

# NEW JERSEY MEDICAL SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS VIEWBOOK



NEW JERSEY  
MEDICAL SCHOOL

University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey



With each new class of students, New Jersey Medical School is defining the future of medicine.

An actively engaged admissions committee ensures that the students we accept are not only academically accomplished but also personally qualified to be effective, compassionate physicians of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

At New Jersey Medical School, students engage in a rigorous academic program that integrates classroom learning and clinical experience from the beginning of the first year. Students also have ample opportunity to pursue cutting-edge research with our faculty and hone their clinical skills through a multitude of community outreach programs. As part of the nation's largest health sciences university, New Jersey Medical School offers the benefits of a large institution while at the same time fostering a cohesive student body among each class of 170 students.

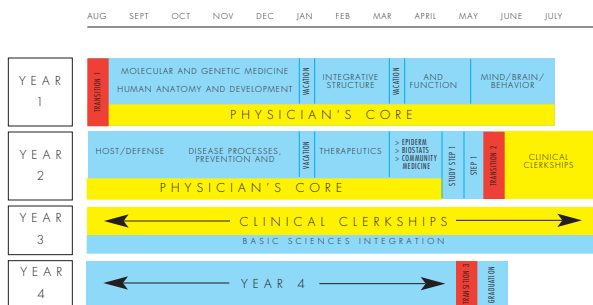


# THE CURRICULUM

## Jubilee Curriculum

In 2004, NJMS implemented a new, innovative curriculum featuring an active learning environment that quickly integrates classroom learning with clinical experiences. Students spend less time in large lectures and more time in small group sessions engaged in problem-based learning activities. A two-year doctoring course called The Physician's Core includes modules on history taking and physical examinations, communication skills, medical ethics, humanism and professionalism, and cultural competency. Starting in the first month of the first year, students spend one half-day each week working in a clinical setting with a medical preceptor who serves as a physician-mentor.

Academic schedules can be viewed on-line at <http://njms.umdnj.edu/education/registrar/index.cfm>.



In addition to the required curriculum, New Jersey Medical School students can choose electives in ethics, economics, history, the humanities and international medicine. Some students pursue dual degree programs. Our MD/PhD program trains future physician-scientists, while other students dedicated to public health can earn a dual MD/MPH degree. The MD/MBA program provides medical students with a background in healthcare management, preparing them to better understand the economics of healthcare.

NJMS is accredited through the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) and in 2005, received a full, eight-year reaccreditation, the highest level offered, citing strengths including:

- a senior staff committed to medical education who has allocated substantial resources to support improvements in the program;
- the new Jubilee Curriculum;
- accessible and supportive student services departments;
- a commitment to community service by both faculty and students;
- a diverse student body;
- increased research efforts as a result of growing NIH extramural funding.

## The Healthcare Foundation Center for Humanism and Medicine

These days, health care can become very complicated, but New Jersey Medical School's Healthcare Foundation Center for Humanism and Medicine reminds students and faculty that caring itself is very simple. Promoting a return to compassionate care, the center is at the forefront of a much-needed evolution in health care. Established in 2004 with a \$3.2 million grant from The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey, the center is the only

one of its kind among the nation's medical schools. Through scholarship support and student programming, the center aims to define a new brand of health care.

### **Clinical Skills Training Center; USMLE pass rates**

Throughout their four years, NJMS students are regularly evaluated on how well they are integrating classroom knowledge with their clinical skills through Objective Structural Clinical Examinations (OSCEs). A state-of-the-art Clinical Skills Training Center consists of 12 exam rooms with video monitoring systems that allow faculty to observe and record mock-patient encounters. The benefit of having a dedicated teaching facility for honing clinical skills is readily apparent: NJMS's pass rate on the USMLE Step 1 and 2 exams is consistently higher than the national average. As the only school in the region with such a facility, NJMS also makes the center available to other medical schools.

### **University Hospital**

New Jersey Medical School's core teaching hospital, University Hospital, is located on campus. A Level I Trauma Center and the busiest in the state, the hospital is also home to one of the nation's best liver transplant programs. The 504-bed facility is also highly regarded for its Comprehensive Stroke Center, the New Jersey Cardiovascular Institute (NJCI), the Cochlear Implant Program, a neurosurgical intensive care unit and a special Brain Tumor Program, the Neurological Institute of New Jersey, a federally designated spinal cord injury program and The University Center for Bloodless Surgery and Medicine. University Hospital is also the state's single largest provider of charity care.

Approximately 500 residents are pursuing advanced clinical training at University Hospital in 18 accredited programs.

### **Residency Match Rates**

NJMS students enjoy high quality, hands-on clinical experiences that make them highly desirable candidates for competitive residency programs across the country. From preceptorships starting in the first year to community outreach programs coordinated through the student-run healthcare center, to rotations during the third and fourth years, NJMS students consistently match into programs of their choice in both the general and sub-specialty disciplines. A significant portion of the class match into highly competitive programs across the country. Match results for the last graduating class are listed at:

[http://njms.umdnj.edu/education/admissions/2006\\_match\\_results.htm](http://njms.umdnj.edu/education/admissions/2006_match_results.htm)

### **Research Opportunities**

NJMS's mission includes excellence in research. The school has designated eight Areas of Excellence to highlight advances in disciplines to which considerable resources have been dedicated:

- Brain Injury and Stroke
- Cancer/Oncology
- Cardiovascular Biology
- Cellular Signal Transduction
- Immunology
- Infectious Diseases
- Neurosciences
- Psychiatry/Behavioral Sciences



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Blue patient identification band





In 2004, the school received \$104 million in extramural grants supporting basic, clinical and translational research. New Jersey Medical School is also home to the Global Tuberculosis Institute, The Institute for Ophthalmology and Visual Science, and the Center for Emerging and Reemerging Pathogens. New Jersey Medical School is a charter member of the New Jersey Stem Cell Research and Education Foundation.

The Summer Student Research Program provides students with stipends to conduct research in the laboratories of NJMS faculty. Each year, more than 100 first- and second-year students, as well as prospective students considering medical school, participate in the program, which has a strong emphasis on cancer research and heart, lung and blood research.

NJMS faculty have contributed significantly to medical science breakthroughs including the development of the world-wide standard in knee replacement, the New Jersey Knee; a patented method for the early detection of Lyme disease; the identification of pediatric AIDS and the development of drug-therapy to reduce the likelihood of pre-natal transmission; and proof of the connection between smoking and cancer resulting in the warning message printed on cigarette packages.

## THE CAMPUS

Newark is a city of vibrancy — a destination for first-rate culture, sports and entertainment. Located in Newark's University Heights, New Jersey Medical School is minutes from the Riverfront Stadium, home of the Newark Bears professional baseball team; the New Jersey Performing Arts Center; the famed Portuguese restaurants of the city's Ironbound section; Weequahic Golf Course; and Branch Brook Park, home of the annual Cherry Blossom Festival. Manhattan and all of its cultural offerings are just a 15-minute train ride away. University shuttles connect students with the campuses of NJIT, Rutgers-Newark and Essex County Community College as well as Newark Penn Station.

Many of the buildings on the 65-acre campus are connected as well, making it convenient to travel from classrooms and labs to the library and University Hospital.

Students live on and around campus in new university apartments as well as nicely appointed townhomes located directly across from the school. Many students commute from nearby towns. An on-campus residence hall offers studio, one, two and three bedroom apartments for students and hospital residents at the hospital.

## THE DIFFERENCE

New Jersey Medical School is committed to public health — taking care of those in need. People who come to New Jersey Medical School want to make a difference.

New Jersey Medical School is also committed to fostering diversity in the medical profession and actively recruits students from backgrounds that are underrepresented in medicine. Close to one third of students are from backgrounds underrepresented in medicine (Black, Hispanic, American Indian). The Hispanic Center of Excellence, established in 1990, recruits students as well as faculty, building both the medical and educational pipeline for Hispanics.

Our embrace of cultural competency means that students who graduate from New Jersey Medical School will be well-prepared to take care of an increasingly diverse patient population.

A public institution, New Jersey Medical School offers affordable in-state tuition for all applicants.

# APPLYING TO NEW JERSEY MEDICAL SCHOOL

While there is no threshold GPA or MCAT score requirement for admission to New Jersey Medical School, intense competition tends to favor those with stronger credentials. Applicants must take the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) no later than August in the year prior to enrollment. Applicants must complete a minimum of three years of college (90 credit hours) to apply.

Applicants are selected on the basis of academic excellence, leadership qualities, demonstrated compassion for others and broad extracurricular experiences. Motivation, perseverance, special aptitudes and stamina are important factors in the evaluation as well as the applicant's personal statement, letters of recommendation and the interview.

Applicants to New Jersey Medical School must first complete and submit the online application of the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS). Application information can be obtained by visiting [www.amcas.org](http://www.amcas.org). Once the AMCAS application is received, applicants are notified and required to submit a supplemental application with a check for \$75 directly to New Jersey Medical School.

Correspondence and Information: Associate Dean for Admissions: *George F. Heinrich, MD*  
Director of Admissions: *Mercedes M. Lettman*  
Program Staff: *Barbara Clark, Lisa Houston, Tiffanie Silvera, Jeneice White*

## Profile: Class of 2009

Total Applicants	4057
Incoming class	170
Males	86
Females	84
New Jersey Residents	141
Out of State Residents	29
Underrepresented in Medicine (Black, Hispanic, American Indian)	53
Average GPA	3.5
Average MCAT	30

## Top Undergraduate Schools of Matriculants

Barnard College	Georgetown University	Princeton University
Carnegie Mellon	Johns Hopkins	Rutgers University
Columbia University	Montclair State University	The College of New Jersey
Cornell University	New York University	University of Pennsylvania

*\*combined baccalaureate/MD program*

## Prerequisites

<b>Biology:</b>	8 semester hours including laboratory, exclusive of botany and invertebrate zoology
<b>Chemistry:</b>	16 semester hours including laboratory: 8 in general or inorganic chemistry and 8 in organic chemistry
<b>English:</b>	6 semester hours
<b>Physics:</b>	8 semester hours including laboratory





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