

PRE-MEDICINE



THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

## MISSION

The School of Medicine is committed to remain a world-leading institution in three equally valued and inter-related missions of patient care, education, and research. The success of these missions requires the integration of the School of Medicine and UNM Hospitals and a shared destiny with the University of New Mexico. By recruiting and retaining a world-class faculty and staff who strive for excellence, innovation, quality and professionalism, we will accomplish our missions. Our goal is to provide top-notch clinical services to the residents of New Mexico while being recognized as a respected School of Medicine training doctors for New Mexico.

## FROM THE DEAN



Welcome to the exciting field of Health Sciences. This a momentous and empowering time in your professional pursuits. The pace of medical advances is breathtaking; however, UNM's School of Medicine is well-equipped to provide extraordinary training for tomorrow's health professionals.

Problem-based learning in medical education – the academic standard of today – was developed at the UNM School of Medicine (SOM) in the 1960s. Today, our dynamic program reflects ongoing advances in science, health services and medical technologies. Our students are introduced very early in the curriculum to medical cases and patients and experience a unique variety of health cultures, epidemiology, access and other insightful training opportunities unavailable elsewhere.

Our nationally recognized faculty consistently delivers top rankings in Primary Care, Family Medicine and Rural Medicine in the U.S. UNM Hospital is New Mexico's only Level I Trauma Center, and includes a children's hospital, adult and child behavioral health, and community clinic components. UNM's NCI-Designated Cancer Center and colleges of Nursing and Pharmacy further support the SOM.

Beyond edifices and equipment, it's important that you have connections, resources and support to succeed. Scholarship and mentoring programs; academic and professional organizations; specialty student groups and clubs; and more are widely used by our students to fully develop academic, social and professional proficiency within a benevolent community.

Finally, our clinical rotations, statewide preceptorships, and international internships are buoyed by a vigorous network of practicing physicians who share our health vision and mission. There truly is no other program like ours. Together, we will improve New Mexico health care one physician at a time.

I wish you all the best. Warm regards.

**Paul Roth, MD, MS, FACEP**  
Chancellor for Health Sciences  
Dean, School of Medicine

# HISTORY

The University of New Mexico School of Medicine was established in 1961 and admitted its first class in 1964. The School's inaugural motto was "Students first, buildings later," and the premiere entering class of 24 students attended lectures in a converted mortuary! Since these humble beginnings, the UNM School of Medicine has continuously grown and improved through the expansion of our innovative curriculum, state-of-the-art research and compassionate, high quality patient care. The founding goal of the School of Medicine was to serve the people of New Mexico, and today – nearly 50 years later – the SOM continues to improve the healthcare of New Mexico one physician at a time.

2010 ENTERING CLASS STATISTICS			
	Interviewed	Accepted	Matriculated
NM Applicants	207	109	93
Non-Resident Applicants	17	7	0
WICHE	1	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>94</b>



## ACADEMIC

- Average MCAT: 27
- Average GPA: 3.6

## DEMOGRAPHICS

- Applicant age upon matriculation ranged from 21 to 51 with an average age of 24.7.
- 38.3% of the matriculants were URM (racial/ethnic groups under-represented in medicine).
- 49% of the matriculants were men and 51% were women.

# SCHOOL OF MEDICINE HIGHLIGHTS

## LOCATED IN THE LAND OF ENCHANTMENT

New Mexico is a wonderful blend of cultural diversity and striking natural beauty. With some of the best weather in the country, we take pride in our beautiful blue skies and mild, yet differentiated seasons. Known as a cultural melting-pot, New Mexico has a very unique historical background. Visitors and locals alike can spend days strolling around Albuquerque's Old Town, checking out the Indian Pueblo and National Hispanic Cultural Centers, shopping at the Plaza in Santa Fe, and eating as much of our mouth-watering New Mexican food as possible!

## NATIONALLY RANKED

For the 15th consecutive year, the UNM School of Medicine has once again ranked second in the nation for its Rural Medicine program in the latest issue of U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Graduate Schools." UNM SOM was also ranked highly in Family Medicine (#8) and Primary Care (#28).



# ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

## COLLEGE DEGREE

Although a college degree is not required, 99% of our applicants have earned a bachelor's degree; therefore, it is highly recommended that applicants complete a four-year degree program in the field of their choice. Many students select majors in biology, chemistry and biochemistry (~ 50%). The School of Medicine encourages applications from all interested students, regardless of their area of academic study.

## PREREQUISITE COURSES

The minimum prerequisite course requirements to apply to the UNM School of Medicine are:

Required Course	Laboratory Required	Duration	
General Biology I & II	Yes	1 academic year (2 semesters or 3 quarters)	All prerequisites must be completed in full prior to the submission of the AMCAS application, except for the organic chemistry laboratories and biochemistry (these may be in progress at time of application but must be completed prior to matriculation). Additionally, each course must be completed with a letter grade of C or better (C- is not acceptable). Pass/Fail (CR/NC) grading is not accepted. Online coursework is not recommended, and any courses taken online to fulfill the required prerequisites must first be pre-approved by the Assistant Dean for Admissions.
General Chemistry I & II	Yes	1 academic year (2 semesters or 3 quarters)	
Organic Chemistry I & II	Yes	1 academic year (2 semesters or 3 quarters)	
General Physics I & II	No	1 academic year (2 semesters or 3 quarters)	
Biochemistry (400 level)	No	1 semester or 2 quarters	

## MCAT & GPA

To receive consideration for the admissions process, applicants must have a minimum total numerical Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) score of 22 and a cumulative undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or better. Applicants who apply to the Regular MD program and do not meet the minimum cognitive thresholds will be pre-screened for consideration for the Premedical Enrichment Program.

## RESIDENCY

To receive consideration for the admissions process, applicants must be a residents of New Mexico for at least one year (12 consecutive months) prior to the submission of the AMCAS application or have strong ties to the state. Strong ties include having graduated from a New Mexico high school in which you've attended at least one year, being a financial dependent of a current New Mexico resident, or being stationed in the state for active military duty.

Consideration is also given to enrolled members of the Navajo Tribe who reside on the Navajo Reservataion, as certified by the Navajo Department of Higher Education, and residents of participating WICHE states that at present have no medical schools (i.e. Montana and Wyoming). Please note that foreign national applicants are expected to have the equivalent of at least two years of full-time undergraduate or graduate studies at an accredited college or university in the United States, and to have all the same required course prerequisites. Foreign national applicants must also reside in New Mexico for a least one year prior to application in order to fulfill the residency requirement.

## CLINICAL & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

The Committee on Admissions values the motivation and dedication of individuals who take the initiative to seek out clinical opportunities in hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, hospices, etc.

The intent is to provide the individual with the opportunity to demonstrate to the Committee that medicine is the career in which they wholeheartedly wish to study and work. Direct patient contact is the key to a quality clinical experience, and working to gain insight into New Mexico's healthcare issues is a critical component of the experience. Community involvement aside from clinical experience is also important. The Committee believes that individuals who have participated in community service activities are more likely to relate well to others while gaining a sense of altruism and compassion.

## LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Applicants are required to submit a minimum of three, or a maximum of four letters of recommendation. It is suggested that applicants obtain letters from the following:

- Two academic letters from professors/faculty instructors
- One clinical letter from a healthcare professional with whom you've worked
- One letter from someone that knows you well (i.e. research mentor, program director, commanding officer, etc.)

*For more detailed information on admissions requirements please visit the UNM SOM website, <http://hsc.unm.edu/som/admissions/genadmissions.shtml>, or call our office at 505-272-4766.*

# FINANCIAL AID

## TUITION

The UNM School of Medicine offers quality medical education at an affordable price! A breakdown of costs for an independent student living off campus for the 2011 -12 academic year is below.

Off Campus Living	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year	4th Year
<b>Tuition</b>	\$16,170	\$16,170	\$16,170	\$16,170
<b>Curriculum Fees</b>	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,700
<b>Cost of Living</b>	12,802	13,966	13,966	11,594
<b>Books &amp; Supplies</b>	1,758	1,758	1,758	1,758
<b>Computer</b>	2,082	-	-	-
<b>Miscellaneous Fees</b>	890	656	1,730	1,226
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	3,816	4,328	4,328	3,614
<b>Disability and Needlestick Insurance</b>	163	163	163	163
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$40,381	\$39,741	\$40,815	\$37,225

\*All tuition fees are approximate and subject to change; please check the UNM SOM financial aid website for updates.

### SOM Financial Aid Office

Phone: (505) 272-8008 • Fax: (505) 272-8063

Website: [hsc.unm.edu/som/finaid/](http://hsc.unm.edu/som/finaid/)

## SCHOLARSHIPS

The School of Medicine offers both need- and merit-based scholarships. Need-based scholarships require the completion of FAFSA, [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). For more information on available scholarships please contact the SOM Financial Aid Office or visit the following web page: <http://hsc.unm.edu/som/finaid/scholarship.shtml>.



# APPLYING

## APPLICATION DEADLINES

	Early Decision Program (EDP)	All Other Programs
Earliest Date to Apply	June 1	June 1
Latest Date to Apply	August 1	November 15
Admissions Status Notifications Sent	October 1	March 15

All applicants to the UNM School of Medicine must submit their applications through the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS). Go to: [www.aamc.org/students/applying/amcas/](http://www.aamc.org/students/applying/amcas/).

Applicants who meet all of the minimum residency, prerequisite, MCAT and GPA requirements will be invited via email by the UNM SOM Office of Admissions to complete the Secondary Application. Applicants who apply to the Regular MD program and do not meet the minimum requirements will be pre-screened for the Premedical Enrichment Program.

### Early Decision Program (EDP)

Applicants who apply through the Early Decision Program can only apply to the University of New Mexico School of Medicine. WICHE and non-resident applicants MUST apply through the EDP to receive consideration. All non-residents must have at least the average MCAT/GPA as the previous year's entering class to be given consideration for admission.

### Regular MD

Approximately 90% of all UNM SOM applicants apply through the Regular MD Program. Regular MD applicants may apply to multiple medical schools.

### Premedical Enrichment Program (PrEP)

The Premedical Enrichment Program (PrEP) is a post-baccalaureate curriculum offered to educationally disadvantaged New Mexicans who exhibit exceptional non-cognitive characteristics. Applicants who apply to the Regular MD Program and do not meet the minimum MCAT and/or GPA requirements will be pre-screened for PrEP eligibility.

### Combined MD/PhD Program

This competitive combined degree program consists of 18 months of the SOM curriculum, followed by 3-4 years of PhD dissertation research, and concludes with the remaining 2 years of the SOM curriculum. The MD/PhD Program is fully funded and has the same application requirements as Regular MD; however, a research presentation is also required.

### Combined MD/MPH Program

This program is designed to provide an integrated learning experience by enhancing opportunities for medical students to acquire public health knowledge and skills through this 5-year program. Applicants must apply through AMCAS as well as to the MPH Program directly, and must be accepted into both programs in order to matriculate as a combined degree student.

# SCHOOL OF MEDICINE OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

**HOURS:** Monday – Friday, 8AM – 5PM

## PHYSICAL LOCATION

Health Sciences Library & Informatics Center  
(Building #234), Room 125

## MAILING ADDRESS

UNM SOM Office of Admissions  
MSC 09 5085, 1 University of New Mexico  
HSLIC, Rm 125  
Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001

**PHONE:** 505-272-4766 • **FAX:** 505-925-6031

**EMAIL:** somadmissions@salud.unm.edu

## LISTSERV

Sign up to our SOM-Admissions listserv to receive information about events, admissions information and pre-med workshops at [listserv@list.unm.edu](mailto:listserv@list.unm.edu).

## WEBSITE

For additional information about the UNM School of Medicine and admissions requirements and recommendations, please visit <http://hsc.unm.edu/som/admissions/index.shtml>.

## WORKSHOPS/ADVISEMENT

The Office of Admissions provides students interested in medicine with information regarding the application and admissions process for medical school. Workshops are held on a monthly basis. Please be aware that you will be required to attend a pre-med workshop before scheduling a pre-med advisement appointment with an advisor at the SOM Office of Admissions. One-on-one advisement is by appointment only.





Alejandro Marentes



*Improving New Mexico's healthcare one doctor at a time.*

UNM SOM Office of Admissions  
MSC 09 5085  
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