MEDICAL DOCTOR

The curriculum at the Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine prepares students to become highly qualified, compassionate and culturally sensitive doctors. No matter which medical specialty is chosen, our students learn to view your patients through the lens of a holistic physician—always with an emphasis on patient-centered care.

Throughout their four years of medical school, students work closely with faculty mentors, career advisers and clinical faculty physicians in various medical settings. They offer assistance when choosing courses, help plan the required and elective fourth-year clerkships, and identify residency programs that align to your interests and career goals. You will learn evidence-based medicine through the integration of basic science concepts in Foundations of Medicine (FOM) and rigorous clinical training through Clinical Arts and Sciences (CAS). To reinforce critical thinking skills and self-directed learning, you will also complete a project under the guidance of a mentor in the Scholarly Reflection and Concentration/ Capstone course (SRCC).

For your clinical experiences during the third and fourth year, the school has affiliations with several community hospitals in urban, suburban and rural settings. Our principal hospital affiliates are St. Vincent's Medical Center in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and St. Francis Hospital in Hartford, Connecticut. You will experience a variety of clinical work placements that help you decide on your future specialty and practice setting.

The medical school is located on the interprofessional North Haven Campus with the schools of health sciences, nursing and law. This creates a collaborative learning environment for students pursuing degrees in a multitude of health care professions, including physical therapy, occupational therapy and physician assistant. Our state-of-the-art facilities include an operating suite with high-fidelity simulation rooms that function as patient simulators and labs with the latest imaging equipment. Our facility includes 16 patient rooms where students practice examining simulated patients.

Medical Doctor Program of Study

The four years of the medical curriculum comprise two years of pre-clerkship foundational instruction and two years of clinical clerkships. During the first two years, the curriculum consists of three integrated courses: Foundations of Medicine (FOM), Clinical Arts and Sciences (CAS) and the Scholarly Reflection and Concentration/Capstone course (SRCC). During the clerkship years, students clinical learning is organized around the six ACGME Competencies: Medical Knowledge, Patient Care, Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Professionalism, Practice Based Learning and Improvement and Systems Based Practice.

Pre-Clerkship Years

Year 1

MED 811 - Foundations of Medicine I

Course Goal: The goal of Foundations of Medicine (FOM) I is for medical students to achieve foundational knowledge in the basic medical sciences, with an emphasis on gaining a detailed understanding of common and representative illnesses. By the end of year one, students are knowledgeable in human biology and the impact that psychological, social, cultural and economic forces have on human health. They are able to discuss the epidemiology and prevention of major medical conditions. Knowledge gained in FOM I will be revisited and expanded the following year in FOM II.

The course is divided into foundational and organ system blocks with horizontal and vertical integration across the blocks and with the other courses. The School of Medicine’s longitudinal themes of pharmacology, nutrition, behavioral and social sciences, biomedical ethics and epidemiology also are integrated throughout the curriculum as they relate to specific organs and diseases throughout each block.

The course is taught through a variety of teaching methods including lectures and small group events that employ case-based learning activities. Dissection-based anatomy is integrated across all of the organ system blocks in the first year.

MED 812 - Clinical Arts and Science I

Clinical Arts and Sciences (CAS) I is an innovative introduction to clinical medicine course that aims to teach foundational clinical skills in a safe, collaborative environment incorporating experiential learning in both simulated and real clinical settings. CAS has two sections providing up to 6-8 hours of curricular activity each week.

Foundations of Clinical Care (FCC): This section is dedicated to teaching clinical skills, predominantly in a small group setting of eight students and two experienced physicians. Students learn patient-centered interviewing, history taking, communication and physical examination. Medical documentation and oral presentations are emphasized throughout the academic year. Clinical reasoning and advanced communication skills are introduced in semester two. Basic procedural skills training, telemedicine training, and interprofessional activities centered around ultrasound training also provide significant experiential learning opportunities.

Simulated practice with standardized patients (SPs) is one of the predominant features of this section of the course. Student knowledge of clinical skills is assessed via formative objective structured clinical examinations (OSCEs) on a monthly basis and with a summative OSCE at the end of the academic year. Faculty complete a summative evaluation of student performance each semester. The course also encourages learners’ understanding of professionalism and professional identity formation with self-assessments such as video review and goal setting opportunities, in addition to peer feedback and feedback from the SPs and faculty.

Medical Student Home (MeSH): This section pairs a medical student with a practicing community physician with the purpose of providing each medical student with a supervised environment to practice the foundational clinical skills learned in FCC. Students spend one afternoon a week, 4 hours at a time, in the physician’s office-based practice. Physicians directly observe students interview and examine patients. Physicians provide formative feedback through a workplace-based assessment program. A summative faculty evaluation of students is also completed.

MED 813 - Scholarly Reflection & Concentration Capstone I

Course Goal: Scholarly Reflection and Concentration/Capstone (SRCC) is a four-year course focused on seven core domains: Evaluating Information Sources, Critical Appraisal of Literature, Interacting with and Interpreting Data, Self-Reflection, Personalized Curriculum, Responsible Research Practice, and Scholarship.

SRCC allows learners to personalize their curriculum and prepare for scholarly endeavors during residency and future practice. They self-design and execute a capstone project in an area they are passionate about. Learners use narrative medicine and mentoring to develop personally and professionally. They gain both conceptual understanding and practical skills in research methods, epidemiology, medical
informatics, biostatistics, evaluating information sources, and critical appraisal of medical literature. The information presented in this course is integrated whenever possible with material in the Foundations of Medicine and the Clinical Arts and Sciences courses, to enable learners to apply biostatistics, epidemiology, and medical informatics to community and public health, medical literature interpretation, and clinical decision-making.

Year 2

MED 821 - Foundations of Medicine II
Course Goal: Building on the foundation provided by the FOM I curriculum, the goal of FOM II is for medical students to attain essential knowledge and skills related to the pathophysiology and epidemiology of diseases. In addition, students develop a broad understanding of treatment paradigms for common medical disorders. The longitudinal themes of behavioral and social sciences, biomedical ethics, epidemiology, pharmacology and nutrition are interwoven into curricular content in FOM II.

Problem Based Learning (PBL) is a major instructional component in FOM II and integrates active and self-directed learning with the development of clinical reasoning skills in the assessment of patient symptoms, signs and laboratory findings. Collaborative and professional participation in this activity are essential components of PBL.

MED 822 - Clinical Arts and Science II
Clinical Arts and Sciences (CAS) II is an innovative introduction to clinical medicine course that aims to teach foundational clinical skills in a safe, collaborative environment incorporating experiential learning in both simulated and real clinical settings. CAS has two sections providing up to 6-8 hours of curricular activity each week.

Foundations of Clinical Care (FCC): This section is dedicated to teaching clinical skills, predominantly in a small group setting of eight students and two experienced physicians. Students build upon the skills they learned in CAS I. Clinical reasoning becomes a central component of the course in year two, with monthly instructional sessions that are well integrated with the foundational topics being covered in the FOM course. Sessions are also dedicated to advanced physical examination techniques as well as advanced communication skills such as delivering unwelcome news and sharing medical information. Medical documentation and oral presentations continue to be emphasized throughout the academic year with a focus on assessment and plan in CAS II. Basic procedural skills training, telemedicine and interprofessional activities centered around ultrasound training also provide significant experiential learning opportunities.

Simulated practice with standardized patients (SPs) is one of the predominant features of this section of the course. Student knowledge of clinical skills is assessed via formative objective structured clinical examinations (OSCEs) on a monthly basis and with a summative OSCE at the end of the academic year. Faculty complete a summative evaluation of student performance each semester. The course also encourages learners’ understanding of professionalism and professional identity formation with self-assessments such as video review and goal setting opportunities, in addition to peer feedback and feedback from the SPs and faculty.

Medical Student Home (MeSH): This section pairs a medical student with a practicing community physician with the purpose of providing each medical student with a supervised environment to practice the foundational clinical skills learned in FCC. Students spend one afternoon a week, 4 hours at a time, in the physician's office-based practice. Physicians directly observe students interview and examine patients. Physicians provide formative feedback through a workplace-based assessment program. A summative faculty evaluation of students is also completed.

MED 823 - Scholarly Reflection & Concentration Capstone II
Course Goal: Scholarly Reflection and Concentration/Capstone (SRCC) is a four-year course focused on seven core domains: Evaluating Information Sources, Critical Appraisal of Literature, Interacting with and Interpreting Data, Self-Reflection, Personalized Curriculum, Responsible Research Practice, and Scholarship.

SRCC allows learners to personalize their curriculum and prepare for scholarly endeavors during residency and future practice. They self-design and execute a capstone project in an area they are passionate about. Learners use narrative medicine and mentoring to develop personally and professionally. They gain both conceptual understanding and practical skills in research methods, epidemiology, medical informatics, biostatistics, evaluating information sources, and critical appraisal of medical literature. The information presented in this course is integrated whenever possible with material in the Foundations of Medicine and the Clinical Arts and Sciences courses, to enable learners to apply biostatistics, epidemiology, and medical informatics to community and public health, medical literature interpretation, and clinical decision-making.

Clership Years

Year 3
The third year is comprised of in-depth clinical experiences in six core clerkships: Internal Medicine, Obstetrics-Gynecology, Pediatrics, Primary Care, Psychiatry, and Surgery. Students receive training in both ambulatory and inpatient settings. Clerkship grades are based on clinical evaluations and the NBME® subject exam. Selected clerkships may have additional graded components. Students are assigned a grade of Honors, High Pass, Pass or Fail. A selected group of students will have the option to participate in a longitudinal integrated clerkship in Maine that encompasses all of the core clerkships. All students are required to sit for the USMLE® Step 1 examination before engaging in fourth year rotations.

Year 4
Students design their own curriculum choosing a four-week required clerkship in either Critical Care or Emergency Medicine, one required sub-internship in a core specialty and electives. Students also complete and present their Capstone project and take the USMLE® Step 2 Clinical Knowledge examination. The fourth year includes dedicated time for residency interviews. Electives may be taken at the Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine or as away rotations.

Accreditation
The medical school is accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education. The LCME is jointly sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the American Medical Association (AMA). The next review will take place October 2021.

Technical Standards
Quinnipiac University is committed to admitting qualified applicants without regard to race, ethnicity, age, national or ethnic origin, disability,
A student in the School of Medicine must be able to meet the following standards, with or without a reasonable accommodation:

1. Observation
Students must have sufficient visual ability to be able to observe patients accurately from a distance and close at hand. They must be able to observe and participate in laboratory exercises and demonstrations. They must be capable of viewing and developing the skills needed to interpret diagnostic modalities. Students must be able to obtain a medical history and perform a complete physical exam, including detecting and interpreting non-verbal communication such as change in posture, body language, mood and facial expressions demonstrated by patients.

2. Communication
Students must be able to communicate effectively, in both written and oral English, and must be able to speak with and comprehend patients, their families, and other members of the health care team. Students must be capable of establishing rapport with patients and families. Students must be able to compose and record information accurately and clearly.

3. Motor and Sensory Function
Students must have sufficient motor and sensory function necessary to conduct a routine history and physical examination, differentiate normal from abnormal findings, and document their findings. Students must have sufficient motor function in order to conduct movements required to provide general care and emergency treatment to patients according to acceptable medical practices. Students must have sufficient motor ability to access and perform at clinical sites required for mandatory experiences.

4. Intellectual, Conceptual, Integrative and Quantitative Ability
Students must have sufficient cognitive abilities to master the body of knowledge comprising the curriculum of the School of Medicine. They must be able to recall large amounts of information, perform scientific measurements and calculations, and understand and learn through a variety of instructional modalities including but not limited to: classroom instruction, small group discussion, individual and self-directed study of materials, preparation and presentation of written and oral reports, peer review and assessment, as well as use of computer-based technologies. Students must demonstrate reasoning abilities necessary to gather, analyze, synthesize and integrate information from varying sources efficiently and effectively. They must be able to measure and calculate accurately and be able to perceive 3D relationships and understand the spatial relationships of systems.

5. Attitudinal, Behavioral, Interpersonal and Emotional Characteristics
Students must have the capacity to learn and understand ethical principles, professional standards for physicians, and state and federal laws governing the practice of medicine. Students must demonstrate the maturity, emotional stability and sensitivity required to form effective relationships with patients, faculty, staff, colleagues and all members of the health care team. They must exhibit honesty, integrity, self-sacrifice and dedication.

Students must have the capacity to effectively communicate with and provide care, in a non-judgmental manner, for individuals whose culture, spiritual beliefs, physical or mental abilities, sexual orientation or gender expression differ from their own. They must be able to examine the entire patient, male and female, regardless of their social, cultural or religious beliefs. Students must have the capacity to develop the requisite skills needed to identify personal biases, reactions and responses as well as recognize differing points of view, and not allow personal attitudes, perceptions or stereotypes to compromise patient care.

Students must be of sufficient emotional and mental health to utilize fully their abilities, exercise sound judgment and complete educational and patient care responsibilities safely, effectively, and with courtesy, compassion, and respect. They must be capable of modifying their behavior in response to feedback and evaluation. Students must exhibit adaptability and be able to work effectively under stress and tolerate an often physically taxing workload. Individuals whose performance is impaired by abuse of substances, including alcohol, are not suitable candidates for admission, promotion or graduation.

6. Ethical and Legal Considerations
Candidates for admission must meet the legal standards to practice medicine in the State of Connecticut. Candidates must therefore provide written explanation of any felony offenses or disciplinary actions taken against them prior to matriculation, and commit to notifying the associate dean for student affairs immediately in the event of conviction of any felony offense while a student of the School of Medicine. Serious instances of unethical conduct or conviction of a felony offense, or the failure to disclose such conduct or felony offense, may lead to disciplinary action by the School of Medicine, including dismissal.

The Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine will consider any candidate who demonstrates the ability to perform the skills specified in these technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodation. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 address the provision of services and accommodations for qualified individuals with disabilities. Services for students with disabilities are provided to qualified students to ensure equal access to educational opportunities, programs and activities in the most integrated setting possible. In the consideration of students for admission and in the training of students for the MD degree, it is essential that the integrity of the curriculum be maintained, that elements of the curriculum considered necessary for the education of a physician be preserved.
and that the health and safety of patients be considered vital. The use of a trained intermediary is not acceptable in clinical situations as judgment is mediated by someone else's power of selection, observation and interpretation. As such, students must be able to perform in an independent manner with or without such accommodations.

Students who are interested in requesting accommodations are instructed to take the following steps:

• Submit a completed Accommodation Request Form for Students with Disabilities (found on the university website) to the university Office of Student Accessibility

• Provide current, supporting documentation from a licensed physician, psychologist, or other appropriately credentialed evaluator.

• Candidates for the MD degree will be assessed on a regular basis by the Office of Accessibility according to the academic and Technical Standards of the School of Medicine on their abilities to meet the curricular requirements.

• The Office of Accessibility will work with the School of Medicine associate dean for student affairs who, in concert with course and clerkship directors, will ensure that reasonable accommodations are in place.

**Students must complete the following requirements to be eligible for graduation from the School of Medicine:**

• Obtain a satisfactory grade in each course

• Successfully complete Scholarly Reflection & Concentration Capstone course including the concentration/capstone project

• Successfully complete the Year 3 and Year 4 clerkships and electives

• Pass USMLE® Steps 1 and 2 CK

• Complete the Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine's community service and service learning requirements

• Demonstrate the personal, professional and ethical attitudes and behaviors expected of a physician graduate of the Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine

Students must complete the requirements of each academic year within a two-year period, but must complete the curriculum and meet all graduation requirements within a six-year period. Additional time to complete the curricular requirements may be stipulated as part of an accommodation made under the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Approved leaves of absence (refer to section XIX. Leaves of Absence) do not count toward time needed to complete curricular requirements. The Promotions and Performance Standards Committee has the discretion to determine whether portions, or all, of an academic year are counted toward this requirement.