

# Doctor of Medicine, MD

**Website:** <https://medicine.uiowa.edu/md>

## Requirements

The Doctor of Medicine is a full-time, four-year program that prepares students to practice primary care medicine and to pursue further education and training in specialized areas of medicine. The program admits 152 new students each year. The MD curriculum is built on a triple-helix model whose three strands extend through all four years of medical school: the clinical and professional skills strand, the mechanisms of health and disease strand, and the medicine and society strand.

Clinical experiences begin during the first few weeks of medical school, and clinical clerkships start after just three semesters of preclinical instruction. By the end of the fifth semester, students have completed all of their core requirements and have the remaining three semesters to tailor their educational experience in preparation for their selected specialty.

Students complete in-depth clinical coursework and serve clinical clerkships primarily at University of Iowa Health Care, the VA Iowa City Health Care, and the Des Moines Area Medical Education Consortium. Students may also have opportunities to gain experience in private medical offices and community hospitals.

Students are required to pay a minimum of eight semesters of full-time tuition. At the conclusion of medical school, students will match into a residency program and complete their training in a chosen specialty.

Programs designed to lead to professional licensure are subject to federal regulations regarding informational disclosures. Please see Professional Licensure Disclosures by Program for further information.

## Preclinical Curriculum (Phase I)

The first three semesters of the MD program present an integrated core of sciences basic to the study of medicine. They also introduce students to the foundations of clinical practice.

Coursework includes human anatomy, foundations of cellular life, clinical and professional skills (a three-course series), medicine and society (a three-course series), and mechanisms of health and disease (a five-course series).

Some elective courses are available to students during the first and second years, normally for 1 or 2 s.h. of credit. Topics include areas not specifically covered in the regular curriculum and areas related to medical practice and the role of the physician. Courses vary from year to year, but typical subject areas are global health issues, U.S. health care systems, and community health outreach.

The MD program's preclinical curriculum requires the following coursework.

## First Semester

Course #	Title	Hours
ACB:8101	Medical Gross Human Anatomy	5
MED:8121	Clinical and Professional Skills I	3
MED:8122	Medicine and Society I	3
MED:8123	Foundations of Cellular Life	5
MED:8124	Mechanisms of Health and Disease I	8

## Second Semester

Course #	Title	Hours
MED:8131	Clinical and Professional Skills II	4
MED:8132	Medicine and Society II	4
MED:8133	Mechanisms of Health and Disease II	7
MED:8134	Mechanisms of Health and Disease III	11

## Third Semester

Course #	Title	Hours
MED:8221	Clinical and Professional Skills III	4
MED:8222	Medicine and Society III	4
MED:8223	Mechanisms of Health and Disease IV	10
MED:8224	Mechanisms of Health and Disease Keystone	7

## Clinical Curriculum (Phase II and III)

Students complete one week of skills training in MED:8320 Transition to Clerkships prior to the start of clinical clerkships. The two-and-one-half-year clinical component of the medical curriculum is comprised of supervised hands-on clinical training at the bedside of inpatient units, in outpatient clinics, and in communities throughout the state. In contrast to the preclinical semesters, the clinical years vary according to a student's individual needs. This period of training begins in January of the second year with 44 weeks of core clerkships (Phase II). Students then enter various pathways where they complete a minimum of 10 weeks of electives, four weeks of critical medicine, one four-week subinternship, and 32 weeks of advanced electives (Phase III).

After completing the core clerkships, students must successfully complete Step 1 of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) before they may be promoted to the pathways component of the curriculum. Students take Step 2 of the USMLE during Phase III of the MD program, and must pass Step 2 in order to graduate.

Primary venues for clinical training of medical students include University of Iowa Health Care, the VA Iowa City Health Care, and the Des Moines Area Medical Education Consortium. Students also participate in the family and community medicine clerkship, which is an off-campus rotation. Other courses may be assigned to off-campus sites.

The MD program's clinical curriculum requires the following clerkships and selectives.

## Generalist Core (Phase II)

MD students complete the generalist core during the fourth and fifth semesters. It consists of the following 44 weeks of clerkships.

Course #	Title	Hours
<b>Internal Medicine Block</b>		
IM:8310	Internal Medicine (10 weeks)	10
<b>Family Medicine/Pediatrics Block</b>		
FAM:8302	Family and Community Medicine (6 weeks)	6
PEDS:8301	Clinical Pediatrics (6 weeks)	6
<b>Obstetrics and Gynecology/Surgery Block</b>		
OBG:8301	Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology (6 weeks)	6
SURG:8301	Clinical Surgery (6 weeks)	6
<b>Neurology/Psychiatry/Emergency Medicine Block</b>		
EM:8301	Core Emergency Medicine (2 weeks)	2
NEUR:8301	Clinical Neurology (4 weeks)	4
PSYC:8301	Clinical Psychiatry (4 weeks)	4

## Selectives

MD students complete 10 weeks of selectives chosen from the following.

Course #	Title	Hours
ANES:8301	Clinical Anesthesia (2 weeks)	2
DERM:8301	Clinical Dermatology (2 weeks)	2
OPHT:8301	Clinical Ophthalmology (2 weeks)	2
ORTH:8301	Clinical Orthopedics (2 weeks)	2
OTO:8301	Clinical Otolaryngology (2 weeks)	2
PATH:8302	Pathology (2 weeks)	2
RAD:8301	Clinical Radiology (2 weeks)	2
URO:8301	Clinical Urology (2 weeks)	2

## Advanced Required Clerkships (Phase III)

MD students complete the following required clerkships and other work during the three advanced clinical-year semesters. In addition to the clerkships, students complete training modules in advanced clinical topics that include MED:8470 Self-Directed Learning in Advanced Clinical Topics.

Requirements	Hours
Critical care medicine (4 weeks)	
Advanced inpatient subinternship (4 weeks)	
Advanced electives (total of 32 weeks)	