



# MEDICINE



UNIVERSITY OF  
SASKATCHEWAN

# INTERESTED IN MEDICINE?



## **The College of Medicine: A provincial resource**

The College of Medicine serves the people of Saskatchewan by producing outstanding clinical practitioners, generating new knowledge and facilitating improved patient outcomes.

Originally founded as the School of Medical Sciences and located in the University Greenhouse in 1926, the College of Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan has come a long way from its humble beginnings. Today the College of Medicine has a full range of academic programming, including the School of Rehabilitation Science and the Division of Biomedical Sciences.

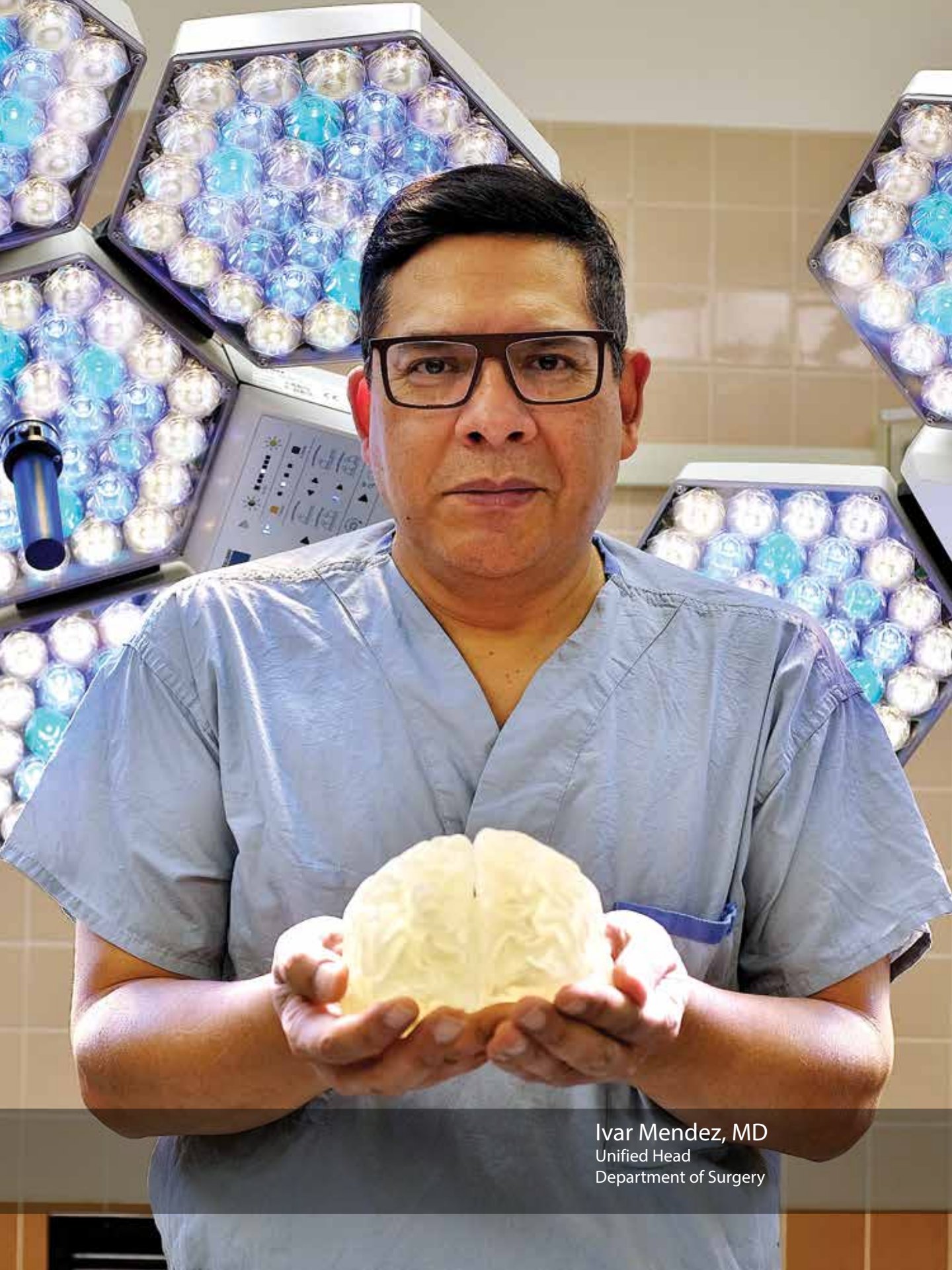
The college has a strong model of distributed medical education, where students have the opportunity to learn and train in multiple sites across Saskatchewan. While the vast majority of pre-clerkship education (first two years) occurs at the Saskatoon and Regina campuses, clerkship education is also delivered in Prince Albert and at our longitudinal clerkship sites in Estevan, La Ronge, Meadow Lake and Melfort.

The College of Medicine is committed to increasing the number of Indigenous physicians in Canada and has developed programs and initiatives to encourage and support Indigenous students, including the Indigenous Admissions Pathway, Indigenous Student Mentorship Program, Pre-Admission Workshop and Pathways Support for Indigenous Students to Pursue Medicine.

For more information about the Indigenous Admissions Pathway, visit:

[medicine.usask.ca/students/undergraduate/indigenous-admissions.php](https://medicine.usask.ca/students/undergraduate/indigenous-admissions.php).

For more information about the College of Medicine, visit: [medicine.usask.ca](https://medicine.usask.ca).



Ivar Mendez, MD  
Unified Head  
Department of Surgery

# YOUR CAREER OPTIONS

The College of Medicine administers a four-year accredited undergraduate medical education program. The Doctor of Medicine (MD) program is designed to ensure our students graduate with a common foundation of knowledge, skills, values and attitudes. Upon completion of undergraduate medical education, students are well-prepared for further training in primary or specialty care areas, leading to careers in many diverse fields. Some of the fields are the following:

- Anesthesiology
- Cardiology
- Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
- Clinical Investigation
- Emergency Medicine
- Family Medicine
- General Internal Medicine
- General Pathology
- General Surgery
- Internal Medicine
- Medical Imaging
- Nephrology
- Neurology
- Neurosurgery
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopedic Surgery
- Pediatrics
- Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Public Health and Preventive Medicine
- Psychiatry
- Respiratory Medicine
- Rheumatology



Medical students in the  
Clinical Learning Resource Centre (CLRC)



# OUR PROGRAMS



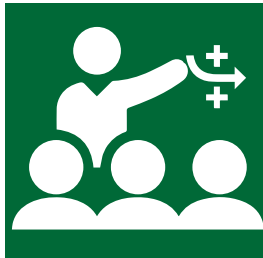
## DOCTOR OF MEDICINE (MD) DEGREE

The undergraduate medical education program is a fully accredited four-year program leading to the Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree. After earning the MD degree, you are eligible to apply for postgraduate training in the discipline of your choice.

The College of Medicine admits 100 first-year students each year and has 120 seats available for postgraduate trainees. Ten per cent of first-year spaces are reserved for Indigenous students. Applicants must hold a four-year baccalaureate degree in any discipline from a college or university of acceptable standing.

The College of Medicine is one of Canada's smallest medical schools, opening up opportunities to build relationships with your classmates and network with faculty, physicians, and staff.

All four years of the MD program are offered at both the Regina and Saskatoon campuses. During the admissions process, successful applicants will be required to designate their preferred campus. In addition to the Saskatoon and Regina campuses, there is an instructional site in Prince Albert and four distributed sites at smaller centres around the province.



### Years one and two

The first two years of medical education are called pre-clerkship. Students learn basic sciences and how to apply that learning in clinical conditions. They learn how to take medical histories and perform physical exams, first on standardized patients and then on real patients. At the same time, they are introduced to the factors that can affect patients' health and how they function in society. Students have the opportunity to participate in research and earn Global Health Certification.



### Years three and four

After pre-clerkship comes clerkship. During year three, which is the first year of clerkship, students put into practice what they have learned. They participate in clinical rotations and provide patient care, both in hospital and in outpatient clinics. Clinical experiences occur in Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert, in addition to rural and remote Saskatchewan communities. In year four, students have further opportunities to experience different fields of medicine by participating in electives in Saskatchewan and at other medical schools throughout Canada. This prepares them for choosing a residency program at the end of year four.



### Residency

After medical school, graduates enter into a residency program. The College of Medicine offers residency programs in a variety of specialties. Residency training varies from two years for certification by the College of Family Physicians of Canada to four to six years for certification by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Following successful completion of residency, residents enter into independent medical practice.



## BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

The Division of Biomedical Sciences in the College of Medicine offers undergraduate three-year, four-year and four-year honours Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Science (B.Sc. (BSMC)) degree programs through the College of Arts and Science in the following disciplines:

- **Biochemistry, Microbiology and Immunology**
- **Biomedical Foundations**
- **Biomedical Neuroscience**
- **Cellular, Physiological, and Pharmacological Sciences**
- **Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences**

Students in these B.Sc. (BMSC) follow a common course curriculum, the Biomedical Sciences core platform, during their first two years of study. The BMSC core provides a broad introductory exposure to cell biology, biochemistry, microbiology, physiology and pharmacology from which students can specialize in the third and/or fourth-year of study. The B.Sc. (BMSC) is also an excellent entry point for students intending to apply for admission into professional programs such as medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, nursing, optometry or veterinary medicine. For information about admission to the College of Arts and Science, visit: [admissions.usask.ca](https://admissions.usask.ca).

## POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL TRAINING PROGRAMS

Once you graduate with your MD, the College of Medicine offers residency training leading to certification by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada or the College of Family Physicians of Canada. Admission to these programs is through the Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS).

## MASTER OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

The College of Medicine is also home to the School of Rehabilitation Science, which administers the Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) degree program.

As this is a Master's degree program, applicants to the School of Rehabilitation Science must hold a four-year baccalaureate degree in any discipline from a college or university of acceptable standing.

For information about admission to the School of Rehabilitation Science visit: [rehabscience.usask.ca/mpt-admission.php](https://rehabscience.usask.ca/mpt-admission.php).

## MAKING THE LINKS - CERTIFICATE IN GLOBAL HEALTH

Making the Links–Certificate in Global Health is a unique interprofessional certificate program for health science students. The program combines academic courses with intense urban-based service learning experiences in urban underserved community clinics, as well as rural, remote and Indigenous communities in northern Saskatchewan and international communities.

The content of the program focuses on health equity, social accountability and advocacy, and global citizenship required to meet the needs of populations which have been historically marginalized by oppressive policies. The content explores the structural drivers of health inequity and the impacts on lived experience of people.

Rich in interactive, experiential, and didactic learning opportunities, this was the first undergraduate certificate in global health in Canada.

# YOUR USASK EXPERIENCE



## Our campuses

The Saskatoon campus is housed in the Health Sciences Building at the University of Saskatchewan, which provides state-of-the-art educational support and research facilities, including the Clinical Learning Resource Centre. The campus is directly adjacent to Royal University Hospital and Jim Pattison Children's Hospital.

Our Regina campus offers learners a close-knit community and a hands-on approach to teaching and learning. The campus is located at the Regina General Hospital (RGH), which houses multiple facilities, including the Health Sciences Learning and Resource Centre, and the Dilawri Simulation Centre.

The Prince Albert (PA) instructional site at the Victoria Hospital hosts a small number of Year 3 and 4 students for clerkship. In addition to inpatient and outpatient experiences, PA learners will experience firsthand exposure to trauma, Indigenous health, public health, addictions medicine and prison health.

## Excellence in care

The College of Medicine is committed to incorporating social accountability to direct its clinical activity, advocacy, research and education (CARE) and training activities towards the priority health concerns of local, regional, national and international communities. The college supports a number of programs and initiatives that address community health needs, including Indigenous health, primary health care, urban and rural underserved areas, gender and equity, eco-health, immigrant and refugee health and global health.

## Electives in Indigenous health

Electives in Indigenous health that blend Indigenous and western knowledge are available in year four. These electives give you the opportunity to work in urban or rural settings with knowledge keepers, community members, and clinicians, pending availability at elective sites. You may also go off-site to assist in clinical care in surrounding First Nations communities.

## Pre-Med Club

The goal of the Pre-Med Club at the University of Saskatchewan is to help students prepare for all aspects of medical school applications. They offer a range of preparatory and informative sessions such as mock MCATs, MCAT info sessions, multiple mini interview (MMI) prep groups, a mock MMI, a medical school applications crash course, a volunteer opportunities info session and much more. Membership also gains students a discount with one of the club's partner MCAT prep companies. To learn more, the U of S Pre-Med Club is active on Facebook.

## Student groups

Our college has an exceptionally active student body with leadership from the Student Medical Society of Saskatchewan (SMSS). Some examples of other diverse student groups include:

- wicihowin/Indigenous Rural and Remote Health Group
- Living Well: Physician Wellness Initiative
- Equity, Diversity and Gender Group
- [saskmedstudents.com](https://www.usask.ca/medstudents)





Jonathan Starr, MD  
Class of 2014

## wahkotowin Mentorship Program

The wahkotowin Mentorship Program refers to relationship and kinship. This developing program aims to provide connection and networking between Indigenous medical students, Indigenous alumni, practicing physicians, staff and faculty. We recognize the unique perspectives, experiences, and knowledge Indigenous physicians bring to their practice and want to create a space for relationship building, holistic mentorship, and career development. For more information please contact [valerie.arnault@usask.ca](mailto:valerie.arnault@usask.ca)



# READY TO APPLY?



## **Doctor of Medicine (MD) admission overview**

The College of Medicine reserves 95% of the 100 first-year positions for Saskatchewan residents with 10% of the 100 first year seats allocated for self-identified First Nations, Métis and Inuit students.

Students must have completed a four-year baccalaureate degree in any subject area prior to entry into the MD program.

Saskatchewan residents must have attained a university academic average (UAA) of 75% while non-Saskatchewan resident applicants must have a UAA of 85% on all courses taken to be considered.

Students will also be required to take the CASPer and Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), as well as complete a multiple mini interview, and provide three references, a criminal record check and up-to-date immunization record.

## **CASPer**

CASPer is an online situational judgement test that assesses applicants for collaboration, communication, empathy, equity, ethics, motivation, problem solving, professionalism, resilience and self awareness.

## **MCAT**

Registration for the MCAT is online and the test must be completed prior to the application deadline.

While prerequisite courses are not mandatory, applicants are strongly encouraged to complete equivalent/similar courses to ensure readiness for the basic undergraduate medical curriculum and to prepare for the MCAT. Recommended courses include introductory biochemistry, chemistry, biology, physics, statistics, sociology and psychology.

## **Multiple mini interview**

The multiple mini interview (MMI) is a series of short, structured interviews used to assess personal traits and qualities in each applicant, including communication skills, maturity, ethical and decision-making abilities, knowledge of the healthcare system, understanding of health determinants in a local or global context, commitment to helping others, non-academic achievements or desire for studying medicine.

## **References**

Applicants must provide the names of three references who have supervised them either as a research supervisor or have been their immediate supervisor in recent employment or a volunteer role.

**Note:** for the most up-to-date information and admission requirements, visit [medicine.usask.ca/admissions](https://medicine.usask.ca/admissions).



# ADMISSIONS. USASK.CA



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