

# Start Strong, Early On



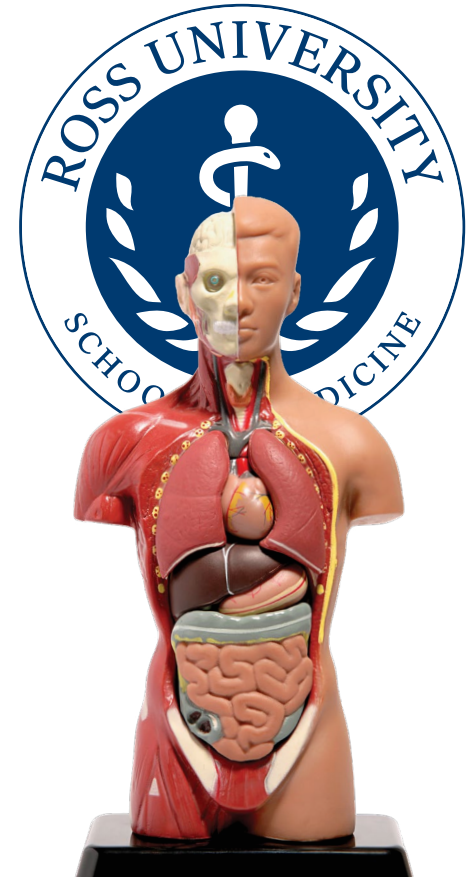
ROSS UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



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# The Ross Med Rundown

Letter From the Dean . . . . .	3
About Ross University School of Medicine (Ross Med) . . . . .	4
Hands-On From the Start . . . . .	5
Our Social Commitments . . . . .	6
A Reflection of a Diverse and Dynamic World . . . . .	7
Our Demographics . . . . .	8
Student Support . . . . .	9
Ross Med Cornerstones . . . . .	10
Connect With Us . . . . .	11
Hands-On Medical Sciences . . . . .	12
Research Foundations . . . . .	13
A Unique Learning Environment . . . . .	14
Clinical Sciences Close-Up . . . . .	15
Your Success Is Our Priority . . . . .	16
National Resident Matching Program® (NRMP®) . . . . .	17
Barbados, a Natural Beauty . . . . .	18
Campus Living and Activities . . . . .	19
Safety and Security . . . . .	20
Finance Your Medical Education . . . . .	21
Admissions and Pre-Med . . . . .	22
Take the Next Step Toward Your MD. . . . .	23
Life After Ross Med . . . . .	24
Meaningful Accreditation. . . . .	25





HEIDI CHUMLEY, MD, MBA

# Letter From the Dean

**Over the years, I've spoken to so many people who are considering medicine as a career — all with unique life paths and reasons for their interest in medicine.**

Whatever your story, I believe you will find that Ross University School of Medicine (Ross Med) can help you achieve your dream of becoming an MD. Ross Med has been doing just that for more than 40 years, supporting nearly 15,000 who are now alumni.

At Ross Med, you will find people who are invested in your success. Our medical education program provides early clinical experiences in Barbados, excellent clinical rotations with our U.S. health system partners, and end-to-end personalized learning and wellness support. Our students have opportunities for research, community service, and leadership in student government and clubs. We value the strength of a diverse learning community and feel confident you will find both a sense of belonging and opportunities to expand your worldview. Many of your fellow students — and perhaps you — will serve as peer tutors, also deeply invested in your

success. No unhealthy competition here; there is room for everyone to succeed.

We believe in investing in the communities where our students learn. Our partnerships with local and regional health agencies, community organizations, and health care systems are central to our institutional mission. We know that you benefit from understanding all the factors that affect a patient's health, and we provide the types of experiences that prepare you to be a compassionate and patient-centered physician. We are not only preparing you to make significant contributions to the delivery of health care but also to effectively support communities you care about. As you explore our program, I encourage you to envision how studying here will prepare you for professional success. We look forward to learning about you and what you are looking for in a medical school. Thank you for your interest in Ross University School of Medicine.



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# About Ross University School of Medicine

**Health systems serve the world best when they reflect more of the world.**

Since our founding in 1978, Ross University School of Medicine (Ross Med) has been providing students with the foundations they need to pursue successful careers in medicine. Our holistic admissions philosophy and student support systems widen the pathway for aspiring physicians, and our hands-on from the start approach produces doctors who have the practical knowledge and skills to make a positive impact early in their careers.

The Ross Med campus is located in Bridgetown, the capital of the small

Caribbean island nation of Barbados, but a majority of our students come from the United States and Canada—where most of our nearly 15,000 alumni now practice medicine.

As a Ross Med student, you will spend your first two years of medical school at our Barbados campus before completing two years of clinical training at affiliated hospitals in the United States. Upon successful completion of our program, you will be awarded a Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree.



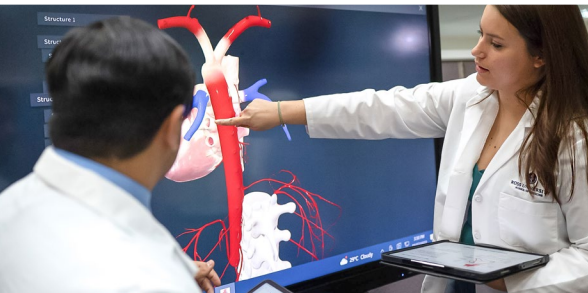
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**The Ross Med Difference:**

# Hands-On From the Start

As a Ross Med student, you are immersed in learning the practice of medicine. You gain experience in simulation labs, train alongside physicians, and care for real patients in the community within weeks, not months.

- At Ross Med, you get early clinical experience — in the classroom and in the real world.
- Active learning experiences support traditional lecture and case-based learning.
- Early clinical exposures include participation in mobile and pop-up clinics, assisting in mental health care settings, supervised patient home visits, and more.





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## Our Social Commitments

**We are committed to addressing racism and bias in sexual orientation, nationality, ethnicity, and gender in the fight for social justice.**

We believe that inequities caused by racism constitute a public health crisis that must be addressed, and we support antiracist initiatives.

We support the broader inclusion of underrepresented and marginalized groups in education and in the medical field.

Our TEACH values (Teamwork, Energy, Accountability, Community, and Heart) will be our guide as we embark on the first step in a long journey to achieve cultural diversity in medical care.



## The Ross Med Difference:

# A Reflection of a Diverse and Dynamic World

Ross Med students represent the many cultures and communities that make up the world around us, and Ross Med is committed to creating broader access to medical education and training culturally aware physicians.

- Approximately 47% of Ross Med students self-identify as Asian, Black or Hispanic.
- Ross Med graduates more Black MDs than any medical school in the United States.
- Ross Med's Access and Inclusion in Medicine (AIM) Scholars Program helps students from diverse backgrounds become successful medical graduates.
- Our partnerships with historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and Hispanic-serving institutions (HSIs) provide further opportunities for exceptional students.

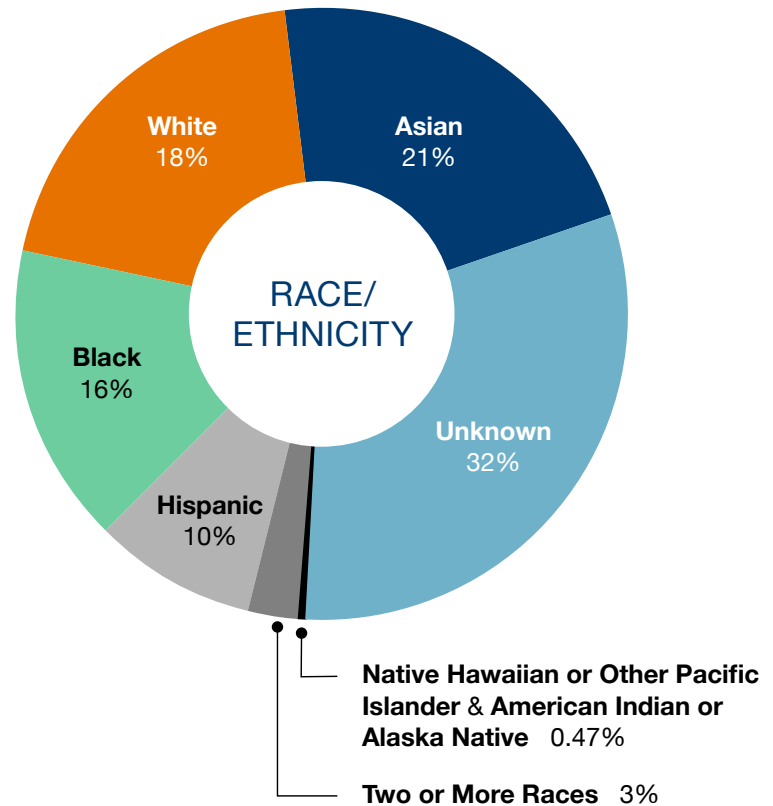
# Our Demographics

## Enrollment Data for 2021-2022 Academic Year

Percentage of enrolled full-time students who are:

**54%** FEMALE

**46%** MALE



*Percentages for individual categories are rounded to the nearest full percent.*



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The Ross Med Difference:

# Student Support

At Ross Med, your mental and physical health are just as important as your academic success. That's why we have resources to help students thrive during their medical education. As a Ross Med student, you'll have access to:

- Personalized academic support
- Career and personal counseling
- Residency application support
- Study skills enhancement
- Wellness resources
- Assistance preparing for United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE®)/ National Board of Medical Examiners® (NBME®) exams



# Ross Med Cornerstones

**98%**

first-time residency  
attainment rate  
for 2022–2023  
graduates\*



## MD Program Curriculum

- Evidence-based med school curriculum that compares to U.S. med schools
- Basic sciences concepts used in clinical care
- Integrated hands-on, clinically relevant activities starting in the first semester
- Holistic organ systems-based approach
- Modern, high-tech learning environment
- Problem-based learning approach
- Active learning models
- Interprofessional education opportunities
- Strong network of U.S. clinical affiliates

## Expert Faculty

- More than 40 full time faculty members, all of whom have an MD, a PhD, or the equivalent.
- Faculty focus on teaching and presenting a global health perspective.
- They serve as essential partners in student development.

**89%**

five-year cumulative  
USMLE® Step 1  
first-time pass rate\*\*

**93.4%**

five-year cumulative  
USMLE® Step 2  
first-time pass rate\*\*\*

\* First-time residency attainment rate is the percentage of students attaining a 2023–24 residency position out of all graduates or expected graduates in 2022–23 who were active applicants in the 2023 NRMP match or who attained a residency position outside the NRMP match.

\*\* First-time pass rate is the number of students passing the USMLE® Step 1 exam on the first attempt divided by the number of students whose first attempt was in 2018–22. In order to sit for the USMLE® Step 1 exam, students must successfully complete the Medical Sciences curriculum and earn a satisfactory score on the NBME CBSE exam as listed in the student handbook.

\*\*\* First-time pass rate is the number of students passing the USMLE® Step 2 CK exam on the first attempt divided by the number of students whose first attempt was in 2018–22. To sit for the exam, students must earn the minimum passing score on the NBME CCSE as listed in the student handbook.



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## Connect With Us

### **Connect with current students and alumni!**

Join RUSM Explore, an online networking platform, to connect directly with current students and alumni who can provide guidance, advice, and insight during your Ross Med experience. Create a profile and gain access to a community of alumni who are eager to answer your questions and lend support.



[JOIN RUSM EXPLORE](#)



# Hands-On Medical Sciences

Through Ross Med's enhanced five-semester organ system-based modular curriculum, you will learn how the physiological, anatomical, and biochemical processes of each organ system work together, providing you with an integrated view of human health in biomedical, clinical, and community health contexts. A capstone course focused on content and multi-system integration helps you consolidate the knowledge and skills gained from previous semesters.

Our Medical Sciences curriculum is structured to support student preparation for the USMLE® Step 1 exam as well as clinical clerkships. The curriculum reflects advancements and best practices in medical education to better prepare you for your role as a physician working with dynamic, interprofessional teams.

The Medical Sciences curriculum is built upon the core principles set by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME):

- Patient care
- Medical knowledge
- Interpersonal skills and communication
- System-based practice
- Professionalism
- Practice-based learning and improvement
- Interprofessional collaboration
- Personal and professional development







# Research Foundations

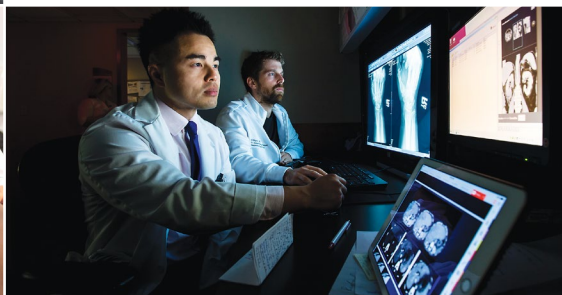
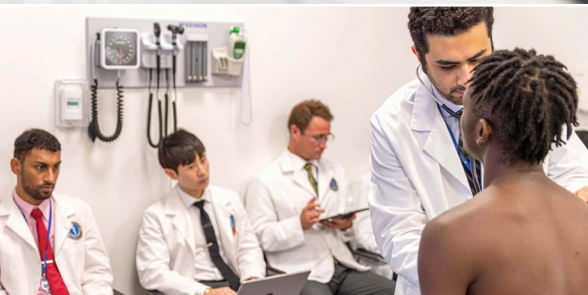
**All students participate in community-based research throughout the Medical Sciences curriculum.**

Your research will provide you with a deeper understanding of the social determinants of health and the health care needs of local communities.

Our on-campus curriculum runs 20 months (75 weeks). Study modules are spaced out over five semesters, and the curriculum includes integrated study breaks to encourage and manage knowledge acquisition. At the end of our Medical Sciences curriculum, you must pass the USMLE® Step 1 to advance to clinical training.



[EXPLORE THE MEDICAL SCIENCES CURRICULUM](#)



# A Unique Learning Environment

At Ross Med, our wireless campus is contained within the 100,000-square-foot Lloyd Erskine Sandiford Centre (LESC). The center's facilities are equipped with advanced instructional technology and learning systems designed to meet the needs of today's medical students.

- Classrooms and laboratories are equipped with high-resolution monitors connected to state-of-the-art audiovisual equipment, media players, and teleconferencing systems.
- Our accredited\* Simulation Institute gives students access to sophisticated lifelike patient simulators to practice basic and diagnostic treatment skills.
- Lecture-based gross anatomy instruction accompanies cadaveric dissection on 3D digital anatomy tables featuring histological, radiological, and ultrasound imaging.



## Community Meets Classroom

Our MD curriculum extends beyond the classroom as well. Starting in semester one, the program gives students hands-on experience in local communities, under the supervision of trained physicians.



Check out more about the Ross Med White Coat Ceremony that welcomes incoming medical students into the study of medicine and emphasizes the importance of compassionate care, scientific aptitude and ethical behavior, both in medical school and in your chosen profession.

[READ MORE](#)

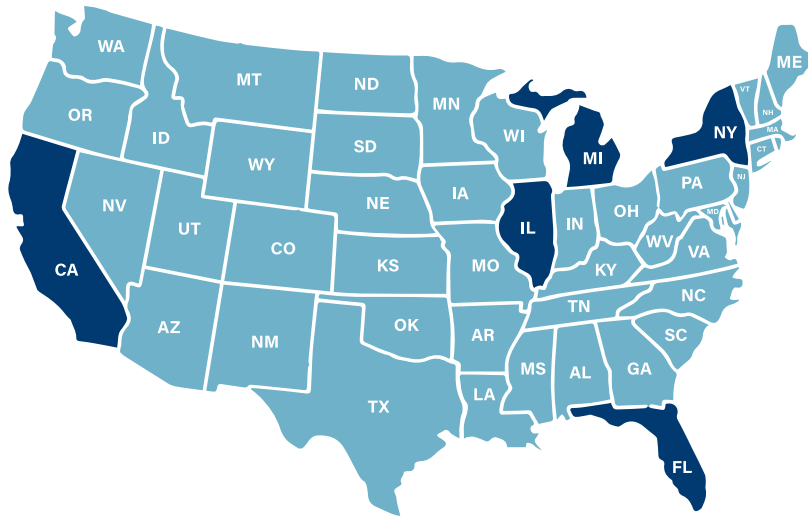


[SEE IT FOR YOURSELF.](#)  
[TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR.](#)

\* Ross University School of Medicine's Simulation Institute is accredited by the Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH, [www.ssih.org](http://www.ssih.org)) in the areas of Teaching/Education since, November 2013.

# Clinical Sciences Close-Up

**Ross Med maintains a strong network of affiliate hospital partners offering transformative clinical opportunities. After successfully completing the Medical Sciences curriculum, you will move on to clinical training in the United States.**



Eligible to apply to practice in U.S. cities, including:  
Chicago, IL | Pontiac, MI | Los Angeles, CA | Miami, FL | New York, NY

## CLINICAL SCIENCES CURRICULUM

### 48 Weeks

#### REQUIRED CORE CLERKSHIPS

- Internal Medicine – 12 weeks
- Surgery – 12 weeks
- Pediatrics – 6 weeks
- Family Medicine – 6 weeks
- Obstetrics/Gynecology – 6 weeks
- Psychiatry – 6 weeks

### 42 Weeks

#### CLINICAL ELECTIVE ROTATIONS

You will leave Barbados for clinical training, but Ross Med support continues through the Office of Student Services, the Office of Clinical Clerkships, and the Office of Career Advisement. After completing clinical training and passing the USMLE® Step 2 CK, you will graduate with an MD degree.



**LEARN MORE ABOUT  
YOUR CLINICAL YEARS**

# Your Success Is Our Priority

With personalized academic support throughout your medical education, Ross Med prioritizes your success every step of the way. Our Academic Resources and Support teams are dedicated to meeting your needs and facilitating your success from the start of medical school through residency.

## Departments and Offices

### ACADEMY FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING (ATL)

- Cognitive skills development
- Faculty mentoring
- Early Alert Identification for students at academic risk
- Peer tutoring
- Small- and large-group boot camps, test prep, and remediation courses
- USMLE® Step 1 exam prep course

### CLINICAL ACADEMY FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING (CATL)

- NBME® practice exams and webinars
- Tutor program focusing on content review
- One-on-one academic advising

### LIBRARY SERVICES

- Live learning sessions
- On-demand videos
- eBooks, medical journals, and research databases

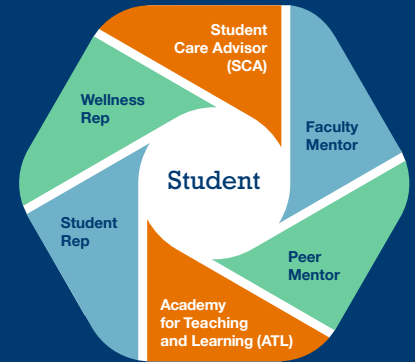
### WELLNESS AND COUNSELING

- Mind-Body Medicine (MBM) program
- On- and off-island counseling
- Wellness workshops and events

### STUDENT CARE ADVISING (SCA)

The SCA support network includes student ambassadors, faculty mentors, and the ATL. SCA team members focus on:

- Supporting your transition to the island and navigating medical school
- Advising you on immigration details, financial responsibility, wellness and counseling, academic support workshops and advising, and peer mentors and tutors
- Supporting academically at-risk students



**LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR  
COMPREHENSIVE STUDENT SUPPORT**



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# National Resident Matching Program<sup>®</sup> (NRMP<sup>®</sup>)

The NRMP — popularly known as The Match<sup>®</sup> — is a service that places graduating medical students in residency programs. The Ross Med Office of Career Advisement (OCA) helps prepare students for the matching process and oversees each student's Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE) for participation in the matching process.

In mid-March, during Match Week, students learn if they have been matched with one of their preferred residencies. In 2023, 462 Ross Med graduates matched into a wide variety of medical disciplines.\*



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For Muller Pierre-Louis, an education at Ross Med helped him realize his dreams of becoming a surgeon and inspiring future generations.

**[READ HIS STORY](#)**

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**[LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR RESIDENCY PROGRAM](#)**

\* First-time residency attainment rate is the percentage of students attaining a 2023–24 residency position out of all graduates or expected graduates in 2022–23 who were active applicants in the 2023 NRMP match or who attained a residency position outside the NRMP match.





# Barbados, a Natural Beauty

Barbados is a tropical Caribbean island known for its pristine beaches, coral reefs, turquoise bays, coastal views, and rolling hills, as well as its friendly people and colonial charm. The striking beauty of Barbados makes it a special place to call home during your time at Ross Med.

## Barbados Basics

- Easternmost Caribbean island, 669 miles (1,077 km) northeast of Venezuela
- Covers 166 square miles (430 square km); coastline is 60 miles (97 km)
- Barbadian (or Bajan) population: 303,000; Bridgetown: 100,000
- A former British colony, the official language is English. Bajan is the local dialect.
- Barbados is a parliamentary republic.
- Official currency: Barbadian dollar (BBD); U.S. dollar (USD) is also commonly used.  
\$1 BBD = \$0.50 USD
- Barbados is on Atlantic Standard Time, one hour ahead of Eastern Standard Time and equal to Eastern Daylight Time
- Tropical climate with an average daily temperature of 80°F (27°C)
- National dish: cou-cou and flying fish





# Campus Living & Activities

## Here, We're All Studying Abroad

As a medical student, you must focus on your studies, but it's important to occasionally rest and recharge. You'll enjoy the communal atmosphere of our student-centered campus. Ross Med has 40+ clubs and organizations that are as diverse as our student body, allowing for specialized and fun engagement while still catering to your personal and medical interests. You can also participate in sports, workouts, and social activities to help lighten the load.

### AND DON'T FORGET:

Your medical school is on a beautiful tropical island! Take time to explore.

## Ross Med's Student Housing

The Villages at Coverley includes fully furnished three- and four-bedroom bungalows that may be shared by individual students or families. Shops and other facilities are conveniently nearby, and shuttle buses take residents the short distance to campus.

As a Ross Med student, you'll have access to the on-campus Wellness and Counseling Center and Club Fitness as well as restaurants, grocery stores, athletic fields, parks, and a post office.

Nearby off-campus apartments are available for students who prefer to live elsewhere.



[EXPLORE YOUR HOUSING OPTIONS](#)





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## Safety & Security

**At Ross Med, we prioritize the safety and well-being of our students.**

Barbados is regarded as a safe destination by the U.S. State Department, which recommends exercising normal precautions. We go above and beyond by providing 24/7 security and emergency services for housing and campus areas, plus additional inclement weather resources.

See how RUSM SAFE, Ross Med's official safety app, is helping keep students, faculty, and staff safe — both on campus and off. [LEARN MORE](#)



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# Finance Your Medical Education

## \$100M

Scholarships and grants valued at over \$100M USD have been awarded to students since 2020. Let us invest in you.

Attending medical school requires a major financial commitment. Ross Med provides the information and support you need to help fund your education through financial aid, grants, loans, and scholarships<sup>1</sup>.

[EXPLORE MEDICAL SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS](#)

[FINANCIAL PLANNING GUIDE](#)

[RUSM FINANCIAL AID FAQ](#)

[STUDENT FINANCE CHECKLIST](#)

Qualifying U.S. citizens and eligible non-citizens may receive federal student loans through the Federal Direct Loan Program.



[COMPLETE THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID \(FAFSA®\)<sup>2</sup>](#)

<sup>1</sup> Available to those who apply and qualify.

<sup>2</sup> FAFSA® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Education.



# Admissions & Pre-Med

Ross Med takes a holistic approach to medical school admissions, which means we consider each applicant's entire achievement history. We look for students with a solid and well-rounded academic foundation — and those with a genuine passion for medicine. That said, there are still basic requirements for students hoping to gain admission to Ross Med's MD program.



## UNDERGRADUATE PRE-MED COURSES

- Inorganic or General Chemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- General Biology or Zoology
- Physics
- Mathematics
- English

## ROSS MED MATRICULANT AVERAGES

- Undergrad GPA: 3.19\*
- Pre-req GPA: 3.19\*
- Medical College Admission Test® (MCAT®) Score: 494\*

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Apply through the Ross Med application or upload your AMCAS®, AACOMAS, or TMDSAS
- Undergraduate transcripts
- Personal statement
- Letters of recommendation
- MCAT scores, if applicable

## START DATES

Ross Med has three start dates — in January, May, or September — so you can apply year-round.

## APPLICATION OUTCOMES

- Acceptance: Welcome to Ross Med!
- Conditional Acceptance: via Medical Education Readiness Program (MERP)
- Waitlist: Hold tight, a spot may open up
- Denial: Improve your candidacy and try again



[\*\*APPLY NOW\*\*](#)

\* The MCAT and GPA numbers represent only direct admits to the RUSM program during the 2022–2023 academic year.

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# Take the Next Step Toward Your MD

## Attend an Event

Explore the Ross Med MD program, learn about different specialty areas in medicine, or chat with current students and alumni virtually or in-person.

[UPCOMING EVENTS](#)

## Apply to Ross Med

We have three start dates to choose from: in January, May, and September.

[APPLY NOW](#)

## Connect With a “Rossie”

**ROSSIES** — Ross Med students and alumni — have unique insights into what you may experience in the coming years as a medical student. Ask questions and get all the details; learn all you can from those who have come before you.

## Learn More About Ross Med

Request information or chat with an admissions specialist to learn more about pursuing your MD at Ross Med. Find additional details on the curriculum, campus, island life, and more.

[REQUEST MORE INFO](#)





**Matthew Cornacchia, MD, '19**

**SURGERY**  
**THE UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA**  
**OTTAWA, ONTARIO**

"I looked at all my options, and what attracted me to Ross was their USMLE® Step 1 pass scores and match rate. Matching into General Surgery at the University of Ottawa was a dream come true. After four years of hard work and sacrifice, I could not be more excited to begin the next phase of my medical career."

**Megan Zaleski-Guerrero, MD, '13**

**ENDOCRINOLOGY**  
**INTERCOASTAL MEDICAL GROUP**  
**SARASOTA, FLORIDA**

"When I went to Ross Med, I quickly learned the benefits of studying and discipline. I had to buckle down. But I wouldn't trade those lessons because now I get to treat rare conditions and motivate patients about their lifestyle. There's no greater feeling than working with patients and celebrating their successes."



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## Life After Ross Med

**Your relationship with Ross Med doesn't end after you graduate.**

As you start your journey as an MD, stay connected with other alumni through the Office of Alumni Relations. Access resources, attend events, and utilize our services to network and find career opportunities. We'll be here to support you every step of the way — even after your MD is on the wall. [READ MORE](#)



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# Meaningful Accreditation

Ross University School of Medicine is accredited by the Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Education in Medicine and other Health Professions ([CAAM-HP www.caam-hp.org](http://www.caam-hp.org)) and meets the standards set by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), the accreditation authority for medical schools in the United States and Canada that provide MD degrees. This means that you may:

- Qualify for federal student loans and other financial aid.
- Take the United States Medical Licensing Examination® (USMLE®).
- Pursue residencies and practice medicine in the United States and Canada.



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# Experience Ross Med Social



@rossmedschool



**ROSS UNIVERSITY**  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

## Office of Admissions

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Miramar, FL 33025

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