Diversity and Inclusion

DRIVERS OF EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION
The Ohio State University College of Medicine seeks to recruit self-directed learners who are driven to become physicians providing competent, compassionate medical care. The Admissions Committee will assemble a class that displays diversity in background and thought, a strong intellect and the potential to improve people’s lives through innovation in research, education and service to our patients and community.
Although minority groups contribute significantly to the growth of the nation, they tend to have less access to health care. The OSU College of Medicine has taken as one of its more important missions to address the shortage of physicians who are underrepresented in medicine by aggressively recruiting and training talented minorities."

— Miguel A. Villalona-Calero, MD

Director, Medical Oncology
Professor, Internal Medicine and Pharmacology
Co-Chair, American Association for Cancer Research, Fourth AACR Science of Health Disparities in Racial/Ethnic Minorities and the Medically Underserved
Ohio State is building your future through...

EDUCATION: A PLACE TO LEARN

The Ohio State University's size as the largest campus in the nation has its advantages – with centers of learning, clinical and laboratory research facilities and a multitude of services to support the work of its students and researchers alike. A distinct advantage for the health sciences learning community is the concentration of its colleges and related facilities situated on Ohio State's academic medical center campus. The OSU College of Medicine's location adjacent to the OSU Hospital offers unique opportunities for students of medicine to practice and learn in actual clinical settings.

Known for curricular innovation, OSU medicine has earned the respect of its graduates and peers as one of the nation's leading medical programs since its beginnings in 1914. Ranked among the nation's top 40 schools in the nation, 14th among public institutions, the Ohio State College of Medicine offers a rich, culturally diverse environment in which to grow and learn.

- Ohio State is one of only 40 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers in the United States and recently received an “exceptional” rating, the highest rating given by the NCI.
- Ohio State ranks among the nation’s top 20 universities both for international student enrollment and the number of students who study abroad.
- The Ohio State University Medical Center was named one of “America's Best Hospitals” for the 19th consecutive year by U.S. News & World Report. The Medical Center leads the region with 11 specialties named as among the best in America.
- A research powerhouse, Ohio State ranks second among all U.S. universities in industry-sponsored research with $117 million (National Science Foundation).

“Any academic environment that seeks to inspire, as well as educate, must be inclusive of persons from all walks of life. This is certainly true at The Ohio State University College of Medicine, which actively supports the university’s LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) community through both the dedicated student group GLBT Issues in Medicine, and the OSUMC LGBT Diversity Network. Through these groups, faculty, staff and students meet to provide a forum for personal and professional development, foster a culture of inclusiveness, and increase OSU’s outreach and engagement with the local LGBT community. Such activities enrich and enhance the lives of all persons.”

— John Davis, PhD, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine, Assistant Dean for Student Life
Ohio State is building your future through...

OSU Medical Center Main Campus

The James Cancer Hospital

The OSU Biomedical Research Tower

Meiling Hall – Home to OSU College of Medicine
ACTIVITIES: A PLACE TO INTERACT

OSU Medical Student Organizations

We support our student groups who are part of their respective national organizations. Some students represent OSU at the national level by serving as officers in these organizations. Students who attend national conferences represent OSU and often bring back fresh ideas and activities.

The Ohio State University College of Medicine has many student organizations that promote everything from networking to volunteerism to simple good fellowship. Among those that exemplify diversity are the following:

- Student National Medical Association (SNMA)
- Aprovechando Salud y Educacion (Embracing Health and Education)
- Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Issues in Medicine
- Latino Medical Student Association at The Ohio State University Medical Center
- Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association
- Jewish Medical Student Interest Group
- Muslim Medical Student Association
- Physicians for Human Rights
- Women in Medicine

Make sure to view the entire list: www.osu.edu/diversityplan/index_1.php

Diversity of OSU

The leadership of The Ohio State University has consistently and strongly supported and defended the value of diversity in promoting excellence in education, from the adoption of the Diversity Action Plan in 2001 through today. Academic departments and colleges, as well as non-academic units, have advocated for diversity and sought to implement it thoughtfully in their programs.

(Diversity Action Plan: http://www.osu.edu/diversityplan/index.php)

A sample of other diversity programs at OSU:
More than 110 Student Organizations:
http://ohiounion.osu.edu/studentorgs/orgs_directory.asp

“Efforts to increase diversity in health care no longer start at the door of the medical school here at The Ohio State University. As medical students, faculty/staff and residents, we are encouraged to extend ourselves and our talents into the schools and our communities. Through volunteer efforts and discussion panels, we work to inspire those who might have otherwise been discouraged or never have developed a passion for medicine.”

— NaTosha N Gatson, MD, PhD,
Resident Physician PGY-1, Neurology,
The Ohio State University College of Medicine
COMMUNITY: A PLACE TO ENGAGE

At Ohio State, you will develop the competence to provide outstanding care to diverse patient populations. In clinical settings, it is not uncommon for our students to encounter patients who are from urban or rural areas, who are wealthy, poor, young, elderly, Christian, Hindu, Jewish, or Muslim. You might see patients from developing countries and various ethnic groups, patients who do not speak English or who are part of a non-traditional family. As a student at Ohio State, you will have many opportunities to develop these skills in clinics serving Latino and Asian patients, with geriatric patients in retirement centers, and in settings like University Hospital East, located in an underserved urban area.

Columbus Free Clinic

The Columbus Free Clinic, which provides free healthcare to more than 1,200 underserved patients in the University’s neighborhood each year, is run by Ohio State medical students and supervised by volunteer physicians. The clinic has been providing free medical services for more than 20 years. The patient population served by the clinic is diverse, consisting of uninsured patients who come to the clinic for routine medical care, patients who are seeking a job or starting school and need physicals, and patients who are underinsured for the medical services or medications they need.

Other Clinics

La Clinica Latina is a free, full-service health clinic for Spanish-speaking individuals. It provides on going health care, including gynecological care for women. The Asian Health Initiative Free Clinic focuses on serving the needs of the Asian community through on going healthcare. The Physician Free Clinic, an affiliated organization of the Columbus Medical Association, is the largest provider of free episodic and speciality health care in Franklin County. Serving the Muslim community is the Noor Community Clinic, which provides routine medical care and physical examinations, treatment for non-emergency illnesses, screenings for diabetes mellitus, high blood pressure and STDs and health education services.

“I’ve spent a lot of time learning about medicine in the classroom and out of textbooks during my first two years at Ohio State’s College of Medicine, but some of the most valuable concepts have come from my classmates’ perspectives. I’ve had the opportunity to form close relationships with people from all different ethnic and religious backgrounds. This interaction is one of the most important aspects of my education, and it has been a key element in preparing me to serve the diverse population of the U.S.”

— Lauren MacCormick
Ohio State University Medical Student
“MD Camp allows students from underrepresented and disadvantaged backgrounds, to participate in an experience that most other students wouldn’t have until their first year of medical school. The program plays such an integral role in the process of “prescribing change” to health disparities in America as our nation looks to provide for the first time in its history a standard of healthcare to every citizen.”

— Christopher Kobe

OSU Medical Student and 2012 MD Camp Director
COLUMBUS: A PLACE TO EXPERIENCE

The Columbus metropolitan area has experienced several waves of immigration in the 20th century, including groups from Vietnam, Russia, Somalia, and ongoing immigration from Mexico and other Latin American countries. Many other countries are represented as well, due largely to the international draw of The Ohio State University.

Due to its demographics, which include a mix of races and a wide range of incomes, as well as urban, suburban and nearby rural areas, Columbus is considered to be a “typical” American city and, consequently, has been used as a test market for new products by retail and restaurant chains. But Columbus is by no means average.

- Columbus, the capital of Ohio and the state’s largest city, has a population of nearly 800,000 residents with more than one million people in the metropolitan area.

- Columbus is listed as one of the top 10 cities in which to attend medical school by “Premed Life” magazine 2012.

- Columbus is the 15th largest city in the nation; it is a city rich in diversity with 134 nations represented speaking 105 languages.

- Columbus rates in the top two percent among cities in Ohio in racial diversity, with more than 46% non-whites – 30% Black or African-American, 5.6% Hispanic or Latino, 4.8% Asian, 1.1% American Indian and Alaskan Native, 2% Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander, and 3.3% other races.

- Franklin County, in which Columbus resides, remains one of the fastest growing communities for Hispanic populations, growing by 129% between 2000 and 2010.

- Columbus has the second-largest largest Somali population in the United States.

(Sources: 2010 U.S. Dept. of Labor Census Report, the 2010 PEW Research Center Census Report and Experience Columbus)

“When I chose The Ohio State University, I chose it for several reasons. The first reason is its reputation – not for football, as good as that is – but its sterling reputation as a center of quality learning. I wanted to make sure the university I attended had the tools available to assist me in learning what was needed to take me wherever I chose to go in life. And second, I chose OSU because of its diversity of students, faculty and thought. OSU had and still has a proven record of addressing the needs of all its students, especially its minority students.

The Ohio State University is a first-class, world-renowned university, which doesn’t just happen. OSU had to actively take steps to cultivate a student population from all over the world. This international orientation brings to Ohio State both a wealth of information and a rich and culturally diverse outlook. Which means the knowledge I gained, I learned not only in the classroom, but through the relationships that I developed, both with professors and with fellow students. That unique, positive and culturally diverse education is something that has continuously helped me as I have progressed through the different phases of my professional and personal life.”

— Alvin D. Jackson, MD (’89)
Chairman, Board of Directors, The Willow Hill Heritage & Renaissance Center
(former Director, Ohio Department of Health – 2007-2011)
Our Diversity Mission

The mission of the Ohio State’s Medical Center is to improve people’s lives through innovation in research, education and patient care. Diversity is central to our academic medical center mission and serves as a driver of institutional excellence.

We celebrate and learn from our diversity and we value individual differences. We see diversity as the uniqueness each of us brings to achieving our shared mission and goals. We recognize and value different perspectives, characteristics, experiences and attributes of each individual in creating an environment where we thrive on and benefit from our differences. A diverse culture optimizes the Medical Center’s ability to provide innovative and evidence-based health care personalized for each individual by supporting a greater understanding and appreciation for each individual’s genetic makeup, behavior, experience, and beliefs.

Our Diversity Vision

Diversity optimizes Medical Center’s educational outcomes for healthcare professionals, trainees, researchers, and patients. In support of the Medical Center vision, the education mission has adopted a vision of transforming health care by educating leaders for the health professions. The key strategies used to accomplish this vision are fostering curricular innovation to develop measurably excellent health professionals, enhancing the culture of humanism and professionalism to support relationship-centered care, and rewarding teaching excellence to ensure that the students we graduate are capable of meeting the health care, wellness, and biomedical research needs of a diverse community. We recognize diversity as relating to race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, and disability.

The College of Medicine’s Office of Diversity & Inclusion is committed to helping students realize their dream of becoming a physician and making their medical school experience personally and professionally rewarding. Services provided by the Office include academic and career counseling, student advocacy, and assistance with scholarships and grants for which students may be eligible. The Office supports educational and recreational experiences that promote personal growth and cultural sensitivity by providing assistance on travel expenses to professional conferences and matching students with mentors who are compatible with the student’s individual professional goals and unique cultural background.

— Valerie Blackwell-Truitt
Program Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion
The Ohio State University College of Medicine alumni network consists of more than 13,000 individuals who live and practice in every county of the state, in every state in the union and in over 100 countries in the world. When you become a member of the OSU College of Medicine community, you join a proud family of physicians who make a difference in people's lives every day and who are on the cutting edge of advances in research, patient care and education.

The Ohio State University College of Medicine Alumni Society, along with the college’s alumni affairs office, promotes fellowship among alumni and sponsors activities, events and programs that support the educational mission of the college. Student-alumni programs allow medical students to interact and engage with Medical Center alumni through special events such as alumni receptions, professional development presentations, student-alumni sporting events, and more.

Ranking among the college’s most honored alumni is Clotilde Dent Bowen, MD (’47), the first African-American female to graduate from The Ohio State University College of Medicine. Dr. Bowen was the first black female physician in the United States Army, the first black woman to attain the rank of colonel, the first to command a military hospital clinic and the first to be named chief of psychiatry in two Veteran Administration hospitals and two Army medical centers. She was awarded the Bronze Star and the Legion of Merit in 1971 for her work in establishing drug treatment centers and for her efforts in lessening racial conflicts during the Vietnam War. In 1974 she was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

— Clotilde Dent Bowen, MD (Class of ’47)

Everything in my life started with going to OSU medical school and being the first black woman to graduate with a medical degree. From then on, it’s been a life that most people can’t imagine.

As part of the 2011 OSU Medical Alumni Reunion, students and alumni gathered for the 2nd Annual under-represented and minority breakfast. The event included presentations by college leaders and a tribute to Clotilde Bowen, MD (’47), first African-American woman graduate of the OSU College of Medicine, led by college alumnus Alvin D. Jackson, MD, (’89).
Diversity and Inclusion
Drivers of excellence and innovation

A Message from Admissions

We strive for a diverse student body at The Ohio State University College of Medicine for several reasons. We believe that, to produce leaders in the medical profession, we must graduate physicians who are prepared to care for all of the world’s citizens. Diverse communities will benefit from cutting-edge research when physician scientists come from a variety of backgrounds. Finally, we firmly believe that one tactic to eliminate healthcare disparities is to educate a diverse physician workforce.

Come join us. We look forward to receiving your application.
The Ohio State University College of Medicine

Admissions Office
155D Meiling Hall
370 W. 9th Ave.
Columbus, OH 43210
(614) 292-7137

medicine.osu.edu