

College of Medicine
MD Class of 2026 Graduation
University of Saskatchewan

College of Medicine

Elder Greeting

Elder Robert Merasty

University of Saskatchewan



Elder Greeting

Elder Robert Merasty

Collaborator

Board Governance & Growth Leader

Indigenous Protocol and Relations



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MD Class of 2026 Graduation
University of Saskatchewan

College of Medicine

MD Class of 2026, Co-Chairs Address

Drs. Zoey Bourgeois and Joshua Anderson

University of Saskatchewan

College of Medicine

Dean's Address

Dr. Sarah Forgie, Dean, College of Medicine
University of Saskatchewan

College of Medicine

Teaching Awards

Nominated by the MD Class of 2026

University of Saskatchewan



Regina Resident Teaching Award

Dr. Balsam Arwini

Obstetrics and Gynecology

Nominated by the MD Class of 2026



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Regina Faculty Teaching Award

Dr. Rashmi Bhargava

Obstetrics and Gynecology

Nominated by the MD Class of 2026



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Prince Albert Resident Teaching Award

Dr. Calista Lytle

Family Medicine

Nominated by the MD Class of 2026



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Prince Albert Faculty Teaching Award

Dr. Shelby Jenkins

Obstetrics and Gynecology

Nominated by the MD Class of 2026



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SLIC Teaching Award

Dr. Michael Bayda

Family Medicine

Nominated by the MD Class of 2026



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Saskatoon Resident Teaching Award

Dr. Robert Downey

Orthopedic Surgery

Nominated by the MD Class of 2026



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Saskatoon Faculty Teaching Award

Dr. Gudrun Caspar-Bell

Endocrinology and Metabolism

Nominated by the MD Class of 2026



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College of Medicine

Academic Awards

Presented by Dr. Meredith McKague,

Associate Dean, Undergraduate Medical Education

University of Saskatchewan

Drs. Shashi and Pravesh Suri Award

Dr. Shashi Suri, an anesthesiologist and Dr. Pravesh Suri, a family physician both practice in Regina for the Saskatchewan Health Authority. They have established this award to show their appreciation of the University of Saskatchewan medical school and to promote academic excellence. This award is presented to the top graduating student who will be pursuing residency training in anesthesia or family medicine.



Drs. Shashi and Pravesh Suri Award

Dr. Mackenzie Heidel

University of Saskatchewan / Anesthesiology
/ Saskatoon

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Drs. Epstein and Schnurr Award in Integrative Medicine

This award, in honour of Dr. Michael Epstein and Dr. Joe Schnurr, is provided to a graduating student in recognition of demonstrated motivation, initiative and achievement in the area of integrative medicine.



Drs. Epstein and Schnurr Award in Integrative Medicine

Dr. Valiyah Khurshid

University of Alberta / Psychiatry / Edmonton

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Professor Popkin Prize in Obstetrics and Gynecology

This prize is awarded to the final year medical student who, during the clinical clerkship, demonstrated superiority in the acquisition of knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes that physicians require to provide reproductive health care.



Professor Popkin Prize in Obstetrics & Gynecology

Dr. Brynne Stebbings

University of Saskatchewan / Obstetrics and
Gynecology / Regina

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The Artemis Award

Awarded to the student who has shown the greatest interest in pursuing a career in Obstetrics and Gynecology. It recognizes passion, and dedication to advancing women's health.



The Artemis Award

Dr. Whitney Curtis

University of Saskatchewan / Obstetrics and
Gynecology / Saskatoon

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The Department of Pediatrics Prize

This award is presented to the student with the best overall performance in the pediatric rotation.



The Department of Pediatrics Prize

Dr. Whitney Curtis

University of Saskatchewan / Obstetrics and
Gynecology / Saskatoon

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The Lawrence and Penny Clein Scholarship in Palliative Care

In recognition of a fourth-year undergraduate medical student who has demonstrated the potential and the interest to pursue a career in or related to palliative care.

Congratulations

**The Lawrence and Penny Clein Scholarship
in Palliative Care**

Dr. Clayton Brazier

University of Saskatchewan / Family Medicine / Saskatoon - Urban

MD Class of 2026



Dr. Eric Lepp Memorial Award in Medicine

Dr. Eric Lepp was a Nuclear Medicine specialist, practicing in Regina, who was tragically killed in a traffic accident in 1990. In his honour this award is presented annually to the student receiving the highest mark on the Internal Medicine rotation during the clinical clerkship year.

Congratulations

Dr. Eric Lepp Memorial Award in Medicine

Dr. Clayton Brazier

University of Saskatchewan / Family Medicine / Saskatoon – Urban

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Dr. Robert G. Murray Undergraduate Award in Medicine

This award established in memory of Dr. Robert G. Murray, former Dean of the College of Medicine, is to provide financial support to an undergraduate student who has completed their Grade 12 education in the province of Saskatchewan and who intends to establish a family practice in the province.



Dr. Robert G. Murray

Undergraduate Award in Medicine

Dr. Eriq Marleau

University of Saskatchewan / Family Medicine
integrated Emergency Medicine / Swift
Current - Regional

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Emergency Medicine Book Prize

Two annual prizes, one to a student at the Regina site and one to a student in Saskatoon, with the top clinical performance on their emergency medicine rotation.



Emergency Medicine

Book Prize

Dr. Eriq Marleau

University of Saskatchewan / Family Medicine
integrated Emergency Medicine / Swift
Current - Regional

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Emergency Medicine

Book Prize

Dr. Maya Berscheid

University of Saskatchewan / Emergency
Medicine / Saskatoon

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The Dr. Karl E. Oberdieck Prize

The prize is given to the student who attains the second highest mark in the clinical component of the psychiatry rotation during the clerkship year.



The Dr. Karl E. Oberdieck Prize

Dr. Maya Berscheid

University of Saskatchewan / Emergency
Medicine / Saskatoon

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Dr. Vince Matthews Prize in Community Health and Epidemiology

This prize is named in honour of Dr. Vince Matthews, Professor and Head of the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine (now Community Health and Epidemiology). He had a distinguished career in public service including being the Acting Deputy Minister of Health in 1962 at the time Medicare was introduced in Saskatchewan. He retired in 1987 and passed away in 1988.



Dr. Vince Matthews Prize in Community Health and Epidemiology

Dr. Kacie Kushniruk

University of Alberta / Family Medicine /
Yellowknife

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Dr. J. W. Gerrard Prize in Clinical Pediatrics

In honour of Dr. J. W. Gerrard's lifelong commitment to the care of children and to excellence in clinical pediatrics, the Department of Pediatrics awards a prize to the most distinguished graduating student in clinical pediatrics.



Dr. J. W. Gerrard Prize in Clinical Pediatrics

Dr. Ala'a-edden Swidan

University of Saskatchewan / Diagnostic
Radiology / Saskatoon

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Dr. Beattie Award in Psychiatry

An award has been established in memory of Dr. Beattie, who was a prominent psychiatrist in Regina for many years. This award will be presented annually to a medical student who has completed the psychiatry portion of their clinical clerkship in Regina.



Dr. Beattie Award in Psychiatry

Dr. Mikayla Rudniski

University of Calgary / Orthopedic Surgery /
Calgary

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Saskatchewan Psychiatric Association Award

Awarded to the student with the top academic
achievement in the psychiatry rotation.



Saskatchewan Psychiatric Association Award

Dr. Vivian Heinrichs

University of Saskatchewan / Physical
Medicine & Rehabilitation / Saskatoon

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Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Prize

This prize is sponsored by the Royal University Hospital Foundation and is presented to the final year student who has shown outstanding academic achievement and clinical performance in the area of physical and rehabilitative medicine.



Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Prize

Dr. Vivian Heinrichs

University of Saskatchewan / Physical
Medicine & Rehabilitation / Saskatoon

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Dr. Walter J. Hader Scholarship in Medicine

Through the generous donation of Dr. Walter J. Hader, this award is granted to a student in the graduating class who has matched in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.



Dr. Walter J. Hader Scholarship in Medicine

Dr. Vivian Heinrichs

University of Saskatchewan / Physical
Medicine & Rehabilitation / Saskatoon

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Isabelle and Emmett Hall Scholarship

This award is considered for the five students with the highest marks on the musculoskeletal section of the final systems examination and producing the best essay related to a problem related to Orthopedic surgery.



Isabelle and Emmett Hall Scholarship

Dr. Mimi Moustapha

University of Alberta / Neurology / Edmonton

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Professors' Prize in Surgery

This prize is given by the professors in the Department of Surgery to the graduating student who has shown the greatest promise as a future clinical surgeon. The prize is awarded on the basis of excellence in clinical performance and the oral examination.



Professors' Prize in Surgery

Dr. Sabahat Saeed

University of Saskatchewan / General
Surgery / Saskatoon

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Saskatoon Plainsmen Club Award in Family Medicine

The Plainsmen Club is a non-profit group made up of local representatives from many innovative pharmaceutical companies currently operating in the northern Saskatchewan territory. This award is granted to a fourth-year student who is from as well as intends to establish a family medicine practice in the province of Saskatchewan.



Saskatoon Plainsmen Club Award in Family Medicine

Kate De Vito Porter

University of Saskatchewan / Family Medicine
/ Prince Albert - Regional-Rural

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Dr. G. Ernest McBrien Award

In memory of her brother, Mrs. Madelene Smith has donated the Ernest McBrien Award in Family Medicine to the top two medical students with the highest standing in family medicine and who plan to pursue a career in family medicine.



Dr. G. Ernest McBrien Award

Dr. Alexander Moyer

University of Saskatchewan / Family Medicine /
Regina - Urban

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Dr. G. Ernest McBrien Award

Dr. Adam Magnus

University of Saskatchewan / Family Medicine /
Moose Jaw - Regional

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Henry and Cheryl Kloppenburg Prize in Psychiatry

The Henry and Cheryl Kloppenburg Prize is awarded to the student ranking highest in the psychiatry rotation in the clerkship year. It recognizes the Kloppenburgs' long-standing interest in supporting the pursuit of excellence in psychiatric care.



Henry and Cheryl Kloppenburg Prize in Psychiatry

Dr. Adam Magnus

University of Saskatchewan / Family Medicine /
Moose Jaw – Regional

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Trevor Ives Memorial Award in Medicine

This award recognizes a graduating medical student who demonstrates a strong academic standing, community involvement, and who has declared an interest in pursuing a career in oncology.



Trevor Ives Memorial Award in Medicine

Dr. Nima Hamidi Toussi

University of Alberta / Internal Medicine /
Edmonton

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College of Medicine Class of 1974 Award

This award recognizes a graduating medical student who is academically outstanding and who has the ambition and drive to pursue clinical research as part of their career trajectory.



College of Medicine Class of 1974 Award

Dr. Mark Sabau

Research Fellowship / University of Toronto /
Glaucoma and Advanced Anterior Segment
Surgery

MD Class of 2026



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SLIC Student of the Year

This award is presented to a student who exemplifies Rural Generalist and performed at the highest level in clinical duties and academics in all disciplines over the course of the year. Their work ethic and discipline showed the dedication needed to perform at a high level in rural and remote centers.



SLIC Student of the Year

Dr. Annaka Chorneyko

University of Saskatchewan / General
Surgery / Saskatoon

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Drs. Ivan Jen and Suzanne Yip Award

This award, donated by Dr. Suzanne Yip and Dr. Ivan Jen, is presented annually to the graduating student who achieves the highest average in all the courses relating to student/patient interaction and the refinement of basic clinical skills.



Drs. Ivan Jen and Suzanne Yip Award

Dr. Chase Ellingson

University of Alberta / Internal Medicine /
Edmonton

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The Reuben Brant Scholarship in Medicine: Academic Achievement in Year 4

A bequest from the estate of Reuben Brant, this award is given to the student in the graduating class with the highest average in Year 4.



The Reuben Brant Scholarship in Medicine: Academic Achievement in Year 4

Dr. Chase Ellingson

University of Alberta / Internal Medicine /
Edmonton

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Dr. Hugh MacLean Prize and Silver Medal in Surgery

Dr. J. B. Ritchie, who was associated for many years with the late Dr. MacLean in the practice of surgery in Regina, has donated this award to the student who shows the highest proficiency in surgery.



Dr. Hugh MacLean Prize and Silver Medal in Surgery

Dr. Hannah Strinholm

University of Calgary / Vascular Surgery /
Calgary

MD Class of 2026



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Hilliard Silver Medal and Department of Medicine Prize

In honour of the first professor of medicine at the University of Saskatchewan, the Hilliard Silver Medal is awarded to a graduating student on the basis of excellent performance in clinical medicine and systems.



Hilliard Silver Medal and Department of Medicine Prize

Dr. Amy Li

University of Ottawa / Internal Medicine /
Ottawa

MD Class of 2026



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The Reuben Brant Scholarship in Medicine: Overall Academic Achievement

A bequest from the estate of Reuben Brant, this award is given to the student in the graduating class with the most outstanding overall academic achievement in the four years of undergraduate medical education.



The Reuben Brant Scholarship in Medicine: Overall Academic Achievement

Dr. Amy Li

University of Ottawa / Internal Medicine /
Ottawa

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Lindsay Gold Medal

This award is in honour of Dr. W. Stewart Lindsay, the first Professor of Pathology and the first Dean of the School of Medical Sciences. It is given to the graduating student with the most outstanding academic achievement in each year of training in the College of Medicine.



Lindsay Gold Medal

Dr. Amy Li

University of Ottawa / Internal Medicine /
Ottawa

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MacLeod Silver Medal

Dr. Wendell MacLeod was the second Dean of Medicine at the university from 1952 to 1961. In his honour, a silver medal is awarded to a student whose scholastic work and extracurricular activities are outstanding.



MacLeod Silver Medal

Dr. Natisha Thakkar

University of Saskatchewan / Obstetrics and
Gynecology / Regina

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College of Medicine

Spirit of the Class Award

Presented by Dr. Meredith McKague,
Associate Dean, Undergraduate Medical Education

University of Saskatchewan

Spirit of the Class

The first College of Medicine Alumni Association “Spirit of the Class” award was presented in 1985. The award fulfills the Alumni Association’s wish to honour the graduating class and particularly the member of the class who epitomized the “Spirit of the Class” during the four years of medicine.



Spirit of the Class

Dr. Brooke Baxter

Memorial University of Newfoundland /
General Surgery / St. John's

MD Class of 2026



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Alumni and Community Program Degree Frame Draw

Each year, the Alumni and Community Program sponsors a random draw for a graduating student to receive a degree frame.



Alumni and Community Program Degree Frame Draw

Dr. Kennedy Lewis

University of Saskatchewan / Emergency
Medicine / Regina

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College of Medicine

Presentation of Senior Stick

Presented by Drs. Zoey Bourgeois and
Joshua Anderson

University of Saskatchewan

Senior Stick

The Senior Stick shall be awarded to a graduating student that has made a significant contribution to the social dynamic of their class and supported the development of a strong class bond.



Senior Stick

Dr. Zoey Bourgeois

University of Saskatchewan / Family Medicine /
Saskatoon - Urban

MD Class of 2026



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Toast to Faculty

Dr. Brooke Baxter

University of Saskatchewan

College of Medicine

Toast to Families

Dr. Kacie Kushniruk

University of Saskatchewan

College of Medicine
Student Keynote Address

Dr. Mimi Moustapha

University of Saskatchewan

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