EDUCATING AND TRAINING TOMORROW’S DOCTORS

FAU
Schmidt College of Medicine
Florida Atlantic University
“I was fortunate to receive multiple acceptances, but FAU encompassed all the qualities I was looking for in a medical school experience. The faculty and staff support students every step of the way. The focus on each student’s wellness has provided me with tools to navigate stress in the medical field. FAU has far exceeded my expectations and I’m excited to see where the journey takes me.”

Emmanuel McNeely
Class of 2022

“I know every faculty member personally. I knock on their door and they welcome me in. I don’t feel like I’m a number at all. Sometimes I email them late on the weekends and they answer all my questions. It’s really like a family here. These are relationships I hope to nurture throughout my school experience and even professionally.”

Ayesha Abid
Class of 2023

“As a first-generation immigrant and medical student, it’s a dream come true to attend the Schmidt College of Medicine, my top choice. I value the small class size, problem-based learning curriculum, early exposure to standardized patients, and simulation center. FAU has been a very positive experience. Go MedOwls!”

Quan Ta
Class of 2024
I am proud to lead an inclusive and diverse community of faculty, learners, and staff who share a passion for promoting humanistic and equitable health care.

As a community-based medical school, we partner with hospitals and clinics in Palm Beach and Broward counties to implement our medical curricula and are passionate about advancing biomedical science, healthy aging, neuroscience, precision medicine, chronic pain and opioid use, among others.

Medicine requires innovative approaches and the agility to adapt to new challenges and opportunities. We are limited only by our collective imaginations, not by the status quo.

We are committed to addressing healthcare disparities and inequities, and to promoting social justice. I hope you will join us as we carry out this work together!

I am delighted that you are considering the Schmidt College of Medicine. Your dedication will lead to an altruistic career that uniquely affects the lives of others.

Our innovative curriculum prepares students for the challenges of medicine, while addressing social, ethical and legal aspects of the profession.

Faculty and staff relate with students as unique individuals to enhance professional and personal development, creating a nurturing learning environment.

In our journey to exceed excellence, we embody our CIRCLE values. Through collaboration, we share knowledge. Through innovation, we embrace creativity. By respecting one another, we appreciate unique contributions. Through compassion, we empathize with patients. Through lifelong learning, we encourage continuous intellectual curiosity. Through engagement, we foster teamwork.
The integrated patient focused curriculum is based on the principle that future physicians should learn essential science information in the context of patient care, patient case studies, and the practice of clinical skills. We provide our students with a stimulating, supportive and collegial learning environment featuring:

- An early introduction to the patient and the community
- Continuity relationships with patients, physicians, and health care systems
- Longitudinal integrated clerkship modules in the third year
- Integrated competency assessments
- A small class size
Our students rotate through a series of inpatient and outpatient experiences in the following six core disciplines: Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics, Obstetrics/Gynecology, Psychiatry, and Community and Preventive Medicine. The framework for these experiences is two six month Longitudinal Integrated Clerkships (LICs) called Medical & Surgical Sciences (MSS) and Family & Community Health Sciences (FCHS). Students are also exposed to other disciplines during both LICs, including Geriatrics, Palliative Care, Anesthesiology, Emergency Medicine, Pathology, and Radiology experiences throughout the year. Curricular threads include Ethics, Professionalism and Professional Identity, Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice, Communication, Compassion and Collaborative Care, Geriatrics and Health Aging, and Lifelong Learning and Discovery.
The Schmidt College of Medicine develops novel approaches for understanding, treating and preventing disease. Using multi-disciplinary techniques, we cultivate new strategies to combat disease through patient-centered research and discovery. Research focus areas include:

- Healthy aging, geriatrics and neuroscience (including cardiovascular disease, stroke, cancer, eye diseases and neurodegenerative diseases)
- Chronic pain and opioid use
- Genomics and precision medicine

Between your first and second years, the 10-week summer break allows students to gain research experience. The college’s Research Support Office and faculty help students train with investigators at the college, and research sites such as the Cleveland Clinic and Scripps Research Institute. The college also hosts an annual Medical Student Research and Scholarship Day for students to showcase their posters.

“I have been fortunate to work in Dr. Janet Robishaw’s lab under their NIH-funded grant with the FAU Brain Institute Post Bachelor Fellowship program and while in medical school. Our project identifies clinical and genetic predictors for increasing one’s risk of developing an Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and exploring precision medicine and genomics for combating the opioid epidemic. The faculty have encouraged me to explore new research and scholarship locally and internationally.”

Sarah Palumbo
Class of 2023
Upon matriculation into the Schmidt College of Medicine, students are assigned to an **academic society** led by a society dean, who develops individualized career planning with each student utilizing the AAMC Careers in Medicine program. Society deans also serve as a resource for college policies and procedures. Through academic societies and learning communities, the College of Medicine enhances professional development through the **Physician Development Coaching Program**. Students begin forming a professional identity at the start of medical school with the guidance of faculty, who understand how to create a framework for successful transition into healthcare.

The Physician Development Coaching Program is led by four physician faculty who serve as longitudinal academic society coaches. Each coach oversees two learning communities to develop skills in metacognition and reasoning, ethics, service, leadership, and knowledge.
Medical students work with local organizations, nonprofits and public schools to provide value to Palm Beach communities. Service-learning activities may include teaching in PreK-12 classrooms, working with community consortiums to analyze data, implement community initiatives, or writing and delivering curricula for our outreach programs.

Through our community engagement initiative, our community - students, staff, faculty, businesses, and organizations - focus on strengthening collaboration, promoting education, and optimizing cultural competency.

Healthcare Careers Outreach Program (HCOP)

“I am pursuing medicine to work and uplift those from underserved communities. Our HCOP allows me to give back to students the same way my mentors helped me to get to where I am today. Our HCOP students possess inspiring stories and are incredibly talented and hardworking. Their perseverance has inspired me to help them achieve their goals in any way that I can. I have also been increasingly aware of how much advocacy work is needed by future physicians to ensure that there is equal access to resources.”

Tanya Panwala
Class of 2023
Caridad Center Family Health Fair
Medical students assist with health screenings including BMI, urinalysis, and glucose.

KidSafe Foundation
“Serving our surrounding communities has been rewarding. Through my service-learning project, a classmate and I collaborated with the KidSafe Foundation. We helped the healthcare workforce learn more about child sexual abuse including how to identify and support victims. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to have a larger impact on the Palm Beach County community.”

Stop the Bleed
Stop the Bleed trains lay people to intervene in the event of massive bleeding by applying direct pressure, wound packing, and tourniquets. With medical students serving as instructors, more than 500 community members have been trained.

“After the Marjory Stoneman Douglas high school shooting, I was inspired to create a Stop the Bleed program at our school. We also advocated for bleeding control kits in public places, and incorporation into the medical school curriculum.”
- Jordyn Cohen, class of 2021, pictured below
FAU High STEM Program

The program is geared towards students interested in healthcare careers. Medical students work with FAU High School students in activities including discussion of clinical vignettes, review of the relevant anatomy related to the case using a cadaver, and physical exam demonstrations.

Service Learning

FAU medical students have numerous opportunities to participate in service learning projects, including involvement in local health fairs, food drives, and community outreach programs. Pictured below are second year students who volunteered at the annual Joe DiMaggio Children’s Hospital Back to School Health Fair, assisting with obtaining histories, performing supervised physical exams, and providing interpretation services to ensure the efficiency and safety of patient exams.
At the Schmidt College of Medicine, we encourage students to advocate for causes through participation in local, regional, and national organizations that help educate them on healthcare policy and societal factors that influence healthcare disparities.

**American Medical Association (AMA)**

The AMA advocates current affairs in healthcare and participates in healthcare policy and legislation. Students work with the executive board to draft policy resolutions and attend advocacy conferences for discussions with lobbyists and AMA leaders. Community outreach projects such as food and clothing drives are also organized.

**American Medical Student Association (AMSA)**

The AMSA represents physicians-in-training, student activism, affordable healthcare, global health equality, diversity in medicine, professional development, and student well-being. The AMSA campaigned for resident work hour reform and ethical engagement in the pharmaceutical industry. AMSA organizes community CCR training and mentors pre-medical students.

**American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA)**

The AMWA advances women in medicine and improves women’s health. The AMWA works with high school FEM-STEM programs to encourage girls to enter STEM careers and collaborates with regional AMWA chapters to educate medical professionals about combating human trafficking.
Student National Medical Association (SNMA)
The SNMA promotes diversity and inclusion, addressing health needs of communities of color, underserved communities, and fosters professional mentorship opportunities. The SNMA graduated the inaugural class for the Health Professions Recruitment and Exposure Program and developed relationships with physicians from the T. Leroy Jefferson Medical Society.

“As the National SNMA Interest Group liaison for General Surgery, I elevate underrepresented medical students across the country. Currently, I’m developing a program to connect medical students from underrepresented populations (URM) to URM physicians. Additionally, I’m developing seminars with the National Medical Association (NMA) for professional and personal development.”

Christopher Galvin
Class of 2022
Medical students united to support healthcare workers in the fight against COVID-19. Our students reviewed and summarized emerging research, participated in an Oura Ring Study, hosted a virtual blood drive, provided child care, delivered meals to infected and at-risk communities, facilitated virtual visits between patients and families, and designed and manufactured face shields for medical workers.

Steven Shiba was among FAU’s Division of Research winners for the COVID-19 Change Challenge, earning a stipend to implement his predictive algorithm for COVID-19 infection. Participants were enrolled to wear the Oura ring, which is a smart ring collecting data for responses to daily symptom surveys to predict COVID-19 illness.

“*We sought to help protect our community and healthcare workers on the frontline. My classmates and I received overwhelming support from the college and community. Together we collected more than 23,000 items of personal protective equipment.*”

* - Mirelle Dawoud, class of 2021, pictured above
Our students and faculty collaborated with non-profit, Piece of Peace to create wellness bags for nurses and physicians in the ER and ICU at Boca Raton Regional and Delray Medical hospitals.

Led by second year medical students, Nikolas Echeverry and Megan Koenig, our students also collected and donated PPE to the Caridad Center, including kN95 masks, gowns, and shoe covers.

In addition to collection efforts, our medical students volunteered at Feeding South Florida to deliver meals to infected and at-risk communities.

**Virtual Blood Drive**

"Knowing that donated blood was still needed but would be disrupted by COVID, we hosted a virtual blood drive. We educated the public on donating blood safely and encouraged the community to donate."

Ahmed Noor
Class of 2023

Michelly Gonzalez
Class of 2023
The Office for Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) promotes the success of diverse students, faculty and staff and offers community engagement, scholarly projects, and mentorship programs.

- The college’s flagship program, the Healthcare Careers Outreach Program (HCOP) prepares middle and high school students for medical careers. HCOP cultivates professional identity, self-growth, social connections, and career development.

- The Bridge to Medicine (BTM) program for 11th and 12th grade students develops professional skills including resume construction, financial literacy, college essay writing, and research ethics and techniques.

- The HCOP mentoring program connects 10th grade students with our medical students to provide skills to excel professionally and personally in healthcare careers.

- Community fieldwork expose students to factors affecting health in underserved and economically disadvantaged communities by partnering with appropriate organizations.

- The Partners in Equity and Empowerment (PIE²) fellowship expands on fieldwork experiences to address root causes of social and health inequities using research methodology.
Our students participate in community service, the arts, and advocacy groups to develop leadership skills and enrich academic experience.

**Student Council**
The Student Council represents the medical student body and liaises between students and administration, promoting effective medical education. The Council hosts events, works towards positive change, and ensures students’ voices are heard.

**Special Interest Groups**

**Artificial Intelligence in Medicine**
Interest in training physicians in AI is growing. Compared to other novel technologies, AI presents qualitative differences for ability, health equity, and data security.

**Brain Interest Group at the College of Medicine (BIG)**
BIG educates medical and graduate students about topics related to the brain and behavior. Events include the bi-semester Brain Bowl, speaker series, and poster presentations.

**Business in Medicine Student Interest Group**
The Business in Medicine Student Interest Group implements business activities related to healthcare. Medical students learn how the healthcare system works and career options.

**Dermatology Interest Group (DIG)**
Students interested in dermatological specialties gain experience and build professional connections in the field.

**Emergency Medicine Interest Group (EMIG)**
Students interested in emergency medicine explore mentorships with physicians and organize clinical workshops.

**Internal Medicine and Geriatric Enthusiast (IMAGE)**
Students interested in internal medicine career paths develop skills through workshops, shadowing, and networking.

**Medical Pediatric Interest Group**
Students explore a combined internal medicine and pediatrics specialty through interactive workshops, shadowing, and networking.

**Medical Specialties Committee (MSC)**
MSC represents medical specialties without an interest group. Students have explored:
- Anesthesiology
- Ophthalmology
- Radiology
- Pathology
- Ear/Nose/Throat
- Obstetrics/Gynecology

**Oncology Student Interest Group**
Students examine trends and novel clinical research, gain professional development and networking, and promote awareness and prevention of cancer through community service.

**Orthopedic Surgery Interest Group**
Students interested in orthopedic surgery attend workshops, presentations, and participate in mentoring opportunities.

**Pediatric Interest Group (Team Peds)**
Students interested in pediatrics host lunch discussions with local pediatric doctors, lead holiday toy drives, organize NICU visits, and network.

**Surgery Interest Group**
Students interested in surgery attend presentations, workshops, and network with surgeons in the community.
Service Groups

Arts in Medicine
The Arts in Medicine group harnesses creative potential to positively impact the college, community, and medical field.
Activities include:
- Performances at fundraisers by FAU’s band, “The Cytokines”
- Annual talent shows for visual arts, poetry, music, dance and more
- Performances at assisted living facilities
- Teaching visual art classes to children in need

Competency in Medical Spanish (CiMS)
CiMS helps students learn terminology to converse with Spanish-speaking patients. Students of all Spanish proficiency levels can join, and lesson plans accommodate all levels. CiMS also provides practice with standardized patients.

Global Health Interest Group (GHIG)
GHIG addresses global health issues affecting underserved populations, advocates proper healthcare and fosters cultural understanding of recently immigrated populations.

Jewish Association for Health and Medical Students (JAHMS)
JAHMS examines religion and medicine, and provides networking, volunteering, and socializing within the Jewish Community. JAHMS is open to all students.

LGBTQ+ Health Interest Group
The LGBTQ+ group is committed to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer health and identity, addressing the unique challenges within healthcare faced by LGBTQ+ individuals.

Public Health and Advocacy Interest Group
The Public Health and Advocacy Interest Group addresses effective health policy change and discusses public health and health policy research relating to health disparities. Students gain resources to care for patients and become knowledgeable physicians.

Student Wellness
The Student Wellness Association offers mental health support, collaborating with the Health First initiative to plan exercise classes, meditation, nutrition, mindfulness lectures, and mental health advocacy events.
“It has been such a rewarding experience to work with Hispanic and other minority communities in South Florida. I am proud to be part of a college that promotes early exposure to underrepresented patient populations, particularly the Mission and Caridad Clinics, which offer comprehensive medical care for the uninsured and underserved children and families of Palm Beach County.”

Bianca Biglione  
Class of 2022

“I’ve enjoyed working with FAU’s VoteHealth 2020 to create and distribute health clinic-based voter access resources across the nation. In a recent publication with a colleague at the University of Florida, we implore healthcare professionals to use their platforms for community empowerment. As a physician, I will ask patients if they have registered to vote because it is a small, but actionable way to empower them.”

Vishnu Muppala  
Class of 2021

“From the first day of orientation, I have always felt at home at the Schmidt College of Medicine. The faculty and staff are warm and supportive, and the small class size ensures that no student falls through the cracks. I have formed lifelong friendships with my classmates, whom I can count on for anything. We have become a Schmidt College of Medicine family.”

Jacob Musinsky  
Class of 2021  
Student Council President

“I chose FAU because I knew that I wanted to be in a tight-knit learning community. During my training, my advisors and mentors have been willing to answer my questions and provide constructive feedback. I am encouraged to pursue my interests and become the best possible version of myself. I chose FAU for the people that prepare me to become a confident and capable physician.”

Florence Xiong  
Class of 2021
Our graduates have matched in top-ranked residency programs in Florida and across the nation, including: Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Mount Sinai Hospital, New York-Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia and Cornell, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Tampa General Hospital, UCLA Medical Center, UF Health Shands Hospital, University of Michigan Hospitals, Yale New Haven Hospitals, among others.
At the Schmidt College of Medicine, residency is the **continuation of medical education** within a chosen specialty. Partnering with FAU’s Consortium for Graduate Medical Education, consisting of Baptist Health system’s Boca Raton Regional Hospital and Bethesda Hospital East, and Tenet HealthCare system’s Delray Medical Center, St. Mary’s Medical Center and West Boca Medical Center, FAU offers a growing number of fully accredited residencies committed to excellence in education and patient care.

Residencies: Emergency Medicine, Internal Medicine, Neurology, Psychiatry, Surgery

Fellowships: Cardiovascular Disease, Geriatric Medicine, Hospice and Palliative Medicine, Vascular Surgery
The Office of Medical Student Financial Aid provides comprehensive counseling services to medical students and their families. Financial counseling is tailored to each accepted applicant and focuses on the most advantageous strategy for managing the cost of attending the Schmidt College of Medicine. We have an open-door policy and host group informational sessions throughout the year to help students manage their financial obligations.

**FIRST YEAR MEDICAL STUDENT (M1)**

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**Estimated cost of attendance budgets for 2020-2021**

Tuition and Fees are established by the Florida State Legislature, Florida Board of Governors, and the FAU Board of Trustees, and are subject to change.
 Although the medical curriculum is rigorous, our students still experience a vibrant and rewarding student life. Whether joining an intramural team, visiting a new restaurant, or heading to the beach, our students enjoy a variety of activities.

The Schmidt College of Medicine is located on the north side of FAU’s Boca Raton campus. The college houses two student lounges with kitchenette, piano and music area, ping pong table and gaming area, lockers, and seating. In the Kaufman Lounge and Technology Hub, students can grab a coffee or meet with the Ed Tech Team.

On campus, numerous dining venues, the bookstore and spirit shop, student union with recreational space and eSports gaming center, fitness center, pool, track, stadium, and tranquil outdoor lounges are a short walk from the College of Medicine.

Most medical students live off campus and commute to class and clinical responsibilities. For housing resources, contact the Office of Student Affairs.
Boca Raton is located on the coast of Southeast Florida in the heart of Palm Beach County, surrounded by beautiful beaches, restaurants, shopping, indoor and outdoor recreation, theaters, entertainment, and more. FAU is close to major shopping centers, quaint boutique shops and is a short drive to three major airports in West Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale and Miami. For additional information, visit [www.palmbeachfl.com](http://www.palmbeachfl.com).

South Florida enjoys an average annual temperature of 82°F, ranging from an average low of 75°F in the winter to 89°F in the summer, making it an ideal place to enjoy outdoor activities like:

- Beaches
- Nature parks
- Snorkeling
- Fishing
- Boating
- Paddleboarding