The World is Changing.
Medicine is Changing.
We’re Leading the Way.

Drivers of excellence and innovation
Diversity and Inclusion

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

At The Ohio State University College of Medicine, we believe that a diverse population enriches the educational experience of all of our students and trainees, and we know that clinicians from groups underrepresented in medicine and biomedical sciences are key healthcare providers for our nation’s under-resourced and underserved populations.

One of the ways we achieve diversity in our medical school classes at Ohio State is by using a holistic review and selection process in which a student’s background, experience and other personal characteristics and attributes are considered in addition to his or her quantitative measures, such as GPA and MCAT scores.

Our progress over the years has been impressive, with the number of women enrollees growing to 50% or higher in each class since 2013 and the number of underrepresented in medicine students comprising nearly one-quarter of each class since 2016. Recognized nationally, Ohio State is currently ranked 2nd in the nation for medical schools with the highest percentage of African American students, excluding historically black colleges and universities, by U.S. News & World Report. In addition, the college encourages applicants from the LBGTQ+ community and those who self-identify as nonbinary.

We are sure you will find Ohio State College of Medicine a supportive, comfortable and diverse environment in which to learn and grow as you prepare for a rewarding career in medicine.

Leon McDougle, MD, MPH
Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion
Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine
The Ohio State University College of Medicine

“Diversity drives excellence in education. Health professions students learning in an environment enriched by others with different life experiences enables students to be best prepared to serve communities in a way that reduces health disparities and empowers patients to better achieve health goals.”

Daniel Clinchot, MD
Vice Dean for Education, The Ohio State College of Medicine
A MESSAGE FROM ADMISSIONS

Here at Ohio State, diversity is central to our academic medical center mission and serves as a driver of institutional excellence. We know that future physicians need to be prepared to serve a diverse patient population and that diverse communities benefit when physicians come from diverse backgrounds.

As a medical student at Ohio State, you will meet people from every corner of the world, bringing with them their own unique individual experiences and backgrounds and making for a vibrant and stimulating environment in which to learn.

At Ohio State College of Medicine, we select our students based not only on their academic performance, but also on a range of personal attributes and experiences that provide a holistic view of each applicant. We are proud of the strides we have made over the years in balancing our medical school classes to include a growing number of women and underrepresented in medicine students. In addition to the 112 women and 95 men currently enrolled, our Class of 2023 includes two students who have self-identified as nonbinary.

We hope that you find this booklet helpful as an introduction to some of the programs and support services waiting for you at The Ohio State College of Medicine.

Thank you for your interest and we look forward to hearing from you.

Demicha Rankin, MD
Associate Dean for Admissions, The Ohio State College of Medicine
Ohio State is creating the future of medicine through . . .

A SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The college’s Of ce for Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) supports the needs and interests of students from groups who are traditionally underrepresented in medicine (URM) and traditionally underserved in the biomedical sciences. The goal of the ODI is to help qualified students from all backgrounds to realize their dreams of becoming physicians while making their medical school experiences personally and professionally rewarding.

ODI offers academic and career counseling, student advocacy and assistance with scholarships and grants for which students may be eligible. The of ce also supports educational experiences that promote personal growth and cultural sensitivity, such as assisting with travel expenses to professional conferences and matching students with mentors who are compatible with their individual professional goals and unique cultural backgrounds.

The of ce oversees the college’s pipeline programs to encourage greater diversity in medical school. One such program is the Medical Careers Pathway (MEDPATH) Post Baccalaurate Program, a one-year program aimed at increasing the number of underrepresented minorities and students from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds who enter medical school. The ASPIRE Program aims to provide research experience for Ohio State undergraduate students from underrepresented and/or disadvantaged groups who aspire to become medical doctors, clinician scientists or basic science researchers by earning an MD, MD/PhD or PhD degree. In addition, the underrepresented in medicine Visiting Student Program for medical students provides a scholarship for underrepresented medical students to perform visiting rotations at the many facilities within, or partnering with, The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center and Ohio State College of Medicine.

The college’s annual MD Camp program allows high school students and recent high school graduates to sample medical school life through a three-week summer camp program on Ohio State’s health sciences campus. MD Camp strives to inspire students to pursue a career in medicine by challenging them intellectually, facilitating their academic and social development and increasing their awareness of the special needs of underserved populations.

Other programs supported by the Of ce of Diversity and Inclusion include the Clotilde Dent Bowen, MD, Visiting Professor, Diversity Lecture Series, Mentoring in Medicine High School Exposition Day, Visiting Professor, Exploration in Medicine Seminar Series, Mornings at ODI, the quarterly Group on Health Equity meetings; and the annual Of ce for Diversity and Inclusion Graduate Celebration event in the spring.

Over the years, ODI has partnered with other college and community organizations to offer programming that supports learning opportunities for students. A partnership between PsychSIG, the psychology interest group for students, and the college’s Of ce of Student Activities develops new programming for students interested in the specialty field of psychology and to help bring awareness to the issues of mental health. Past partnerships with other student organizations in the college have included the Somali Health Initiative for Nutrition Education (SHINE), Dance in Medicine and Ultrasound A Capella.

Ohio State sponsors more than 100 medical student groups, offering its members numerous educational, social and volunteer opportunities. Organizations such as the Network of Underrepresented Residents and Fellows (NURF), the Ohio State chapter of the Student National Medical Association (SNMA), the Ohio Chapter of the Latino Medical Student Association, Aprovechando Salud y Educación (Embracing Health and Education), and the Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association assist communities by providing medical education and health screenings. The Of ce for Diversity and Inclusion provides support to these and other URM groups, including co-sponsoring SNMA’s annual Making It to Medical School BI-pre-med conference and Rising Up Strong summer program. For a list of medical student organizations, visit medicine.osu.edu/students/life/organizations/pages/index.aspx.

Ohio State student organization SHINE brings health education classes to grade-school Somali students at Focus Learning North Academy in Columbus.

“During my longitudinal practice, I quickly discovered the importance of learning from the patients I was seeing and not solely from my textbooks, PowerPoints and e-modules. LP has given me hands-on experience, from measuring patient vital signs to taking patient histories, reinforcing all of the clinical skills I have been learning in the lab. More importantly, with my physician preceptor’s guidance, I am learning to view each patient interaction as a unique case and to provide individualized care to each and every one, a skill I value as a future physician.”

— Emmanuel Boateng

MD candidate, Class of 2020
COMMUNITY SERVICE

As a medical student at Ohio State, you will develop the competence to provide outstanding care to diverse patient populations. In the clinical setting, you will 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 nontraditional family. Or you might practice in clinics that serve Latino or Asian patients, in retirement centers that serve geriatric patients, veterans in a homeless shelter, or at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center East Hospital, which provides health care to patients in a local underserved area.

Columbus Free Clinic

The Columbus Free Clinic, which provides free health care to more than 12,000 underserved patients in the University neighborhood each year, is run by Ohio State medical students and supervised by volunteer Ohio State 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 visit the clinic for routine medical care, patients who need a physical exam to begin a job or to attend school, and patients who are uninsured or 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 ongoing health care, including gynecological care, for women. The Asian Health Initiative Free Clinic serves the needs of the Asian community through ongoing health care. The Physicians Care Connection Free Clinic, an affiliated organization of the Columbus Medical Association, is the largest provider of free episodic and specialty health care in Franklin County. Serving the Muslim community is The Noor Community Clinic, which provides health education services, routine medical care and physical examinations, treatment for nonemergency illnesses, screenings for diabetes mellitus, high blood pressure and STDs, as well as health education services.

PACT and the Health Sciences Academies

Under the Partners Achieving Community Transformation (PACT) program, Ohio State joins the city of Columbus, the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) and Near East Side Columbus stakeholders to create a healthy, financially and environmentally sustainable community where residents have access to safe and affordable housing, quality health care and education, and employment opportunities in the area.

One of the PACT programs, the Health Sciences Academies (HSA), addresses the shortage of physicians serving underrepresented communities by encouraging students residing in these communities to consider a career in medicine. The HSA aims to increase the academic performance of students who reside on the near east side of Columbus, as well as to increase student interest and achievement in the health sciences or other occupations within the healthcare industries (e.g., of ce/clerical, marketing and community relations). The program serves students at East High, Champion Middle, Beatty Park, East Columbus, Eastgate, Ohio Avenue and Trevitt Elementary schools by developing pathways to careers that provide services to residents of the PACT neighborhood.

The African American Male Mentoring Roundtable brings together black male attending physicians, medical students and premed students in a regularly recurring dinner meeting intended to inspire and mentor young men in the profession.

Ohio State female medical students on their surgery rotation.
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Ohio State University Medical Student Organizations

The Ohio State University College of Medicine sponsors a variety of student organizations that promote activities from networking to volunteering to simple good fellowship. Among those geared toward diverse groups are:

- Student National Medical Association
- Aprovechando Salud y Educación (Embracing Health and Education)
- LGBTQ+ & Allies
- Latino Medical Student Association at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center
- Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association
- Jewish Medical Student Interest Group
- Islamic Professional Student Association
- Physicians for Human Rights
- Women in Medicine

View the entire list at medicine.osu.edu/students/life/organizations/pages/index.aspx.

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A STRONG ALUMNI NETWORK

The Ohio State University College of Medicine alumni network consists of more than 15,000 individuals who live and practice in every county of the state, in every state in the union and in more than 100 countries in the world. When students become members of the Ohio State College of Medicine community, they join a proud family of physicians who make a difference in people’s lives through cutting-edge advances in research, patient care and education.

The Ohio State University College of Medicine Alumni Affairs Office promotes fellowship among alumni, and sponsors events and programs that support the educational mission of the college. Medical students interact and engage with Ohio State College of Medicine alumni through student-alumni events such as alumni receptions, professional development presentations, 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 Veterans 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 in the military during the Vietnam War. In 1974, she was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

The Latino Medical Student Association’s second annual DACA event, Dream with Dreamers, held in the fall at Ohio State’s Biomedical Research Tower, was presented in collaboration with the Student National Medical Association, LGBTQ+ & Allies, the Student National Pharmaceutical Association and the Hispanic Student Dental Association.

The October 2018 annual Clotilde Dent Bowen, MD, Visiting Professor of Inclusive Excellence Diversity Lecture and Luncheon honored Women of Excellence, which included scholarship recipient Janice Bonsu, (M2), faculty physician awardee Diane Gorgas, MD, and resident awardee Jannel Lee-Alien, MD. Honorable mention awards were given to Lauren Chen (M3), Madonna Enwe (M2), Michelle Nguyen, MD, MPH; Candice Carpenter, MD, EdM; Riza Conroy, MD; and Anita Ndife, MBBS.

“Ohio State’s commitment to creating a culturally competent and inclusive environment is deliberate and purposeful. In partnership with our colleagues in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, we designed and implemented the Advanced Competency Course in Latino Health, a unique program designed to train students in recognizing and addressing the unique healthcare needs of the Latino community.

“The combination of novel curricular innovations, responsive to the needs of the population we serve, and the interactions with a heterogeneous cadre of students and faculty truly set the tone of the institution.

Being part of this diverse learning environment ultimately fosters not just excellent physicians, but also outstanding citizens.”

Alejandro Diez, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine
The Ohio State University College of Medicine

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ABOUT COLUMBUS

Columbus is the 14th largest city in the U.S. and the second largest in the Midwest behind Chicago. The capital of Ohio, Columbus is the center of business and government in central Ohio. Its location in the center of the state, as well as the Midwest, puts it within 550 miles of nearly half the nation’s population.

Columbus is diverse. Its population is approximately 56% white, 29% black, and 6% Hispanic with a median age of 32.3. Fifteen percent of its people speak a non-English language.

Accordingly, Columbus offers a diverse range of cultural and artistic events, sports, restaurants, festivals and more — all within close proximity to The Ohio State University campus.

For those interested in music and dance, the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, Pro Musica Chamber Orchestra, BalletMet, and Opera/Columbus are regionally renowned. Art lovers will appreciate the collections and exhibits displayed at Ohio State’s Wexner Center for the Arts, the Columbus Museum of Art, and galleries in several Columbus arts districts, including the Gateway and Short North, which also feature specialty boutiques, antique shops and eateries located in the University district. Short North is one of Columbus’ historic neighborhoods, which also includes German Village, Victorian Village, Italian Village and Olde Town East. Annual neighborhood festivities include Oktoberfest in German Village, Irish Festival in Dublin and the Jazz and Rib Fest in downtown Columbus.

The Franklin Park Conservatory, the Center of Science and Industry, the Lifestyle Communities Pavilion and the nation’s No. 1 ranked Columbus Zoo of er additional leisure activities. Theater, popular music and nightclubs are also readily available. Columbus is known for its fine dining, craft beverages and eclectic food trucks.

Celebrating its 63rd year in 2019, the Columbus International Festival celebrates cultural diversity by bringing global arts and crafts, ethnic foods, live performances and more to central Ohioans.

Nature lovers have easy access to some of the most breathtaking parks and scenic rivers in the Midwest, of ering hiking, camping, biking and boating activities. Nearby glacier-carved gorges, waterfalls and towering cliffs allow exploration of the area’s natural wonders, including Hocking Hills State Park, located just an hour away in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains.

In addition to Ohio State Buckeye football, sports fans can enjoy the NHL’s Columbus Blue Jackets, the Columbus Crew men’s professional soccer team and Columbus Clippers baseball. The PGA Memorial Golf Tournament is held annually at Jack Nicklaus’ world-class Muirfield Village Golf Course, and each fall thousands run the Columbus Marathon.

#1 best place to live, work and raise a family for African Americans (BET Networks)

#1 up-and-coming high-tech city (Fortune Magazine)

Top 10 most livable city (CNN/Money Magazine)

4th cleanest city in America (Reader’s Digest)

11th best city for single young professionals (Forbes Magazine)
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