standing committee of the School of Medicine (SOM) of Baylor College of Medicine charged with monitoring medical student performance in and progression through the SOM curriculum and ensuring that all students graduating from the SOM meet the academic and professionalism standards required for the degree Doctor of Medicine (MD).

The MDPC is composed of voting members, who are faculty members representing both the Foundational Sciences curriculum and the Clinical Sciences curriculum, as well as non-voting (ex officio) members, who are deans from the Office of Student Affairs and the Office of Curriculum.

The MDPC is responsible for ensuring that every student satisfactorily completes each required element of the SOM curriculum, meets all requirements for promotion from one year of study to the next year of study, and ultimately satisfies all the requirements for the degree Doctor of Medicine prior to graduation. The MDPC reviews the academic progress and professional development of each student at multiple time points from matriculation to graduation. Grades, examination scores, narrative summaries, and professional conduct and development are assessed to ensure each student's successful progresses through the curriculum appropriately.

The MDPC also establishes remediation plans for students experiencing either academic or professionalism-related difficulties and takes adverse action in circumstances when a student's academic performance or professional behavior fails to meet established standards.

## **[Get important information](#) in regard to:**

- MDPC Task Responsibilities
- BCM Student Progression and Adverse Action Policy
- At Risk and Adverse Action Determination (Academic Probation, Suspension, Dismissal)
- [Charge](#)
- [Student Progression and Adverse Action Policy \(login required\)](#)

# Transcripts (Official Grades)

## Foundational Sciences Curriculum

All final grades appear on official college transcripts. In the foundational sciences curriculum, final grades are not available on the Student Portal until the course is completed, the term examination is taken and grades are approved by the Promotions Committee. Clinical core/selective and elective grades are posted on the Student Portal, as they are submitted to the Office of the Registrar.

When a completed course has been failed, the grade of (F) becomes part of the student's official transcript. Performance and subsequent work for the same course will appear on the transcript when work is satisfactorily completed. A transcript will reflect all remedial and repeat grades. If a course is failed and a student takes a remedial examination the highest grade that can be achieved is a pass. If a course is repeated in its entirety, then any grade may be achieved.

Example:

XXXX F

XXXX (Remedial) P

XXXX F

XXXX (Repeat) H

or

XXXX F

XXXX (Remedial) F

XXXX (Repeat) H

## Clinical Curriculum

In Core Clinical Clerkships a final grade is not rendered until a student has successfully completed all course requirements and achieved a passing score on the National Board Subject Examination. If all course requirements have not been met, a grade of "I" (Incomplete) will appear on the transcript.

If all course requirements have been completed, but performance on one or more components was unsatisfactory (eg. a student's score on the National Board Examination was a Failure), a grade of Deferred "D" will appear on the transcript.

A student who fails a NBME clinical subject exam on a repeat attempt will be required to repeat the core rotation. He/she will receive a grade of Fail, which appears on the official transcript. If a student fails the NBME clinical subject exam on the third attempt, they are subject to dismissal.

All outstanding grades must be cleared before graduating.

## House Bill 449 (Fall 2019)

Ineligibility to reenroll for reasons other than financial and academic will result in a transcript notation. If a student withdraws during a pending disciplinary process that may result in the student's ineligibility to reenroll at BCM, BCM shall continue the disciplinary process until there is a final determination of responsibility. The student's transcript may be updated accordingly once a final determination of responsibility has been made.

# Student Health, Wellness & Career Success

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Student health, wellness, and career success are priorities at both the College and School of Medicine (SOM) levels. The College's [Office of Student Services](#) provides a wide range of services for all Baylor students to promote these priorities, such as the following:

- Academic excellence (Academic Success Center, Education Resource Center, etc.)
- Health and wellness (Student and Resident Mental Health Clinic, Baylor gym, etc.)
- Student engagement (Campus Committees, etc.)
- Financial assistance (Office of Student Financial Aid, Financial Education, etc.)
- Administrative support (Information Technology, Office of the Registrar, etc.)
- Diversity and inclusion (Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity Programs and resources, etc.)

The SOM recognizes that medical students have unique needs and has put in place robust programming to promote medical students' personal wellness and career success. A large cadre of faculty and staff work together to deliver structured wellness programming, academic and career counseling, academic support services, peer and faculty mentorship, elective and specialty choice counseling, and personal (non-clinical) counseling.

Major student health and wellness initiatives include the following:

- New student orientation events
- Peer Resource Network (PRN) program
- MS1 Wellness Curriculum
- MS2-3 Service Learning and Narrative Medicine Intersession
- MS Class Specific Financial Wellness Lectures
- Transition to Clinical Medicine Course
- Transition to MD Course (APEX)

Examples of programs promoting career success include the following:

- **Deans of Student Affairs:** Three deans of student affairs are available for individual meetings and even after hours for personal (non-clinical), academic, and career counseling. Each MS1 meets with a student affairs dean during the first semester of medical school for academic and career counseling, and each MS3 meets with a student affairs dean during the spring for career counseling and residency planning.
- **Dean's Hours:** There are regularly scheduled dean's hours that are held multiple times per year by both student affairs and curriculum deans and tailored to each class's academic and career trajectory.



- **Learning Community Advisors program:** Each medical student is assigned to one of six Learning Community Squads and to a faculty advisor with whom the student establishes a longitudinal relationship over the four years of medical school.
- **Specialty Specific Mentors program:** Each specialty has chosen faculty who have dedicated time and support to advise students about their specific specialty.
- **Student Interest Groups** representing each specialty and supervised by the Student Senate and the Office of Student Affairs run specialty-specific lecture programs, peer and faculty mentoring programs and skills workshops.

## Quick Resource Guide for Student Support Services

### Academic

- [Academic Success Center](#) offers group and individual sessions, online resources.  
Email: [academicsuccess@bcm.edu](mailto:academicsuccess@bcm.edu)
- Alpha Omega Alpha tutors offer one-on-one peer tutoring, study resources.  
Email: [AOATutor@bcm.edu](mailto:AOATutor@bcm.edu)
- [Texas Medical Center Library](#): Liaison librarians are available to help students with literature searchers and other library-related needs.

### Career Resources for Medical Students

- [Career Development Center](#): 713-798-5039  
Offers assistance with choosing a specialty, Curriculum Vitae preparation, personal statement review and mock interviews.

### Student Health and Wellness

- [Office of Ombuds](#): 713-798-5039  
Email: [ombudsoffice@bcm.edu](mailto:ombudsoffice@bcm.edu)
- [Student and House Staff Mental Health Service](#): 713-798-4881  
Counseling only: [student-help@bcm.edu](mailto:student-help@bcm.edu)
- [Title IX Services](#): 713-798-8137  
Email: [title-ix@bcm.edu](mailto:title-ix@bcm.edu)
- [Student Disability Services](#): 713-798-8137  
Email: [disability@bcm.edu](mailto:disability@bcm.edu)
- [WellConnect](#): 866-640-4777  
24/7 hotline for crisis counseling, mental health counseling, financial management resources, legal consultations and referrals for other resources in the community.  
**To access the hotline:** Go to the [website](#), select "Register," create a username and password, and enter the school code: R346.

## Health Requirements and Services

The Baylor [Occupational Health Program](#) and the [Office of Environmental Safety](#) (Baylor login required) help protect the health of medical students, from implementing and monitoring compliance with [pre-matriculation requirements](#) for vaccinations, to respirator fit testing, annual bloodborne pathogens and environmental hazards training and helping students who have been exposed to infectious agents while engaged in clinical activities.

## Insurance

See the [Student Handbook Insurance page](#) for information on health, dental, long-term disability and malpractice insurance.

## Personal Responsibility

Medical students, as members of the Baylor College of Medicine School of Medicine community, represent the College and the medical profession and are expected to maintain professional standards of behavior, including engaging in self-care. Key policies (Baylor login required) regarding student personal responsibility include:

- [Environmental Health and Safety](#)
- [Medical Student Exposure to Infectious and Environmental Hazards](#)
- [Respectful and Professional Learning Environment Policy: Standards for Student Conduct and College Oversight](#)
- [Social Media](#)
- [Learner Mistreatment](#)
- [Accommodation Procedures for Learners and Program Applicants with Disabilities](#)
- [Medical Student Access to Health Care Service](#)

## Reporting Patient Safety Incidents at Baylor Affiliated Institutions

- [Accident/Incident Reporting](#)
- [Reporting Patient Safety Incidents at Baylor Affiliated Institutions.](#)

## Infection Control (Needle Stick/Infectious Exposure)

Exposure to an infectious agent, such as a needle stick, is a frightening and anxiety-filled experience. Baylor works hard to ensure the safety of all community members through prevention education and adherence to exposure protocols. Students are educated about bloodborne pathogens and infectious exposures during new student orientation, through

mandatory annual retraining via the [Office of Environmental Safety](#) modules in Success Factors, and before each clinical rotation through review of procedures and protocols in each Course Overview Document. The Office of Environmental Safety also runs the [Mandatory Fit Testing Program \(BCM login required\)](#) to fit all students with appropriately sized N95 masks. Please reference the links provided (Baylor login required) for more information.

To safeguard personal health and safety and minimize the risk of infection, students experiencing an exposure to an infectious agent must follow the post-exposure protocol appropriate to the clinical site at which the exposure occurred.

Exposure: If you are exposed to a bloodborne or other infectious pathogen, the next steps you take are critical to minimizing risk to your health and safety. The College has an [OSHA Exposure Control Plan](#) that provides important details and follows national best practices. In the event of an infectious exposure, please follow the guidance below.

1. Exposure protocols vary at each clinical site. The major sites, such as Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, Texas Children's Hospital, Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center and Ben Taub Hospital, are listed on the [OHP web page](#). That page contains more detailed information.
2. Notify the hospital when an exposure occurs. Each facility has a different reporting mechanism. This information is on the OHP web page.
3. If a needlestick or other exposure to potentially infectious body fluids occurs, ensure the source patient's blood is obtained at the time of exposure and sent for testing. Each hospital has its own protocol for obtaining the source patient's blood. Response to exposures to airborne pathogens vary depending on the infectious disease (i.e. tuberculosis vs. meningococcal meningitis vs. COVID-19).
4. Notify OHP at 713-798-7880 at the time of exposure. OHP personnel are on-call 24/7. Make sure that you provide a good call-back number that works in your clinical setting.
5. Please ensure you discuss your exposure with OHP personnel. Post-exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) is not indicated following most exposures. However, when PEP is needed, time is of the essence in starting it. Additionally, OHP personnel know each hospital system well and can help navigate issues in real time.
6. You can always call one of the student affairs deans for help:  
Dr. Kass: 713-240-0069  
Dr. Poythress: 713-857-7600  
Dr. Stolar: 713-757-2411

[Medical Student Exposure to Infectious and Environmental Hazards Policy](#) (Baylor login required)

## Disclosure of History of Infectious or Communicable Illnesses

Students with either infectious or communicable illnesses or with an immune compromising condition should consult with the OHP (713-798-7880 or [ohp@bcm.edu](mailto:ohp@bcm.edu)) regarding the advisability of working with patients and other limitations or concerns related to clinical duties and educational activities. Refer to the [Medical Student Exposure to Infectious and Environmental Hazards Policy](#) for further details.

# Student Insurance

## Health and Dental

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Baylor College of Medicine believes student wellness is essential to academic progress and requires that all individuals enrolled in any Baylor academic program maintain medical coverage through the program or are enrolled in alternative coverage that meets the coverage requirements established by the College. The program ensures students have access to health and dental insurance to cover the costs of routine care and/or unexpected illness or injury.

The [2020-2021 Health Care Program for Students](#) document provides an overview of the program, including such information as the enrollment requirements, cost of coverage, how to access information about what is covered, not covered, and out-of-pocket expenses. There is also information about how to apply for a waiver of coverage under this program should you have coverage under another group health care program. Please take a few minutes to review this important information.

## Long-Term Disability for Medical Students

See the [Long-Term Disability Information document](#) for information.

## Malpractice

Students are covered by malpractice insurance while enrolled as a student performing duties on a core rotation or approved elective either at Baylor College of Medicine or elsewhere. The activity must be within the course and scope of your training for the malpractice coverage to apply. If you are uncertain about the status of an activity, you should consult with a dean in the Office of Student Affairs and the Office of Risk Management.

Activities aside from the above are not covered by Baylor College of Medicine malpractice insurance. Outside health care activities are not only risky from a malpractice standpoint, but are, in some instances, illegal. As such, they may lead to criminal prosecution, could prevent the granting of a license, and may result in dismissal from the College.

On any occasion where it could possibly be construed that there has been a deviation from ideal medical care, the patient has sustained a serious complication, or there is mention of litigation by the patient or family members, the student should immediately notify the Office of Risk Management at (713) 798-4509 and the chair of the department to which he or she is assigned. The chair of the

department will evaluate the incident and if, in his or her opinion the incident was significant, instruct the individual to complete the Professional Liability Incident Report form furnished by the Office of Risk Management.

# Leave of Absence/Change in Status Request

Students are expected to complete the course of study for the Degree Doctor of Medicine within four years. The College recognizes that some students may pursue additional educational opportunities or have other circumstances that prevent completion of the requirements in four years. Permissions and arrangements for any Leave of Absence (LOA), must be secured for any student who will require more than four years from matriculation to complete the course of study. A LOA may be granted for academic, medical, personal, or professional development (e.g. dual degree programs).

An administrative Leave of Absence (LOA) not to exceed one calendar year may be granted by a dean in the Office of Student Affairs. The reason for a leave must be stated in the LOA request form and supporting documentation attached. Reasons for taking an administrative LOA include, but are not limited to, educational endeavors at another institution of higher learning, financial distress of a student necessitating full-time employment, and illness in the family. If additional time for a LOA desired, it must be requested in writing with supporting documentation provided. The request will then be subject to review and approval by the SOM Promotions Committee.

Medical LOA may be granted by a dean in Student Affairs for periods not to exceed one calendar year based upon documentation of medical necessity. Return to active student status from medical LOA must be supported by a physician's letter. The Health Service Coordinator/ Wellness Intervention Team may assist with collecting and reviewing medical documentation. If additional leave of absence is recommended, it should be requested in writing, with supporting documentation and will be subject to review and approval by the SOM Promotions Committee.

All deferred and incomplete grades must be resolved prior to administrative LOA. Students may not be on LOA at the time they take a USMLE examination. Being officially enrolled is a prerequisite for a student to be certified as eligible to take Step 1 and 2CK.

Students on LOA are not officially enrolled at Baylor College of Medicine, may not avail themselves of the benefits/resources, including student health and malpractice insurance, and financial aid or scholarship disbursements associated with enrollment. Students may elect to continue their Student Health Insurance and are advised to contact BCM benefits for costs. (Students in official BCM dual degree or enrichment programs (MRP) remain enrolled at Baylor College of Medicine and thus retain their benefits.)

Read more about [Student Continuation of Insurance while on Leave of Absence.](#)

Students on LOA may not represent themselves as officially enrolled at Baylor College of Medicine. Violation of this guideline while on LOA will jeopardize a student's return to official enrollment. Students must review and abide by the [Student Leave of Absence Policy](#) (login required).

**To request a LOA:**

Student must complete the [Student Leave of Absence/Change of Status form](#) and meet with a dean in the Office of Student Affairs.

**If LOA request is approved:**

Official Student Clearance Process form is issued from the dean's office two weeks prior to the official LOA date. At that time the last class day of attendance is determined.

Student obtains signatures from the following offices, which signifies the completion of each clearance process (financial/education/administrative responsibilities):

Benefits Office

Student Account Services

Student Financial Aid

Academic Success Center

Security Office

Learning Community Advisor

Office of the Registrar

The Office of the Registrar certifies that the clearance process has been finalized.

All students on LOA must meet with a dean of Student Affairs three months prior to their anticipated return to school date.



# Substance and Alcohol Abuse Policy

Creating a healthy and safe work environment is a top priority of Baylor College of Medicine. This substance and alcohol abuse policy has been established to help keep Baylor Persons healthy, productive, and free from injury. Compliance with this policy is a condition to continued employment, enrollment, or association, as applicable, of all Baylor persons.

The term Baylor College of Medicine premises includes any and all property owned or leased by Baylor College of Medicine, hospitals, clinics, and any other practice site affiliated with Baylor College of Medicine, and any vehicle engaged in Baylor College of Medicine operations.

The term Prohibited Substance includes illegal drugs, controlled substances being misused, and prescription and over-the-counter drugs with abuse potential being taken in amounts not in accordance with the prescribed or recommended dosage.

Read more about the [BCM Substance Abuse and Alcohol Policy](#) (login required).

## Find Help

Are you struggling with drugs or alcohol or just need some help with emotional and mental health? Baylor offers resources to help you.

[Emotional And Mental Health Services](#)

# Student Life Services

## Services for Students with Disabilities

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Baylor College of Medicine/St. Luke's Medical Center is committed to providing equal educational access for qualified students with disabilities in accordance with state and federal laws including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended in 2008, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

[View Student Disability Services.](#)

## Employment

### Student Travel (Baylor Funded)

Travel for representatives of student organizations must be budgeted in advance for authorization during the current fiscal year. Prior to traveling, the Pre-Trip Authorization Form (PTA) must be obtained from the Office of Students Affairs, completed and receive final approval by the appropriate department administrator (as outlined in the Baylor Travel Policy). Travel expenses will not be reimbursed by the college, if the PTA has not been completed and approved prior to your travel.

[Baylor College of Medicine Travel Policy](#) (Baylor Login Required)

### *Food Services*

#### Morrison Cafe

Serving the main Baylor Campus cafeteria located at E-Hallway, beneath Rayzor Lounge.

**Location:** Cullen Building, 108A

**Hours of Operation:** Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Daily Menu:** (713) 798-4624

**Phone:** (713) 798-2233

## Catering

[Online Catering Menu](#)

[Catering Request Form](#)

### Coffee Corner - Alkek Building, Third Floor

- Coffee Corner 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. (Monday -Thursday)
- Coffee Corner 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Friday)

### Vending Machines

Vending machines are available in the cafeteria in the Texas Medical Center Hospitals; Ben Taub, Methodist, and St. Luke's. The cafeterias at Methodist and St. Luke's are all open to all students.

### Other Options

The John P. McGovern Texas Medical Center Commons offers a wide variety of eating establishments.

## Mail Services

Baylor College of Medicine will not reimburse a student for packages lost or stolen from the mail rooms, even if the item is received by the College via certified/registered mail. Students must have all mail/ packages sent to their homes.

BCM Mail Services is located in the Anderson Bldg. Basement - 050E of the College and coordinates all incoming, intracampus, and outgoing mail for the College.

There is no post office on campus; however, mail and other parcels may be weighed in the Mail Services in order to ascertain correct postage. Stamps are also sold there. Mail receptacles for stamped and intracampus mail are located in the Mail Services Office and in the Office of Student Affairs. The nearest United States Post Office is located at 7205 Almeda, (713) 741-5537, about 1 1/2 miles from the campus.

Mail Services lobby hours are 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

*Mail dropped off by 2:30 p.m. goes out the same day.* The zip code for the College is 77030.

# Parking and Transportation

Texas Medical Center, Inc. coordinates all traffic movement and parking within the TMC. [Read more.](#)

**Students may not park in the Ben Taub Hospital garage.**

## Campus Security and Public Safety

Baylor College of Medicine is located in the Texas Medical Center, the largest medical center in the world, TMC provides security for all parking facilities, its own buildings, the streets and the public areas not part of member institutions, like Baylor College of Medicine.

### *Texas Medical Center Services*

TMC employs security personnel and contracts with other law enforcement agencies including the Houston Police Department.

### **Student Escorts within the TMC Campus**

The Texas Medical Center Police Department is available 24/7 for those students who have a legitimate fear that would prevent a student from feeling safe while crossing the TMC campus.

Safety Escorts: The purpose of this escort is to provide a measure of safety for those students that are uncomfortable, fearful or uneasy about walking alone on campus. The Safety Escort is not intended to replace existing transportation services such as the Campus Shuttles, for inclement weather or to discourage individuals from walking in groups, but a safety option for those that have a genuine concern for their personal safety.

**For a Safety Escort call (713) 795-0000**

### **METRO for Shuttle Service**

From 4:30 a.m. until 12:30 a.m., TMC contracts with METRO for shuttle service to and from its parking lots and throughout the medical center area. Their lots are patrolled by TMC security and staffed by “parking ambassadors” who can assist students with any difficulties. In addition, TMC and Baylor have installed “blue lights,” emergency intercoms, throughout the complex.

## *Baylor College of Medicine Services*

The [Baylor Security Office](#) (Baylor login required) is responsible for:

Monitoring the campus complex, which includes the medical student lounge.

Providing after-hour escort, upon request.

24/7 monitoring of cameras on the interior of the first floor, main campus, and the exterior of the main campus building. Closed circuit cameras are recorded.

Maintaining a closed campus. During working hours, security staff mans major entrances and exists. After hours, all exterior doors are secured and controlled remotely. Any exterior door used for entrance has a recorded camera that enables entrants to show ID before being admitted to the College.

Minors (less than 18 years old) must receive proper authorization to enter any Baylor facility.

### *Other Institutions*

Baylor College of Medicine affiliated institutions require all students enrolled in clinical/research experiences be issued an ID badge. All institutions cooperate with TMC for security coverage for the TMC campus. Alerts are communicated to institutions electronically. In emergency situations, all institutions have standard communication devices to communicate with TMC and each other.

### *Right to Know*

In accordance with the [Student Right-to-Know and Campus Security Act](#), campus crime statistics are available for review [online](#) and in the Office of Student Affairs, Admissions Office and Graduate School.

The Human Resources Office of BCM, Suite OW100-McGovern Campus, coordinates all BCM programs pertaining to safety, accident control, and fire safety. **BCM policy requires everyone to wear their ID while within the campus complex.** Lost or stolen ID's should be reported to the Security Office and may be replaced in the Badging Office.

## Recreational Facilities and Programs

Baylor College of Medicine sponsors recreational programs for its students, faculty, and staff. The [Wellness Center](#) (located on the roof of Garage # 6) contains a basketball court, a racquetball court, a weight room, and a dance/aerobics room with cardiovascular fitness equipment (exercycles, treadmills, rowing machine and stair climbers).

**Hours:**

Monday - Friday - 5 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Membership Form**

Access is by College issued proximity card. Memberships for students cost \$180 per year (July-June) and may be purchased in the Wellness Center. In addition, students, faculty, and staff have access to softball, football, volleyball, and basketball leagues. More information regarding recreational activities can be obtained from the Office of Student Affairs, or from an officer of the Medical School Council.

## Texas Residency - Tuition Status

[Read here](#) for information in regard to Texas residency, as it pertains to tuition status.

## Student Lounge

Managed by the Office of Student Services the Student Lounge is located in room M206 of the Michael DeBakey Building. Access to the facility is restricted to Medical, Health Professions and Graduate students only and is monitored by Baylor Security (8-3000).

Amenities include:

- Sitting/quiet area
- Large screen HD TV
- Cafe tables
- Kitchen with microwave ovens, Keurigs and refrigerators
- Game tables
- Foosball tables
- Pool table

# Social Media

The following is important information regarding Baylor College of Medicine social media, including vlogs, blogs, podcasts, etc. While you are free to produce and share your thoughts with others, the Baylor College of Medicine Office of Communications and Community Outreach would like to be aware of your programs.

Currently, the Office monitors all official Baylor communications, especially web-based communication, not to control content but rather to protect Baylor, its employees, staff, and students. Your programs would be monitored to protect you from fringe elements who may attack you for a position you take that you feel is rather innocuous and grounded in scientific fact (e.g., vaccination or research involving animals), but which some members of society find objectionable. Your free speech remains protected and respected. You must, of course, adhere to the rules of professionalism and must remember to offer a disclaimer (especially if you are identified as associated with Baylor) that you are not speaking on behalf of Baylor. This disclaimer is particularly critical if you are talking about politics or engaging in type of political advocacy.

Familiarize yourself with [Baylor's Social Media page](#), adhere to the social medial policy, and don't inadvertently violate HIPAA or other federal or state laws. HIPAA is not confined to giving out a patient's name. It also includes images and descriptions. Always be sure to check before releasing any type of description of a patient. Student Affairs deans and the Communications Office are here to help you stay safe and out of trouble. If you have specific questions about communications or HIPAA issues, check with Communications at (713) 798-4710 or with [loriw@bcm.edu](mailto:loriw@bcm.edu).

# M.D. Program Contacts

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## Dean, School of Medicine

Phone: (713) 798-8878

One Baylor Plaza, MS:BCM104

Houston, TX 77030

Email: [medschool@bcm.edu](mailto:medschool@bcm.edu)

## Undergraduate Medical Education

- Admissions: (713) 798-4842
- Curriculum Office: (713) 798-7760
- Student Affairs: (713) 798-4600
- Standardized Patient Program: (713) 798-7232
- Evaluation, Assessment and Research (EAR): (713) 798-7760

## Foundational Sciences Curriculum

### *Course Directors - Foundational Sciences*

## Clinical Sciences Curriculum

### *Course and Rotation Coordinators*

APEX - Ebony Washington (713) 798-7760

CABS - Business and Leadership - Coleen McCampbell (713) 798-1350)

CABS - Dermatology - Brittany Weams (713) 798-1058

CABS - EBM - Jazmin Martinez (713) 798-4568

CABS - Nutrition - Chelsea Punch (713) 798-3463

DDASH - Anthony Lam (713) 798-3762



Emergency Medicine - Whitney Grant (713) 873-2630

Family and Community Medicine - Bridget Angel (713) 798-6590

Medicine - Arlene Back (713) 798-1906

Neurology - Lashante Holden (713) 798-5942

Obstetrics & Gynecology - Diane Jensen (832) 826-7373; Sub-I Tiara Gatewood (713) 798-6078

Ophthalmology - Julia McDonald (713) 798-4299; [Julia.McDonald@bcm.edu](mailto:Julia.McDonald@bcm.edu)

Orthopedic Surgery - Desi Griffen (713) 986-7396; [desig@bcm.edu](mailto:desig@bcm.edu)

Otorhinolaryngology - Chelsea McGill (713) 798-7217; [Chelsea.McGill@bcm.edu](mailto:Chelsea.McGill@bcm.edu)

Pediatrics - Pia Hughes (832) 822-3667

Psychiatry - Brittany Platt (713) 798-3876

Surgery - Holly Shilstone (713) 798-6190; Sub-I Woods McCormack (713) 798-6078

Urology - Carol Ann Vacek, (713) 798-3498; [cvacek@bcm.edu](mailto:cvacek@bcm.edu) and Caroline Hubbard (713) 798-7303; [eustice@bcm.edu](mailto:eustice@bcm.edu)

## **Where To Go and Who To See**

TMC Safety Escort - (713) 795-0000

Academic Advising / Career & Personal Counseling - Joseph S. Kass, M.D., J.D., Associate Dean, Student Affairs

Academic Advising / Career & Personal Counseling - E. Lee Poythress, M.D., Assistant Dean, Student Affairs (713) 798-3373

Academic Advising / Career & Personal Counseling - Andrea Stolar, M.D., Assistant Dean, Student Affairs (713) 798-3695

Academic Success Services – Brianna Etoria Se(713) 798-4173

Activities, Organizations & Student Senate - Office of Student Affairs, Room M-210 (713) 798-4600

Admissions - Room N-104 (713) 798-4842

Career Development Center - Room 271A (713) 798-5043

Cashier's Window - T-Hallway (713) 798-4920

**Counseling - [Mental Health Wellness Services](#) (confidential and free) 24 hour answering service - Heather Goodman, M.D., Director; Room HMCB-738 (713) 798-4881, (713) 798-4853 or contact for appointment at [student-help@bcm.edu](mailto:student-help@bcm.edu) or contact WellConnect (866) 640-4777 or [wellconnect.personaladvantage.com](http://wellconnect.personaladvantage.com).**

Dean, School of Medicine - Jennifer Christner, M.D. M-220.09

Disability Coordinator – Toni Gray (713) 798-8137

Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS) - (713) 798-4600

<https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-residency/applying-residencies-eras/>

Financial Aid - Hilda R. DeLeon, Director Room N-104 (713) 798-4603

Healthcare Providers – BCM Family Medicine - 3701 Kirby, Suite 100 (713) 798-7700

Insurance - Student Health Insurance, Benefits Division

LUKT - 1812 (713) 798-1500

Learning Communities - Dianne Ohnstad, Senior Academic Coordinator

Office of Student Affairs Room M-210.05 (713) 798-2197

Lost and Found - Baylor Security - 103H Service Bldg. (713) 798-3000

Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE) Process: Yvette Pinales, Senior Administrative Coordinator, Office of Student Affairs Room M-210.05.  
(713) 798-2166

Mail - Mail Room - Room 050E (by Cafeteria) (713) 798-4804

**Mental Health Wellness Services** (confidential and free) 24 hour answering service - Heather Goodman, M.D., Director; Room HMCB-738 (713) 798-4881, (713) 798-4853 or contact for appointment at [student-help@bcm.edu](mailto:student-help@bcm.edu) or contact WellConnect (866) 640-4777 or [wellconnect.personaladvantage.com](http://wellconnect.personaladvantage.com).

NICER (Non-credit Introduction to Clinical Experiences and Research) BCM Medical Students only - Jameisha Crooks, Administrative Coordinator I, Office of Student Affairs, Room M-210, (713) 798-3367

Occupational Health Office - James Kelaher, M.D., Director (713) 798-7880

Official Transcripts- Office of the Registrar Room M-210 (713) 798-7766

Parking Administration - TMC web site. TMC Parking. (713) 791-6161

Publications - BCM Family - Room 176B (713) 798-4710

Publications - Student - John Rapp, M.Ed., Senior Director, Office of Student Affairs, Room M-210.06 (713) 798-4517

Recreational Activities - Athletic Facility - Garage #6 8th floor (713) 798-5810

Recreational Activities - Office of Student Affairs - M-210 (713) 798-4600

Registrar - Latoya Whitaker, M.A., Registrar, Room M-210.04 (713) 798-3092

Residency Match Programs:

American Urological Association: <https://www.auanet.org>

National Residency Match Program: <http://www.nrmp.org>

San Francisco Match: <https://www.sfmatch.org>

Room Reservations - Office of the Curriculum - Room M-220 (713) 798-7760

**Security/Police – BCM Emergency - Call 8-811**

Security/TMC Police Officer - Garage #2 (713) 795-0000

Security/BCM - Room 103-H (713) 798-3000

Service-Learning Program & Narrative Medicine Program- Reginald Toussant, M.Ed., Senior Project Manager, Student Affairs M306 (713) 798-4137

Student Affairs - Office of Student Affairs - Room M-210.10 (713) 798-4600

Students' Rights and Responsibilities - Office of Student Affairs (713) 798-4600

Room M-210.10 (713) 798-4600

Student Senate & Student Organizations - Office of Student Affairs, Room M-210 (713) 798-4600

Student Services Committee - Co-Chairs: Abdul Hafeez Diwan, MBBS (M.D.), Ph.D., Frederick A. Pereira, Ph.D., and Ashley H. Mullen, B.A., M.S.

Texas Residency for Current Students (Tuition Status) - Alvin Ferrer, Assistant Registrar, Room M-210.02. (713) 798-3372

Title IX Coordinator– Toni Gray (713) 798-8137

Veteran's Benefits - Office of the Registrar - Alvin Ferrer, Assistant Registrar, Room M-210.02. (713) 798-3372

WellConnect (866) 640-4777 or [wellconnect.personaladvantage.com](http://wellconnect.personaladvantage.com).

# Resource Offices

- [Financial Aid: \(713\) 798-4603](#)
- [Student Account Services: \(713\) 798-4322](#)
- [Student Services: \(713\) 798-8646](#)
- [Registrar: \(713\) 798-7766](#)
- [Student Benefits: \(713\) 798-1500](#)
- [Academic Success Center: \(713\) 798-7336 \(Baylor login required\)](#)
- [Texas Medical Center Library: \(713\) 795-4200](#)

See these sites for additional contacts.

- [Office of the Provosts Contacts](#)
- [Student Services - Academic Excellence](#)
- [Student Services - Administrative Support](#)
- [Student Services - Student Wellness](#)
- [Student Disability Services](#)
- [Student Grievances](#)
- [Diversity, Inclusion and Equity](#)
- [Title IX and Gender Discrimination](#)



## Living Our Values

Baylor College of Medicine is committed to the values of integrity, respect, teamwork, innovation, and excellence. Should you face situations that do not align with our values, resources are available to help you with interpersonal or personal challenges.

[Find Resources](#)

# Parking and Transportation

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Texas Medical Center, Inc. coordinates all traffic movement and parking within the TMC. All vehicles parked regularly on the campus must be registered with TMC. Further information is available from the [TMC website - Parking page](#) or by phone (713) 791-6161.

Baylor College of Medicine parking and transportation specific information is available from:

Student remote parking is available in the South Extension Lot, which services Main Baylor, Ben Taub, Texas Children's Hospital and Houston Methodist Hospital, as well as the Smithland's Lot, which services Smith, Scurlock, Medical Towers, Herman, Texas Children's Hospital, Houston Methodist Hospital and St. Luke's. The cost is \$75 per month (plus tax). Payment is made directly to TMC.

Students who have a TMC parking contract ("Alternate Lot Privileges") and park in any remote lot may also park in Garage 4, 6 or 7 (at no charge) after 6 p.m. on weekdays, weekends and designated TMC holidays. You must exit the garage by 8 a.m. the following morning or by 8 a.m., Monday. Students will have to pay \$12 if they fail to exit a garage by 8 a.m., Monday through Friday.

Onsite garage parking is offered (based on availability) by TMC, please call (713) 791-6161 - Option 1 for pricing. All pricing is subject to tax.

Another option for students is Off-Peak (POP) parking in Garages 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 10 (4:30 p.m. - 8 a.m., all day on weekends and designated TMC holidays). The cost is \$95 per month (plus tax).

Shuttle buses are available to transport persons parking in the South Extension Lot and Smithland's Lots to and from the Medical Center. The shuttle buses operate with the following frequency:

- 4:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. (every 4 to 10 minutes)
- 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (every 22 minutes)
- 2 p.m. - 8 p.m. (every 4-10 minutes)
- 8 p.m. - Midnight (every 20 minutes)
- No service: Midnight to 4:30 a.m.

## ***After Hours Parking - E Lot Only***

After hours and weekend parking in Lot E is available (free of charge) to all students effective July 1, 2014 according to the following schedule:

Monday-Friday: 9 p.m. - 7 a.m. the following morning

Weekends: Saturday 4 p.m. - Monday 7 a.m.

Access (based on availability) is granted by showing one's student ID badge (via remote camera) to the security officer on duty. The front row (next to the Cullen Building) is reserved at all times for faculty parking. Cars parked in the lots outside of the above scheduled hours will be towed at the owner's expense.

### ***After Hours Parking - Garage 6 Only***

Another option for students is Off-Peak (POP) parking in Garages 6 (4:30 p.m. - 8 a.m., all day on weekends and designated TMC holidays). The cost is \$25 per month (plus tax).

Lot D is not available for student after hours parking.

### ***Metro***

[METROBus](#) and [METRORail](#) service is available to all Baylor College of Medicine students (certified as currently/officially enrolled) through the Q card program, which gives unlimited discounted access to all METRO services, including bus, TMC trolley and rail service. When riding METRO, students must have their BCM Student ID in their possession and should present both the Q card and their Student ID if asked for identification by a METRO police officer while riding on METRO.

Q cards can be obtained only at the downtown METRO office (1900 Main St.). Be sure to have an enrollment verification letter from the Registrar's Office and your student ID.

All remote parkers, including the Smith Lands, have been issued a TMC [METRORail](#) pass, which is valid for travel between the Smith Lands and one of the METRO stops in the medical center.

The logo for Baylor College of Medicine, featuring the text "Baylor College of Medicine" in a white serif font centered within a dark blue square.

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine®

School of Medicine  
Office of Curriculum  
2020-2021 Course Catalog





School of Medicine  
2020-2021 Course Catalog

# Foundational Sciences Course Descriptions

\* Course credits pertain to 2020-2021 academic year.

## **Age-Related Topics (ARTS): MBART-MAIN**

The goals of this course are to provide an introduction to both pediatric and geriatric clinical medicine by highlighting the similarities and differences in basic principles of pathophysiology as they pertain to patients at either end of the age spectrum.

Credits: 1.00

Course Co-Directors: [Shweta Parmekar, M.D.](#) and [Anita Major, M.D.](#)

## **Psychiatry and Behavioral Health Sciences: MBBES-MAIN**

The goals of this course are to increase the learner's understanding of 1) the biological, psychological, social and cultural processes that influence normative development across the lifespan; 2) mental illnesses including diagnosis, presentation, and treatment modalities including psychopharmacology and psychotherapy. Along with the increased knowledge in course content, secondary goals are to provide avenues for enhanced awareness about the implications of personal bias and application of these principles in clinical encounters. This course is designed to create a foundation of knowledge that will be used in the Psychiatry clerkship.

Credits: 3.25

Course Director: [Sindhu Idicula, M.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Edore Onigu-Otite, M.D.](#)

## **CABS-Business and Leadership in Medicine: MCBLM-MAIN**

The goals for this course are for the learner to understand the importance of business and leadership knowledge and skills in medical practice; be able to explain the ethical implications of attention to business issues in patient care; demonstrate competence in analyzing the impact of a patient's insurance on their care; understand the key elements of successful practice management; and Understand the implications of the legal and regulatory environment on office and hospital practice.



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Credits: 0.75

Course Director: [Theresa Tran, M.D., M.B.A.](#)

[Associate Course Director: Stephen Whitney, M.D., M.B.A.](#)

[Associate Course Director: Michael Richards, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H.](#)

**Dermatology: MCDRM-MAIN**

The goals of this course are to provide the fundamentals for understanding the pathophysiology of common dermatologic diseases; provide an understanding and knowledge of the pertinent history, clinical exam findings, and diagnostic clinical testing/strategies utilized for dermatologic diseases; and to reinforce the application of and integration of clinical findings to diagnostic differentials and treatment for dermatologic diseases to prepare the learner to transition from the classroom to the clinical setting.

Credits: 0.75

Course Co-Directors: [Soo Jung Kim, M.D., Ph.D.](#) and [Ikue Shimizu, M.D., B.A.](#)

**CABS-Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM): MCEBM-MAIN**

The goals of this course are to develop skills in applying the medical literature to patient care; set a pattern for life-long learning; promote evidence-based decision-making on rotations and in clinical practice; and to practice team problem-solving in a 'safe' environment. Students will be introduced to the basic biostatistics and epidemiology used in the medical literature and practice applying them to patient care.

Credits: 0.75

Course Director: [Cara Foldes, M.D., M.P.H.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Sowdhamini Wallace, D.O.](#)

**CABS-Nutrition: MCNUT-MAIN**

The goals of this course are to integrate basic concepts of nutrition relevant to pathophysiology encountered in common clinical settings in which nutrition plays an especially important role, including that encountered in patients with gastrointestinal, hepatic, endocrine, renal and cardiac disease; and to understand the potential role of nutritional guidance or intervention in reducing the incidence or severity of common medical disorders.

Credits: 0.75

Course Director: [Craig Jensen, M.D.](#)



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**Cardiology: MBCAR-MAIN**

The goals of this course are to provide an introduction to clinical cardiology including determinants and measurements of cardiac function, electrocardiography, approach to diagnosis and treatment of cardiac rhythm disorders, heart sounds and murmurs, heart failure, acute coronary syndromes, sudden cardiac death, cardiomyopathies, pericardial diseases, valvular heart disease, peripheral vascular disease and congenital heart disease. The pathophysiology, prevention and management of atherosclerosis, various clinical manifestations of ischemic heart disease, valvular heart disease, cardiac arrhythmias as well as prevention and treatment of hypertension, hyperlipidemia and other cardiovascular risk factors as well as treatment of various prevalent heart diseases such as heart failure and coronary artery disease will be considered.

Credits: 2.25

Course Director: [Gabriel Habib, M.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Savitri Fedson, M.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Tobias Schlingmann, M.D.](#)

**Critical Thinking and Problem Solving: MBCTP-MAIN**

The goal of the course is to ensure pre-clinical students develop a positive system for critical thinking and medical problem solving using integrated, patient-based case vignettes. Students will work through cases using a team-based approach. Students will build a problem-solving framework that focuses on asking appropriate questions, acquiring accurate information, analyzing the evidence and articulating a rational argument. Students will examine how they think and deal with ambiguity in decision making so they will be able to effectively deal with complex problems. Additionally, in order to develop life-long learning skills needed to be an exemplary student/doctor, students will identify and apply self-regulated learning strategies to include metacognitive awareness and self-reflection throughout the course.

Credits: ~~3-0~~1.50

Course Director: [Sarah Bezek, M.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Robert McArthur, M.D.](#)

**Endocrinology: MBEND-MAIN**

The goals of this course are to provide the fundamentals for understanding the pathophysiology of common endocrine disorders; provide an understanding and knowledge of the pertinent history, clinical exam findings,



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and diagnostic clinical testing/strategies utilized for common endocrine disorders; provide an understanding and knowledge of the principles of endocrinology and treatment strategies; and to reinforce the application of and integration of clinical findings to diagnostic differentials and treatment for endocrine disorders to prepare the learner to transition from the classroom to the clinical setting.

Credits: 1.75

Course Director: [Nalini Ram, M.B.B.S.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Sanjay Mediwala, M.D.](#)

**Ethics: MBETH-MAIN**

The goals of this course are to provide opportunities for students to master core knowledge of ethics in clinical practice and to master reasoning skills of ethics in clinical practice

Credits: 1.50

Course Director: [Christi Guerrini, J.D., M.P.H.](#)

**Foundations Basic to the Science of Medicine (FBSM): MBFBS-MAIN**

The goals of this course are to increase students' knowledge of basic biomedical sciences and ability to integrate and apply these foundational sciences to the practice of medicine. Students will learn to integrate basic science concepts across traditional scientific disciplines (medical biochemistry, bioenergetics, biostatistics, cell biology, cell structure & function, embryology, genetics, gross anatomy, histology, metabolism, nutrition, pharmacology, physiology), and apply basic science to clinical pathophysiology, diagnostics, and therapeutics. Students will also develop attitudes and behaviors appropriate to the medical profession, and will recognize how to foster the lifelong learning required for maintaining scientific and clinical competence throughout their careers.

Credits: 18.75

Course Director: [Sandra B. Haudek, Ph.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Elizabeth Hartwell, M.D.](#)

Associate Course Director (Nervous System): [J. Cay Goodman, M.D.](#)

Associate Course Director (Pharmacology): [Ram Reddy, Ph.D.](#)

Associate Course Director (Head & Neck Anatomy, Nervous System): [Ming Zhang, Ph.D.](#)

**Gastroenterology (GI): MBGST-MAIN**

The goal of this course is to increase knowledge of the gastrointestinal system and common disease processes that can affect its function. These include disorders of the luminal gastrointestinal tract – esophagus, stomach, small intestine and colon – as well as the liver, pancreas and gall bladder.

Credits: 2.0

Course Director: [Milena Gould Suarez, M.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Richa Shukla, M.D.](#)

**General Pharmacology: MBPHR-MAIN**

The goal of this course is to increase students' general knowledge of pharmacology and particularly pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, adrenergic drugs, and cholinergic drugs. Antimicrobial drugs are introduced as a prelude to the Infectious Diseases course. Students will be able to describe drug uptake, distribution, action and elimination; have integrated their knowledge of the autonomic nervous system with the drugs and receptors that function in the adrenergic and cholinergic components of the autonomic nervous system; list the stages of the drug discovery and approval process; and properly write a drug prescription, taking into account knowledge of young, adult and senior patient populations.

Credit: 1.75

Course Director: [Ram Reddy, Ph.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Sarah Shafer, M.D.](#)

**Genetics: MBGNT-MAIN**

The over-arching goal of this course is to introduce the students to the discipline and practice of medical genetics for the prenatal, pediatric, and adult patient by identifying genetic disorders related to connective tissue, dysmorphology, neurology, cardiovascular problems, skeletal dysplasias, hearing problems and cancer ; by interpreting molecular and cytogenetic tests used to diagnose genetic conditions and by understanding the ethical implications of genetic disorders and their impact on patients and their families. This course is designed to create a foundation of knowledge for the genetic basis of diseases as it pertains to all specialties of medicine and to empower the student to be able to use genetic knowledge in the specialty of their choice.



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Credits: 1.25

Course Director: [Shweta Dhar, M.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Daryl Scott, M.D., Ph.D.](#)

**Genitourinary/Gynecology (GU/GYN): MBGUG-MAIN**

The goal of this course is to introduce the student to the discipline of Obstetrics/Gynecology and Urology. Topics covered include pregnancy, breast cancer, birth control, infertility in addition to the pathology of the male and female reproductive systems and urinary system.

Credits: 1.25

Course Co-Directors: [Jennifer Bercaw-Pratt, M.D.](#) and [Jennifer Taylor, M.D., M.P.H.](#)

**Head and Neck Anatomy: MBHNA-MAIN**

The goals of this course are careful dissection and understanding of the head and neck with emphasis on the skull and cranial cavity, orbit, ear, facial nerve and parotid gland, muscles of the face and scalp, function of the suprahyoid and infratemporal regions, pharynx, nasal cavity and sinuses, and larynx. Furthermore, there is an introduction to radiology and embryology of the face and neck. The cranial nerves are carefully defined in terms of innervations, motor and sensory functions, and autonomic pathways. Microanatomy of the eye and ear, including the retina and the organ of Corti, are presented to future physicians. General Sensory processing and basic ophthalmologic and ENT surgical procedures of interest are also included. This course functions as a prerequisite to the subsequent Nervous System course.

Credits: 3.00

Course Director: [Ming Zhang, Ph.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Sarah Blutt, Ph.D.](#)

**Hematology/Oncology: MBHMO-MAIN**

The goals of this course are to increase knowledge of the pathophysiology of hematopoiesis and hemostasis and to integrate and apply knowledge of the regulation and function of blood cells and coagulation, acquire the principles of transfusion medicine, increase knowledge of the principles of cancer medicine and treatment strategies, and know the actions and complications of the major categories of cancer therapeutic agents, targeted therapies and cellular based therapy. As many specific cancers are taught in their appropriate systems courses, this course can be summarized as the details of hematology and the principles of oncology.



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Credits: 2.5

Co-Course Director: [Mark Udden, M.D.](#)

Co-Course Director: [Andrea N. Marcogliese, M.D.](#)

**Immunologic/Pathologic Basis of Disease: MBIPD-MAIN**

The goals of this course are to prepare the students to approach the study of diseases and apply those principles to clinical diagnosis. This approach will be through both Immunology and the principles of General (systemic) Pathology. The normal and deranged immune system will be covered in relationship to the pathology of inflammation, autoimmunity, tumors and autoimmune disorders. The fundamental cellular and tissue responses to injury, hemodynamic disorders, and neoplasia are covered.

Credits: 3.75

Course Director: [Christine Roth, M.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [William Decker, Ph.D.](#)

**Infectious Diseases: MBIND-MAIN**

The goals of this course are to provide an introduction to the basic principles and clinical aspects of infectious diseases including bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites; introduce pathophysiology, diagnosis and management of different infectious diseases as well as aspects of prevention; and to further expand the concepts of differential diagnosis in infectious diseases.

Credits: 6.25

Course Director: [Shital Patel, M.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Prathit Kulkarni, M.D.](#)

[Associate Course Director: Hana El Sahly, M.D.](#)

**Intersession: Service Learning, Wellness and Narrative Medicine**

The goals for this course are to provide the fundamentals for understanding the importance of and need for personal wellness as a student and physician, to integrate and apply the learned wellness skills into the students life; to make personal gains in professionalism, empathy, and interpersonal skills through active Service Learning, and to gain personal insight and coping through active reflection with Narrative Medicine. Service Learning will be done at selected sites throughout Houston, where students will be immersed in both the daily activities and programmatic planning of community service organizations. Students will develop



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skills to identify community needs relevant to an organization and work directly with employees to deliver the services offered. Students will be introduced to Wellness topics both didactically and through active learning gaining experience and knowledge in multiple wellness dimensions (Physical, Spiritual, Financial, Environmental, Emotional, Intellectual, and Social). The Narrative Medicine course will help tie together the various experiences in Service Learning and Wellness, allowing the student to learn reflection as a means to wellness and insight. Students will complete the course with a mini-poster/spoken and written word program.

Credits: 0.5

Course Director: [E. Lee Poythress, M.D.](#)

**Nervous System: MBNRS-MAIN**

The goal of this course is to provide an intense and thorough encounter with the nervous system so that students are prepared for their clinical clerkships, and for further scientific and clinical mastery of this discipline. Clinically relevant neuroanatomy and neurophysiology are covered in such a way that students will master clinical localization and pathophysiology. Specific disease states are introduced with consideration of pathophysiology, diagnostics and therapeutics to foster understanding of clinical neuroscience and to prepare students for the Neurology clerkship. The major focus is clinical localization and differential diagnosis of neurological disorders so that diagnostic and therapeutic plans can be formulated.

Credits: 6.75

Course Director [J. Clay Goodman, M.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Vaishnav Krishnan, M.D., Ph.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Atul Maheshwari, M.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Ming Zhang, Ph.D.](#)

**Patient Safety: MBPSA-MAIN**

The goal of this course is to prepare learners with the foundational knowledge necessary to understand the context, key principles and competencies associated with the discipline of patient safety in the delivery of healthcare services. Additionally, students will learn to recognize weaknesses in our medical system that can lead to patient safety events and will be empowered to promote a culture of safety in the clinical environment.

Credits: 0.50

Course Director: [Sara Andrabi, M.D.](#)





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**Renal: MBRNL-MAIN**

The goals of this course are to provide an introduction to clinical nephrology: specifically the pathophysiology, diagnosis, treatment, and management of abnormalities in electrolytes and acid base, glomerulonephritis, kidney histology, acute kidney injury and chronic kidney disease, in adults and children. The learner will learn how dialysis and transplantation has shaped public policy. Utilizing common clinical scenarios and case-based group activity facilitate the transition from classroom to bedside.

Credits: 1.75

Course Director: [Rajeev Raghavan, M.D.](#)

**Respiratory: MBRSP-MAIN**

The goal of this course is to provide the fundamentals for understanding the pathophysiology of common respiratory diseases. By the end of the course, students will be able to: correlate history, clinical exam findings, and diagnostic clinical testing/strategies in order to form a differential diagnosis for common respiratory diseases; evaluate pathological images to diagnose respiratory disorders; and summarize pharmacological and non-pharmacological management options for common respiratory disorders.

Credits: 1.75

Course Director: [Dharani Narendra, M.B.B.S.](#)

**Transition to Clinical Rotations: MBITC-MAIN**

The goal of this course is to facilitate the transition of second-year Baylor medical students from the basic sciences to the clinical years. The goal is to provide basic skills and information to allow students to readily participate in patient care. At the end of the course, second-year students will be able to describe effective studying strategies for clinical rotations; demonstrate how to glove and gown using sterile technique; maintain sterile environment in the OR; navigate the EMR to find pertinent information; manage commonly described interpersonal and intrateam stressors on the wards; understand what is expected on a typical day on the wards for a given clerkship and how to succeed as a ward clerk, as well as how to compose a SOAP note.;

Credits: 0.75

Course Co-Directors: [Meghan McClure, M.D.](#) and [Katie Scally, M.D.](#)



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**Research and Populations in Medicine: MBTRP-MAIN**

The goal of this course is to apply knowledge in translational research, clinical research and population health through active learning. This course will emphasize foundational concepts that will be useful as a medical student, resident and beyond. Students will learn how to appropriately apply research findings to improve the delivery of clinical care. This course will also develop medical student's ability to understand how health data is used in clinical practice for panel management, monitoring patient safety, and tracking quality metrics.

Credits: 3.25

Course Director: [Jessica Davila, Ph.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Daryl Scott, M.D., Ph.D.](#)



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# Clinical Course Descriptions

\* Course credits pertain to 2020-2021 academic year.

## **APEX: MCAFX-MAIN**

The goal of this course is to provide an effective transition for a fourth-year graduating student to a professional physician in training. The course provides both generalized and specialized content, personalizing the educational experience to meet students' chosen fields. It offers a unique, practical and interactive focus on solidifying students' medical school experiences while developing and fine-tuning skills that will help them enter their internship with confidence.

Credits: 2.0

Course Director: [Uma Ayyala, M.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Loan Nguyen, M.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Anita Rohra, M.D.](#)

## **Determinants, Disparities, and Social/Population Health (DDASH): MCDASH-MAIN**

The over-arching goals of DDASH is to prepare learners to care for patients in vulnerable populations and promote health equity. The course allows students to discuss major social and structural determinants like social class, race, gender, poverty, housing, community cohesion, and influencers such as health policy. Health outcomes are interpreted through the lens of upstream factors while exploring the intersection of public health and medicine. By the end of the course, students will be able to discuss societal issues, implicit bias and foundational principles of providing culturally humble and resource-rich care, suitable for the complex social needs of patients. Finally, in examining these concepts, students will develop core professional attributes (e.g. integrity, respect, compassion, justice, empathy) necessary for assuming the role of a health advocate.

Credits: 2.5

Course Director: [Malvika Juneja, M.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: Claudine Johnson, M.D.

## **Patient, Physician and Society (PPS) 1-2: MBPP1-MAIN, MBPP2-MAIN**



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The goals of this course are to provide students with basic interviewing, physical examination and medical communication skills; allow students to correlate anatomy and physiology with normal physical exam findings in ambulatory patients; reinforce the fundamental values of medical professionalism; and to help students view the broader context of health care using the relationship-centered care and integrated interviewing models.

Credits: MBPP1 (2.25) MBPP2 (3.00)

Course Director: [Alicia Kowalchuk, D.O.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Shruti Varadarajan, M.D.](#)

**Patient, Physician and Society (PPS) 3: MBPP3-MAIN**

This course teaches students the foundational clinical skills necessary for entering clerkships. The goals of this course are to continue to develop patient-centered interviewing skills to obtain a complete history; correlate pathophysiology learned in the morning classes with abnormal physical findings on hospitalized patients; and to inculcate altruistic and compassionate patient care.

Credits: 2.752.50

Course Director: [Anita Kusnoor, M.D.](#)

Associate Course Director: [Rajeev Balchandani, M.D.](#)

# Clerkships

\* Course credits pertain to 2020-2021 academic year.

## **Emergency Medicine: MCERM-MAIN**

The Emergency Medicine course is a two-week rotation that is designed to give students exposure to the field of Emergency Medicine and the emergent approach and stabilization to the undifferentiated patient. This course will take place in the Ben Taub General Hospital Emergency Room, which sees approximately 100,000 patients a year and is also a Level 1 Trauma Center. As part of this rotation, students will learn the emergency medicine approach to common chief complaints. Commonly, the student will be the first provider to take a full history and physical from a patient and from this form a differential and a therapeutic plan to present to the senior resident and the attending. In addition, students will have the ability to perform common Emergency Medicine procedures: bag-valve mask ventilation, FAST ultrasound, laceration repairs, incision and drainage, splinting and IV insertion. Supplementing the clinical experience, the students will also have three hours of active learning didactics a week. The students will also attend the Emergency Medicine grand rounds.

Credits: 2.0

Clerkship Director: [Navdeep Sekhon, M.D.](#)

Associate Clerkship Director: [Adedoyin Adesina, M.D.](#)

## **Family and Community Medicine Clerkship: MCFAM-MAIN**

The Family and Community Medicine Clerkship introduces students to the role and identity of the family physician in today's healthcare system and demonstrates the family medicine approach to the comprehensive care of common health problems. Students will spend the majority of Clerkship time in the office of a family physician preceptor, where they will learn to conduct different types of ambulatory visits and to diagnose and manage common conditions seen by family physicians. Additional learning opportunities are provided through seminars and self-directed activities including videos, case studies, and recommended readings.

Credits: 4.0

Clerkship Director: [William Huang, M.D.](#)

Associate Clerkship Director: [Joanne Atkinson, M.D.](#)

## **Medicine Clerkship: MCMED-MAIN**



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Core Medicine is a clinical rotation designed to develop students' skills in the diagnosis and management of illness in adults. Each student will have a unique experience in medicine, but all students will rotate to the same core hospitals and undertake the same curriculum. Learning is often self-directed and based on the individual patients seen during the clinical experience. Students will learn a great deal about physical diagnosis, laboratory evaluation and differential diagnosis of important disorders. Students will also be expected to learn fundamental aspects of therapy that will help develop their competency in the assessment and treatment of common adult illnesses.

Credits: 8.0

Clerkship Director: [Andrew Caruso, M.D.](#)

Associate Clerkship Director: [Frene' Lacour-Chestnut, M.D.](#)

**Neurology Clerkship: MCNEU-MAIN**

The required Clerkship in Neurology is a four-week rotation designed to apply the skills of localizing pathology within the neuraxis to evaluate and diagnose patients with neurological diseases and discuss management issues. Students will spend the majority of their time at one hospital in the inpatient services and have the opportunity to evaluate patients in the ambulatory setting as well. Students will learn through didactic lectures, team based learning sessions, supervised direct patient interaction, and clinical instruction.

Credits: 4.0

Clerkship Director: [Doris Kung, D.O.](#)

Associate Clerkship Director: [Nicolaas Anderson, D.O.](#)

**Obstetrics/Gynecology (OB/GYN) Clerkship: MCOBG-MAIN**

The OB/GYN Clerkship is designed to provide medical students with the knowledge and skills necessary to compassionately care for women of all ages. The student will be exposed to the breadth of obstetrics and gynecology, while focusing on skills unique to the field including pelvic examinations, vaginal delivery techniques, and exposure to the surgical environment. The clerkship goal is for the student to develop core clinical knowledge essential for providing comprehensive care and advocacy for all aspects of women's health.

Credits for Graduating Class of 2022 and beyond: 6.0 credits

Clerkship Director: [Jocelyn Greely, M.D.](#)



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Associate Clerkship Director: [Tara Harris, M.D.](#)

**Pediatrics Clerkship: MCPED-MAIN**

The Pediatrics Clerkship is designed to provide students with high-quality, effective clinical experiences to develop a basic knowledge of (1) human growth and development (physical, physiologic and psychosocial); (2) clinical disease processes from birth through adolescence.

Students rotate in both inpatient and outpatient settings, to experience pediatric hospital medicine, outpatient community pediatrics, pediatric emergency medicine, and newborn medicine. Through this course, students will develop pediatric-specific clinical examination and problem-solving skills, develop strategies for pediatric health promotion, acquire knowledge necessary for the diagnosis and management of common pediatric acute and chronic illnesses, and acquire an understanding of the approach of pediatricians to the health care of children. In addition to on-site clinical experiences, students will participate in active learning didactics, complete an evidence-based research assignment on a hospitalized patient, complete online modules and participate in a hands-on procedure session.

Credits for Graduating Class of 2022 and beyond: 6.0 credits

Clerkship Director: [Sanghamitra Misra, M.D.](#)

Associate Clerkship Director: [Jenelle Little, M.D.](#)

**Psychiatry Clerkship: MCPSY-MAIN**

The Psychiatry Clerkship strives to educate students in the diagnosis and treatment of mental illness as well as the spectrum of normal and abnormal behavior through the lifespan. Students will be given an appreciation of mental health and mental illness in all areas of healthcare, and we hope that students will strive to be a psychologically informed physician. Students will learn in various settings on the rotation including direct patient care, didactic lectures, syllabus material, clinical teaching on rounds and observation of patient interviews by other clinicians.

Credits for Graduating Class of 2022 and beyond: 4.0 credits

Clerkship Director: [Jin Yong Han, M.D.](#)

Associate Clerkship Director: [Julie Williams, M.D.](#)

**Surgery Clerkship: MCSUR-MAIN**



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The Michael E. DeBakey Department of Surgery welcomes students to their core clerkship. The mission of the Michael E. DeBakey Department of Surgery is to inspire the next generation of surgeons by providing medical students with a balanced surgical experience that will meet core surgical competencies in both knowledge and skills. As a member of a surgical team, students will gain an understanding of the fundamentals of perioperative management of surgical patients in various hospital settings. Students will learn the presenting signs, diagnosis and treatment of common surgical diseases. During this clerkship, students will rotate on a general surgery service, surgery subspecialty service, and in an ICU. The didactic schedule includes lectures from the Department of Surgery's faculty leadership, online modules, small group teaching sessions, and a skills labs.

Credits for Graduating Class of 2022 and beyond: 6.0 credits

Clerkship Director: [Ronald Cotton, M.D.](#)





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# Sub-Internships

\* Course credits pertain to 2020-2021 academic year.

## Family Medicine: MEFAM515

*Satisfies requirement for 3rd/4th-year sub-internship.*

Students are encouraged to take the course between January of the third year and December of the fourth year. The goal of the Family Medicine sub-internship is to expose students to the underserved patients on the Family Medicine Service at Ben Taub Hospital. Students will assume the role of an intern and will learn the family medicine approach to the care of adult hospitalized patients with emphasis on caring for patients in the context of their family environment, addressing psychosocial, cultural and financial issues and providing longitudinal care for patients with chronic issues. To emulate the functions of a family medicine intern, there is an ambulatory component of one half-day a week (schedule permitting) at Northwest Health Center in the Harris Health System. **There is no night call, however weekend call is required.**

Credits: 4.0

Sub-I Course Director: [Irvin Sulapas, M.D.](#)

## General Medicine: MEMED502 or MEMED503

*Satisfies requirement for 3rd/4th-year sub-internship.*

Students are encouraged to take the course between January of the third year and December of the fourth year. The student functions like an intern on the general medicine wards at Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center or Ben Taub Hospital. Under the supervision of the medicine resident and attending physician, the student has primary patient care responsibility and participates in all of the clinical and educational activities of the medical service. Practical aspects of patient care are emphasized. Students hone their history and physical skills, write orders, and develop diagnostic and therapeutic plans. They are also expected to learn how to manage transitions of care and to further develop their communication skills. The course is demanding, but it is conducted with strong support from the faculty and house staff and provides excellent transition to any residency training program. **Night call is required.**

Credits: 4.0

Sub-I Course Director: [Anita Kusnoor, M.D.](#)



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**Neurology: MENEU503**

*Satisfies requirement for 3rd/4th-year sub-internship.*

Students are encouraged to take the course between January of the third year and December of the fourth year. The student functions as an intern on the neurology inpatient primary service at Ben Taub Hospital. Under the supervision of the chief neurology resident and attending physician, the student has primary patient care responsibility. Practical aspects of patient care are emphasized. Students will hone their history and physical exam skills, write orders, and develop diagnostic and therapeutic plans. They will also be expected to learn how to manage transitions of care and to further develop their communication skills. Emphasis is placed on understanding the role of a neurologist in patient care and preparing the student for residency. **Night call is required.**

Credits: 4.0

Sub-I Course Director: [Doris Kung, D.O.](#)

Assistant Sub-I Director: [Nicolaas Anderson, D.O.](#)

**OB/GYN: MEOBG503**

*Satisfies requirement for 3rd/4th-year sub-internship.*

Students are encouraged to take the course between January of the third year and December of the fourth year. The sub-internship experience occurs as part of the labor and delivery (L&D) teams at Texas Children's Hospital Pavilion for Women (PFW) and Ben Taub Hospital (BTH), and is modeled after the role of the OB/GYN intern on L&D. The student is assigned to either the L&D team at BTH or at the PFW. The student is responsible for performing all intern level activities including, but not exclusive to: admit patients, evaluate all medical problems, manage labor, and formulate a therapeutic plan under supervision. She/he will be responsible for interpreting fetal heart rate tracings and formulating a plan of care for an abnormal tracing. She/he will be responsible for cross-coverage of postpartum patients during labor and delivery shifts. **Night is required.**

Credits: 4.0

Sub-I Course Director: [Kelli Barbour, M.D.](#)

Assistant Sub-I Director: [Jocelyn Greely, M.D.](#)

**Pediatrics: MEPED547**



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*Satisfies requirement for 3rd/4th-year sub-internship.*

Students are encouraged to take the course between January of the third year and December of the fourth year. The student will demonstrate pediatric intern level knowledge, attitudes and skills. The student is assigned to one of the Texas Children's Hospital's Pediatric Hospital Medicine (PHM) teams, consisting of an attending, one-to-two supervising residents, two-to-three interns, one-to-two clerkship students, and sometimes a PHM fellow. The sub-intern admits patients, evaluates all medical problems, and formulates a therapeutic plan under supervision. S/he is responsible for patient handoffs at the beginning and end of shifts. S/he writes and pends orders for co-signature prior to implementation. Admission orders stem from diagnosis specific EBM order sets. Sub-interns follow a night float system where they can expect approximately one week of nights during the month and are directly supervised by a resident. A faculty member is available at all times. During call, the sub-intern is responsible for cross-cover issues on all of his/her team's patients. Patient-family centered rounds (PFCR) are conducted daily at the bedside with the medical team. Attendance at educational conferences is highly recommended. The resident lecture series is held at noon on weekdays. Morning report is held Monday through Thursday and Grand Rounds are on Friday. The exact time and location for these conferences varies and may be confirmed with the house staff office.

Credits: 4.0

Course Director: [Meghan McClure, M.D.](#)

**Surgery: MESUR501 or MESUR541 or MESUR546**

*Satisfies requirement for 3rd/4th-year sub-internship.*

Students are encouraged to take the elective between January of the third year and December of the fourth year. The student should increase his/her knowledge of the fundamentals of general surgical practice and acquire skills used in the evaluation and treatment of general surgical conditions. Sub-interns will, under supervision, admit patients, evaluate and formulate a plan, participate in operations and post-operative care, and write discharge summaries. Sub-interns are on call once a week during the 4-week rotation. The goal of this rotation is to develop the student's ability to make and implement a plan of care in a surgical patient thereby improving the student's readiness for the transition into an internship.

Credits: 4.0

Course Director: [Stacey Carter, M.D.](#)

# Selectives

\* Course credits pertain to 2020-2021 academic year.

## **Ophthalmology: MCOPH-MAIN**

This two-week course is designed to provide to students who will practice in the diverse areas of medicine, especially primary care, an expanded clinical experience and core of the clinical information, which will allow them to diagnose and manage common ophthalmic problems, emphasizing appropriate referral and the avoidance of delays or omissions of proper eye care; to teach the essentials of the routine ophthalmic history and physical examination; to expose the student to the spectrum of systemic disease with ocular manifestations and to the scope and breadth of primary ocular disease; to teach to the student the recognition and initial management of ocular injuries and emergencies; to introduce the students to the profession of ophthalmology as a branch of the practice of medicine; and to instill in the student an understanding of the scope of the practice of ophthalmology, both medical and surgical, so that he may discriminate the purpose and skills of medical care from the art of refraction performed by non-professionals.

Credits: 2.0

Selective Director: [Lauren Blieden, M.D.](#)

## **Orthopedic Surgery: MCORS-MAIN**

This course is a two-week course rotating through the clinical aspect of Orthopedic Surgery. Students engage with faculty, residents, fellows, office staff and patients during this two-week rotation. Professional attire and behavior is expected of all participants. Students are expected to shadow assigned faculty during surgeries. Students are required a mandatory night of call at Ben Taub Hospital during the course. Students are required to submit a completed paperwork-signed memorandum at the end of their course for completion.

Credits: 2.0

Selective Director: [Christopher Perkins, M.D.](#)

## **Otolaryngology: MCOTO-MAIN**

Students are integrated into the daily workflow of the Otolaryngology team – including outpatient clinics, inpatient and emergency room care, and the operating room experience. Formal lectures are provided in an online pre-recorded format, which supplements the daily didactic teaching by residents and faculty.



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Credits: 2.0

Selective Director: [Sunthosh Sivam, M.D.](#)

**Urology: MCURL-MAIN**

The Urology selective course provides medical students with a broad exposure to general urology, along with opportunities to experience the major urologic subspecialties, including cancer, urolithiasis, trauma and reconstruction, reproductive and sexual dysfunction, and pediatrics (subspecialty exposure varies depending on the clinical assignment site). The selective combines activities in the outpatient clinic setting, and in the inpatient and outpatient operating room settings. Students have an active, hands-on experience in examining urologic patients under supervision, and scrubbing on a wide range of surgical procedures. Students participate in hospital rounds and consultations, and also pursue didactic activities which include a standard lecture series covering common urologic disorders relevant to the primary care physician.

Credits: 2.0

Selective Director: [Jennifer Taylor, M.D., M.P.H.](#)



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# Electives

All elective course descriptions are available on the [School of Medicine website](#).



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Please review special notes for medical students in official BCM dual degree programs.

Foundational Sciences Years - 63 Weeks	
Fall I - 19 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Foundations Basic to Science of Medicine (FBSM)	18.75
Patient, Physician & Society - 1	2.25
Critical Thinking & Problem Solving (CTAPS)	1.50
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>22.50</b>

Spring I - 25 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Pharmacology	1.75
Head & Neck Anatomy	3.00
Immunological & Pathological Basis of Disease	3.75
Psychiatry and Behavioral Health Sciences	3.25
Ethics	1.50
Infectious Diseases	6.25
Nervous System	6.75
Research and Populations in Medicine	3.25
Patient, Physician & Society - 2	3.00
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>32.50</b>

Fall II - 19 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Cardiology	2.25
Respiratory	1.75
Renal	1.75
Hematology/Oncology	2.50
Gastroenterology	2.00
Endocrinology	1.75
GU/GYN	1.25
Genetics	1.25
Age Related Topics	1.00
Patient, Physician & Society - 3	2.50
Dermatology	0.75
Transition to Clinics	0.75
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>19.50</b>

Didactic Courses in Clinical Years ◊	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
CABS-Evidence Based Medicine◊	0.75
CABS-Business in Leadership◊	0.75
CABS-Nutrition◊	0.75
Patient Safety◊	0.50
DDASH◊	2.50
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>5.25</b>

Basic Core Clinical - 40 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Emergency Medicine	2.00
Family/Comm. Med.	4.00
Medicine	8.00
Neurology	4.00
OB/GYN	6.00
Pediatrics	6.00
Psychiatry	4.00
Surgery	6.00
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>40.00</b>

Advanced Core Clinical - 10 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Sub-Internship*	4.00
Selectives**	4.00
APEX	2.00
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>10.00</b>

Elective Courses - 22 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Pre-Clinical and/or Clinical Electives***	22.00

Intersession - 2 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Service Learning, Wellness, and Narrative Medicine	0.50

**Please refer to the Core Rotation Scheduling Guidelines in the Student Handbook for timelines to complete clinical core rotations.**

Graduation Requirements ***	Semester Credit Hours
Total Minimum Curriculum Credits - 137 Weeks	152.25

**Students must take and pass the Clinical Practice Exam (CPX). Students must take and pass the USMLE Step 1, Step 2CK & Step 2CS-prior to graduation. M.D./Ph.D. Program: Students joining the program after year 1 will begin the curriculum requirements at year of entry.**

**Students must not have any professional deficiencies in order to graduate with an M.D. degree.**

\* A Sub-Internship must be taken at Baylor in Medicine, Neurology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Surgery, Pediatrics, or Family Medicine. The Sub-Internship **must be completed** prior to Advanced Physicianship Experience (APEX).

**\*\*SELECTIVES (GROUP A)**

**Choose 2 of these 2-week courses (Prerequisite Surgery Clerkship):** Ophthalmology, Orthopedic Surgery, Otolaryngology, Urology

\*\*\*16 of the 22 required elective credits must be clinical. For all medical students, no more than 6 credits of Foundational Sciences Electives/Research taken at BCM can be counted toward degree requirements. Students enrolled in the following official BCM Dual Degree programs (MD/PhD, MD/JD, MD/MPH, and MD/MBA) may have 4 weeks fewer required clinical elective credits than MD only students. For all students, a minimum of 8 clinical credits must be taken at BCM.

◊ The following courses are didactic courses occurring during the clinical phase of the curriculum:

- Patient Safety and Clinical Applications of Biomedical Sciences (CABS) Business and Leadership in Medicine, Nutrition, and Evidence Based Medicine -occur in the 2nd year during clinical phase of the curriculum
- Determinants, Disparities and Social/Population Health (DDASH) – occurs in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the clinical phase of the curriculum





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Please review special notes for medical students in official BCM dual degree programs.

Foundational Sciences Years - 63 Weeks	
Fall I - 19 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Foundations Basic to Science of Medicine (FBSM)	19.00
Patient, Physician & Society - 1	3.00
Critical Thinking & Problem Solving (CTAPS)	3.00
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>25.00</b>

Spring I - 25 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Pharmacology	1.75
Head & Neck Anatomy	3.00
Immunological & Pathological Basis of Disease	4.00
Behavioral Sciences	3.25
Ethics	1.50
Infectious Diseases	6.25
Nervous System	6.00
Translational Research and Population Health (TRAP)	3.25
Patient, Physician & Society - 2	3.25
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>32.25</b>

Fall II - 19 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Cardiology	2.25
Respiratory	1.75
Renal	1.75
Hematology/Oncology	2.50
Gastroenterology	2.00
Endocrinology	1.75
GU/GYN	1.25
Genetics	1.25
Age Related Topics	1.00
Patient, Physician & Society - 3	2.50
CABS-Dermatology	0.75
Transition to Clinics	0.75
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>19.50</b>

Didactic Courses in Clinical Years ◊	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
CABS-Evidence Based Medicine◊	0.75
CABS-Business in Leadership◊	0.75
CABS-Nutrition◊	0.75
Patient Safety◊	0.50
DDASH◊	2.50
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>5.25</b>

Basic Core Clinical - 40 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Emergency Medicine	2.00
Family/Comm. Med.	4.00
Medicine	8.00
Neurology	4.00
OB/GYN	6.00
Pediatrics	6.00
Psychiatry	4.00
Surgery	6.00
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>40.00</b>

Advanced Core Clinical - 10 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Sub-Internship*	4.00
Selectives**	4.00
APEX	2.00
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>10.00</b>

Elective Courses - 22 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Pre-Clinical and/or Clinical Electives***	22.00

Intersession - 2 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Service Learning, Wellness, and Narrative Medicine	0.50

**Please refer to the Core Rotation Scheduling Guidelines in the Student Handbook for timelines to complete clinical core rotations.**

Graduation Requirements ***	Semester Credit Hours
Total Minimum Curriculum Credits - 137 Weeks	154.50

**Students must take and pass the Clinical Practice Exam (CPX). Students must take and pass the USMLE Step 1, Step 2CK & Step 2CS-prior to graduation. M.D./Ph.D. Program: Students joining the program after year 1 will begin the curriculum requirements at year of entry.**

**Students must not have any professional deficiencies in order to graduate with an M.D. degree.**

\* A Sub-Internship must be taken at Baylor in Medicine, Neurology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Surgery, Pediatrics, or Family Medicine. The Sub-Internship **must be completed** prior to Advanced Physicianship Experience (APEX).

**\*\*SELECTIVES (GROUP A)**

**Choose 2 of these 2-week courses (Prerequisite Surgery Clerkship):** Ophthalmology, Orthopedic Surgery, Otolaryngology, Urology

\*\*\*16 of the 22 required elective credits must be clinical. For all medical students, no more than 6 credits of Foundational Sciences Electives/Research taken at BCM can be counted toward degree requirements. Students enrolled in the following official BCM Dual Degree programs (MD/PhD, MD/JD, MD/MPH, and MD/MBA) may have 4 weeks fewer required clinical elective credits than MD only students. For all students, a minimum of 8 clinical credits must be taken at BCM.

◊ The following courses are didactic courses occurring during the clinical phase of the curriculum:

- Patient Safety and Clinical Applications of Biomedical Sciences (CABS) Business and Leadership in Medicine, Nutrition, and Evidence Based Medicine -occur in the 2nd year during clinical phase of the curriculum
- Determinants, Disparities and Social/Population Health (DDASH) – occurs in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the clinical phase of the curriculum



GIVING LIFE TO POSSIBLE

**School of Medicine  
Class of 2022  
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Please review special notes for medical students in official BCM dual degree programs.

Foundational Sciences Years - 63 Weeks	
Fall I - 19 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Foundations Basic to Science of Medicine (FBSM)	19.75
Patient, Physician & Society - 1	3.00
Critical Thinking & Problem Solving (CTAPS)	3.00
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>25.75</b>

Spring I - 25 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Pharmacology	1.75
Head & Neck Anatomy	3.00
Immunological & Pathological Basis of Disease	4.25
Behavioral Sciences	3.25
Ethics	1.25
Infectious Diseases	6.25
Nervous System	6.25
Translational Research and Population Health (TRAP)	3.25
Patient, Physician & Society - 2	3.50
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>32.75</b>

Fall II - 19 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Cardiology	2.25
Respiratory	1.75
Renal	1.75
Hematology/Oncology	2.50
Gastroenterology	2.00
Endocrinology	1.75
GU/GYN	1.25
Genetics	1.25
Age Related Topics	1.00
Patient, Physician & Society - 3	2.75
Patient Safety	0.50
Transition to Clinics	0.75
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>19.50</b>

Didactic Courses in Clinical Years ◊	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
CABS-Evidence Based Medicine◊	0.75
CABS-Dermatology◊	0.75
CABS-Business in Leadership◊	0.75
CABS-Nutrition◊	0.75
DDASH◊	2.50
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>5.50</b>

Basic Core Clinical - 40 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Emergency Medicine	2.00
Family/Comm. Med.	4.00
Medicine	8.00
Neurology	4.00
OB/GYN	6.00
Pediatrics	6.00
Psychiatry	4.00
Surgery	6.00
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>40.00</b>

Advanced Core Clinical - 10 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Sub-Internship*	4.00
Selectives**	4.00
APEX	2.00
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>10.00</b>

Elective Courses – 22 Weeks***	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Electives	22.00

Intersession – 2 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Service Learning, Wellness, and Narrative Medicine	0.50

**Please refer to the Core Rotation Scheduling Guidelines in the Student Handbook for timelines to complete clinical core rotations.**

Graduation Requirements ***	Semester Credit Hours
Total Minimum Curriculum Credits - 137 Weeks	156.00

**Students must take and pass the Clinical Practice Exam (CPX). Students must take and pass the USMLE Step 1, Step 2CK & Step 2CS-prior to graduation. M.D./Ph.D. Program: Students joining the program after year 1 will begin the curriculum requirements at year of entry. Students must not have any professional deficiencies in order to graduate with an M.D. degree.**

\* A Sub-Internship must be taken at Baylor in Medicine, Neurology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Surgery, Pediatrics, or Family Medicine. The Sub-Internship **must be completed** prior to Advanced Physicianship Experience (APEX).

**\*\*SELECTIVES (GROUP A)**

**Choose 2 of these 2-week courses (Prerequisite Surgery Clerkship):** Ophthalmology, Orthopedic Surgery, Otolaryngology, Urology

\*\*\*16 of the 22 required elective credits must be clinical. For all medical students, no more than 6 credits of Foundational Sciences Electives/Research taken at BCM can be counted toward degree requirements. Students enrolled in the following official BCM Dual Degree programs (MD/PhD, MD/JD, MD/MPH, and MD/MBA) may have 4 weeks fewer required clinical elective credits than MD only students. For all students, a minimum of 8 clinical credits must be taken at BCM.

◊ The following courses are didactic courses occurring during the clinical phase of the curriculum:

- Clinical Applications of Biomedical Sciences (CABS) -occurs in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the clinical phase of the curriculum - Business and Leadership in Medicine, Dermatology, Nutrition, Evidence-Based Medicine
- Determinants, Disparities and Social/Population Health (DDASH) – occurs in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the clinical phase of the curriculum



GIVING LIFE TO POSSIBLE

**School of Medicine  
Class of 2021  
M.D. Graduation Requirements**

Please review special notes for medical students in official BCM dual degree programs.

Foundational Sciences Years - 63 Weeks	
Fall I - 19 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Foundations Basic to Science of Medicine (FBSM)	21.25
Patient, Physician & Society - 1	3.25
Integrated Problem Solving	2.00
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>26.50</b>

Spring I - 25 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Pharmacology	1.50
Head & Neck Anatomy	2.50
Immunological & Pathological Basis of Disease	4.75
Behavioral Sciences	3.50
Ethics	1.25
Infectious Disease	7.00
Nervous System	7.00
Integrated Problem Solving - 2	2.50
Patient, Physician & Society - 2	4.00
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>34.00</b>

Fall II - 19 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Cardiology	2.25
Respiratory	1.75
Renal	1.75
Hematology/Oncology	2.50
Intro. to Radiology & Lab Medicine	1.50
Gastroenterology	2.00
Endocrinology	1.50
GU/GYN	1.00
Genetics	1.25
Age Related Topics	1.25
Patient, Physician & Society - 3	2.75
Patient Safety	0.50
Transition to Clinics	0.75
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>20.75</b>

Didactic Courses in Clinical Years ◊	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
CABS-Evidence Based Medicine◊	0.75
CABS-Dermatology◊	0.75
CABS-Business in Leadership◊	0.75
CABS-Nutrition◊	0.75
DDASH◊	2.75
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>5.75</b>

Basic Core Clinical - 50 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Emergency Medicine^	2.00
Family and Community Medicine	4.00
Medicine	8.00
Neurology	4.00
OB/GYN	8.00
Pediatrics	8.00
Psychiatry	8.00
Surgery	8.00
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>50.00</b>

Advanced Core Clinical - 10 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Sub-Internship*	4.00
Selectives***^	4.00
APEX	2.00
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>10.00</b>

Elective Courses - 16 Weeks	
Course	Semester Credit Hours
Pre-Clinical and/or Clinical Electives***^	16.00

**Please refer to the Core Rotation Scheduling Guidelines in the Student Handbook for timelines to complete clinical core rotations.**

Graduation Requirements ***	Credits
Total Minimum Curriculum Credits - 139 Weeks	163.00

**Students must take and pass the Clinical Practice Exam (CPX). Students must take and pass the USMLE Step 1, Step 2CK & Step 2CS-prior to graduation. (Update: On April 20, 2020 the Curriculum Committee approved a waiver of requirements for students to take Step 2 CS prior to graduation for students graduating December 2020.) M.D./Ph.D. Program: Students joining the program after year 1 will begin the curriculum requirements at year of entry. Students must not have any professional deficiencies in order to graduate with an M.D. degree.**

*^ On April 6, 2020, the Curriculum Committee approved the following waivers of graduation requirements for the Graduating Class of 2021 (medical students otherwise on track to graduate in December 2020 or May 2021) who have not yet completed the following, as completion will not be possible before graduation due to restrictions imposed by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic: (1) 2-week emergency medicine rotation; (2) remaining selectives. For Class of 2021 students who have already completed these courses, course completion will count towards the clinical elective requirement for graduation.*

\* A **Sub-Internship** must be taken at Baylor in Medicine, Neurology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Surgery, Pediatrics, or Family Medicine. The Sub-Internship **must be completed** prior to Advanced Physicianship Experience (APEX).

#### **\*\*SELECTIVES (GROUP A)**

**Choose 2 of these 2-week courses (Prereq. Surgery Clerkship):** Ophthalmology, Orthopedic Surgery, Otolaryngology, Urology (See ^ note above).

\*\*\*12 of the 16 required elective credits must be clinical. For all medical students, no more than 4 credits of Foundational Sciences Electives/Research taken at BCM can be counted toward degree requirements. Students enrolled in the following official BCM Dual Degree programs (MD/PhD, MD/JD, MD/MPH, and MD/MBA) may have 4 weeks fewer required clinical elective credits than MD only students. For all students, a minimum of 8 credits must be taken at BCM.

◊ The following courses are didactic courses occurring during the clinical phase of the curriculum:

- Clinical Applications of Biomedical Sciences (CABS) -occurs in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the clinical phase of the curriculum - Business and Leadership in Medicine, Dermatology, Nutrition, Evidence-Based Medicine
- Determinants, Disparities and Social/Population Health (DDASH) – occurs in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the clinical phase of the curriculum