Creighton University School of Medicine

Service to Humanity
Exciting things are happening at the Creighton University School of Medicine. Beginning in fall 2010 Creighton will be able to offer our students two primary clinical campuses; Creighton University Medical Center and our new campus Creighton University School of Medicine at St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix, AZ. Both are outstanding facilities with long-standing histories of educating both medical students and residents.

With the opening of our new clinical campus in Phoenix, Creighton will increase our class size from 126 to 152 beginning with the Fall 2010 entering class. Going forward, once students reach their third year 110 students will complete their clinical training in Omaha and 42 will complete their training in Phoenix. Eventually there will be a total of 220 third and fourth year medical students completing their clinical training in Omaha and 84 in Phoenix. Students will be given the choice of finishing their clinical training in either Omaha or Phoenix at time of acceptance, and every effort will be made to meet their request.

The Jesuit, Catholic tradition of service and the belief in a values-centered education will continue to be maintained at both clinical training sites. The principle of “women and men with and for others” is alive and well at Creighton. I invite you to learn more about our unique program of medical education.

Rowen K. Zetterman, MD, MACP, MACG
Dean of the School of Medicine
As one of the most trusted and respected names in the region, Creighton physicians have been healing and teaching for more than 116 years. As an academic medical center, we’re not only committed to providing excellent medical care today, but dedicated to preparing tomorrow’s health professionals for the medical challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in patient care, teaching, and research.

You will be taught and mentored by the best and brightest professors and teaching clinicians, with a focus on teamwork and camaraderie. You will be evaluated individually against the curriculum standards, not pitted against your classmates. This philosophy fosters a strong atmosphere of collaborative learning based on ethical standards. We train our graduates to be leaders and expect them to become agents of societal change.

Creighton professors and teaching clinicians are the best and brightest available – excellent role models.

We train our graduates to be leaders…we want them to be able to help change society with their focus on patient care for those most in need.
As a Jesuit, Catholic medical school our mission is to provide the best education possible for the next generation of health care providers, conduct life-enhancing research, and provide quality, compassionate medical care to our patients. We teach our students that integrating our values with our objectives leads to higher performance and better patient care. Our relentless desire for learning and teaching has sustained us throughout our existence and propels us into the future as leaders in the medical education field. It is the learning environment at Creighton that brings out the leadership qualities in our students.
Creighton does not give preference for admission to any particular state or geographical area. We seek applicants with strong academic preparation and a personal commitment of service to others.

You will be part of a balanced group of students who come to Creighton from almost every state and several foreign countries. This diversity gives both depth and breadth to your professional school training.

States represented within the student body
The 2009 entering class is comprised of students that represent 30 states and 58 colleges and universities throughout the United States. The top five states represented are: California, Nebraska, Colorado, Missouri and Minnesota.

Home States of Current Student Body
Creighton graduates

As a Creighton student, you will receive one of the finest medical educations available in the world. Our graduates succeed in securing residencies in every medical specialty—from anesthesiology to urology, and every specialty in between—at the most prestigious medical centers across the country. The comprehensive clinical training students receive at Creighton, coupled with the rigorous academics, student support systems, and record of strong success on the national licensing medical examinations contribute to our nearly perfect placement of Creighton students into their specialty of choice.

One reason Creighton graduates do so well in securing top residency choices is that year after year, 98% and higher of residency program directors tell us that they would be happy to have more Creighton graduates in their programs!

To learn more about our match visit http://medicine.creighton.edu/.

Specialty of choice

Each year, Creighton graduates gain residencies in the most competitive specialties:

- Anesthesiology
- Emergency Medicine
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopedic Surgery
- Otolaryngology
- Radiology
From the White Coat Ceremony, where each incoming student is presented with a white coat and welcomed to Creighton and into the medical profession, to the Hooding and Commencement Ceremonies, you will be supported and surrounded by enthusiastic peers, faculty, and administrators. You will receive personal and professional guidance and opportunities for diverse service-based clinical learning experiences starting in the M1 year. Together, we work to constantly improve our curriculum and clinical training experiences to promote optimal outcomes.

As a member of the Creighton community, you will form friendships enhanced by your mutual support structure. Because of increasing pressure on medical students, as well as the need for personal and professional development, our Vital Signs Mentoring Program has been created to provide structure and multiple opportunities for faculty, clinicians, students and alumni to interact and support one another in mentoring relationships. In turn, this supports our belief that students should strive to compete against our standards not compete against their peers. This camaraderie extends beyond graduation through our national network of alumni volunteers.
Learning Modalities

- Lectures
- Case-based learning
- Team learning
- Multidisciplinary conferences
- Online exercises
- Podcasting
- Laboratories
- Written assignments
- Experiential learning
- Hands-on training

Creighton’s Curriculum and Education Philosophy

- Develops self-directed learners
- Builds a strong foundation in both the basic and clinical sciences
- Emphasizes problem solving skills and develops life-long learning skills
- Builds information management skills
- Instills clinical competency
- Integrates ethics, preventive medicine, and societal issues

Evaluation

- Students are evaluated against curriculum standards – not each other
- Evaluation/Methods –
  - Written and practical exams
  - Small group, laboratory, and presentation performance
  - Written and electronic assignments
  - Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCE)
  - Clinical competency

Office of Academic Success

The School of Medicine has two full-time consultants available to assist students academically and to supervise our peer-to-peer tutoring program.
Case-based Learning

- Small group sessions
- Hands-on Patient Cases:
  - Ethics
  - Behavioral Medicine
  - Clinical Blocks
    - Patient history
    - Physical exam data
    - Basic laboratory data

Interdisciplinary Curriculum

We understand that many students learn best by working together with faculty and other students in small groups. The curriculum stays flexible and current by utilizing the most up-to-date trends and technologies found in medical education.

**M1- Goals:**
1. Provide students with a strong foundation in the biomedical sciences.
2. Introduce students to principles of ethics and behavioral sciences.
3. Expose students to the fundamentals of physical assessment and interviewing techniques.

**M2- Goals:**
1. Build on the students’ biomedical science foundation through multi disciplinary-team taught-organ/systems based courses.
2. Develop both clinical and clinical reasoning skills through the Longitudinal Clinic program and small group discussions.
3. Address the psychosocial aspects of medicine.

**M3-Goals:**
Completion of six core clinical clerkships which provide students a strong foundation for residency and future practice in medicine:
- Ambulatory Primary Care
- Inpatient Medicine
- Pediatrics
- Psychiatry
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Surgery

**M4-Goals:**
Students complete their preparation for residency through exploration of various areas of medicine in both required and elective clerkships and courses.
1. Required completion of three clerkships in surgery and critical care medicine and/or primary care.
2. Completion of 24 weeks of elective clerkships locally, nationally, and internationally.

As a fourth year student, I have seen myself mature into a compassionate and caring physician and I am finding increased confidence and strength in my skills and attributes. The faculty, administrators, and my peers have been the most integral part of my success.

Allison van Haastert
Eagle River, Alaska
Class of 2009

Student Satisfaction

Satisfaction with our educational program is strong among our graduates. On the annual AAMC Medical School Graduation Questionnaire, 95% of the class expressed satisfaction with our programs compared to 91% nationally. Eight months after graduation, our satisfaction rating is 100%.
Creighton does a great job challenging students and updating the curriculum every year to stay current. It is reflected in the success of the students.

Year after year, Creighton medical school graduates are ranked highly for their comprehensive clinical education. Your clinical training will begin in your first year. You will complete patient histories and physicals under the guidance of medical faculty in the Clinical Assessment Center.

The longitudinal clinic experience in the second year continues the clinical education. During the third year students have the option of completing your clinical instruction at Creighton University Medical Center in Omaha, or at our new campus, Creighton University School of Medicine at Saint Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix, AZ. In addition, students have the opportunity to diversify their clinical experiences by completing clerkships in San Francisco, CA, rural areas, and the Dominican Republic. Fourth year students take advantage of clinical electives locally, nationally, and internationally. The exceptional clinical training that our graduates receive results in placements into prestigious residencies in highly competitive fields throughout the country.
Creighton’s new campus at Saint Joseph’s Hospital in Phoenix marks a significant expansion. With our opening of the first Catholic medical school west of the Rockies, Creighton adds new teaching facilities to its centers of clinical instruction in Omaha: Creighton University Medical Center, Omaha VA Medical Center, Children’s Hospital, Alegent Health Hospitals, and area clinics, including several rural facilities. Creighton University Medical Center, a 334 bed Level I Trauma Center, serves as the primary teaching facility for Creighton medical students in the Omaha area.

Saint Joseph’s Hospital in Phoenix hosts over 700 beds and also serves as a Level I Trauma Center. Saint Joseph’s is also the home of the Barrow Neurological Institute, the Eller Congenital Heart Center, and is consistently rated as one of the top hospitals in the country. The first Creighton class of 42 students will enter Saint Joseph’s during their third year in the fall of 2012, having started their medical education in Omaha in fall of 2010.

The combination of Creighton University Medical Center and affiliated facilities and Saint Joseph’s Hospital assures Creighton medical students receive a robust, diverse, and comprehensive clinical training.
As an international leader in research on major debilitating diseases, such as hereditary cancer and osteoporosis, Creighton is undertaking an exciting new generation of research projects. Our “Centers of Excellence” in medicine designation is driving us to develop additional front-runners in infectious diseases, diabetes, cardiology and much more.

As a Creighton medical student, you will have the opportunity to pursue University funded research projects during the summer after your M1 year through the Creighton Summer Medical Student Fellowship Program. Participants in the program have the opportunity to be immersed in either clinical or basic science research at Creighton, and discover the integral role scientific research plays in the development of new medical therapeutics and treatments. Students present their research at national forums as well as at the Midwest Student Biomedical Research Forum, a regional conference sponsored by Creighton.
You'll have the opportunity to live the Jesuit mission – through your service to others. Your Creighton education will give you the foundation for a balanced life. Although not mandatory, all Creighton medical students are involved in service opportunities in Omaha, nationally, and/or internationally.

**The Institute for Latin American Concern (ILAC) – creighton.edu/ministry/ilac**
- Founded by Creighton, ILAC is a real world demonstration of service to others. Every summer, Creighton health sciences students and faculty provide hands-on health care and community service to the citizens of the Dominican Republic.

**Magis Clinic – medicine.creighton.edu/magis**
- Creighton medical students founded the Magis Clinic in Omaha to provide medical services to residents in the Omaha area who are homeless or underserved. The Magis Clinic provides acute care, physical exams, mental health care, immunization clinics, laboratory services, and referral services at no charge to those in need.

**Project CURA – medicine.creighton.edu/Projectcura**
- Project CURA has been involved in health education through health screenings, health and science fairs, and other projects within the Omaha community, on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, and internationally. Last year, many of our first year students spent part of their summer abroad in locations such as Gambia, Cambodia, Peru, India, and Romania utilizing their skills and compassion to improve the lives of many in need, while gaining an appreciation of the diverse cultures they were immersed in.
Jesuit Excellence & Ethics

The dedication to service throughout the medical curriculum showed me that Creighton wanted to teach students to be empathic doctors who care for the patient and don't just treat the problem. This truly embodies the Jesuit traditions that I value most. The non-competitive atmosphere fosters an environment focused on learning and not outscoring other students.

Kashmir Singh
Brookings, South Dakota
Class of 2010

Members of the Creighton Community are challenged to reflect on transcendent values, including their relationship with God, in an atmosphere of freedom of inquiry, belief, and religious worship (from the mission statement of Creighton University).

Creighton University School of Medicine’s Chaplain’s office is involved with first year student orientation sessions, facilitating weekly faith sharing groups, medical marriages, yearly retreats, and student support.

Creighton is one of 28 American Jesuit universities devoted to educating the whole person, with a spirit of service and leadership, academic excellence and community. Since 1878, Creighton has been guided by the principals of the Jesuits – service and excellence in education. The Jesuit presence at Creighton creates an atmosphere of service to humanity, one of the chief goals of a Jesuit education. You will be given opportunities to reflect upon where God is calling you, through discussions with your classmates and during optional retreats, and other opportunities offered through the Chaplain’s office. The Jesuit value of Cura Personalis will be encountered throughout your medical education.

As a medical student, you will be provided with a strong foundation and support in dealing with ethical and moral issues confronting the medical profession today.
After visiting Omaha and interviewing at Creighton, my decision was pretty easy. There was no doubt in my mind that I would be happiest at Creighton based on my interactions with students, administrators, and how much I liked Omaha. I left here feeling like I’d be extremely comfortable spending the next four years of my life at Creighton. It felt like home.

Rick Carlson
Fox Lake, Illinois
Class of 2011

Find Balance in Your Life

Participating in activities outside academics will give balance to your life – an element that is important to your well-being as a person and a student. Through clubs, organizations, and extensive volunteer opportunities, you’ll meet and mingle with a variety of people. The Wellness Council, which sponsors a student-published online “Wellness Chronicle,” provides practical tips on issues such as exercise, nutrition, mental health, relationships, and spirituality. The Wellness Council also offers a variety of activities including: fitness fairs, picnics, movie nights, and athletic events. The Creighton Medical School Government also provides leadership opportunities and promotes a cohesive, involved, and focused student body.
Omaha...the Perfect Place to Be

Omaha

- Widely considered to be one of the safest cities in the U.S. with a low unemployment rate, thriving economy, and lively downtown.

- Kiplinger rates Omaha third on its list of America’s Best Cities for 2008.

- Centrally located, Omaha is accessible by flights to both coasts and is less than a day’s drive from Chicago, Denver, Minneapolis, Kansas City, and St. Louis.

- Omaha is home to four Fortune 500 Companies and nearly a million people in the metro area.

- Salary.com ranks Omaha in its Top 3 “Best Cities to Build Personal Wealth.”

It’s a great time to be in Omaha! During the past few years, Omaha’s downtown business district has benefited from more than $2 billion in development. Along with this thriving business climate, great shops, restaurants, and metro population of nearly 1 million — Omaha is just about the perfect place to live.

You’ll have many options for housing in a variety of great neighborhoods in Omaha which are close to campus. Pick a style. Pick a neighborhood. Pick a price. No matter your taste, you’ll find schools, shopping and recreation close by. Many condominiums and apartments are available with a variety of pricing options, and dozens more are planned.

Safe and family friendly, Omaha’s public and private school systems are excellent. There is also a child care center available on Creighton’s campus.
Omaha boasts the top-tier Joslyn Art Museum, the Holland Center, a world-class performing arts center, and an excellent symphony and opera company. Our Omaha Community Playhouse is the largest in the country. Numerous community theaters offer musical and acting opportunities. Our own Bluejay men’s basketball games are played at the Qwest Center Omaha Arena, and the riverfront is home to many outdoor concerts.

Omaha not only draws national acts for major concerts, but also hosts major sporting events such as:
- Home of the College World Series
- Olympic Swimming Trials
- March Madness NCAA Basketball
- PGA Golf
- NCAA Final Four Volleyball Tournament
The mentoring relationships at Creighton are both dynamic and reciprocal, with mentors enhancing personal and professional growth and development within their mentees. There are multiple opportunities for faculty, clinicians, students, and alumni to interact and impact one another in mentoring relationships.

The Vital Signs Mentoring Program incorporates ethical principles and philosophy into training and prepares students for clinical practice. The program allows students to learn from fellow students, faculty, and alumni physicians, and emphasizes the value of maintaining balance and a healthy lifestyle. The increased interaction between faculty and students is a win/win for both mentors and mentees, as it increases the students’ access to professionals and available resources.
In 1975 Creighton University began its Post Baccalaureate Program as a path for disadvantaged students to enhance their competitiveness for admissions into medical school. The Program provides matriculants an extra year of intensive coursework designed to prepare them for the academic rigors they will experience during their medical education. This is accomplished with the completion of the following three components:

- **Summer Diagnostic Session**: 8 weeks of pre-testing and counseling in order to determine each student’s areas of academic strengths and weaknesses.
- **Curricular Review**: Two semesters of intensive coursework in the Sciences, Mathematics, and English. The curriculum prepares students to succeed in their MCAT retake and their M1 coursework.
- **Pre-Matriculation Summer Session**: Students are provided the following to assure successful completion of the Post Baccalaureate Program and matriculation into Creighton University School of Medicine.
  - M1 Preview
  - Psychosocial Support
  - Clinical Experiences
  - Academic and Career Mentoring

[creighton.edu/health/hsmaca/premedicalpost-bacprogram](http://creighton.edu/health/hsmaca/premedicalpost-bacprogram)
Fall 2009 Class Profile

Applications
5455

Interviewed
667

Matriculants
126

Academic Medians
Undergraduate GPA: 3.72
Undergraduate Science GPA: 3.68
Graduate Science GPA: 3.73

Median MCAT
Verbal Reasoning: 10
Physical Sciences: 10
Biological Sciences: 10
Writing Sample: 0

Gender
Male: 68 – 54.0%     Female: 58 – 46.0%

Geographic Diversity
The class is comprised of students from 30 states. The top five states represented are:

- California  21%
- Nebraska  11%
- Colorado  9%
- Missouri  8%
- Iowa  8%

The class includes students who represent 58 colleges and universities.

Majors
The class is comprised of students with 38 different majors.
The top majors are:

- Biology
- Biochemistry
- Chemistry
- Psychology

100% of the 2009 matriculants have completed a bachelor’s degree program. 11% have completed a graduate degree program.
The Committee on Medical Admissions knows that you have worked very hard to reach this stage in the cycle of application to medical school. As we proceed together, our goal is to make the adventure as pleasant as possible.

We enjoy visiting with prospective students in order to discuss students’ applications and competitiveness for admissions into the Creighton University School of Medicine. We offer Open Door on Thursday afternoons from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm (CT). Open Door gives students the opportunity to visit with a member of the Admissions staff. Please feel free to visit or call our office in order to receive answers to your admissions questions.

Open Door does not occur every Thursday. Please contact the Office of Medical Admissions at 402-280-2799 or 800-325-4405 in order to verify Open Door will be available to you.

For more information on the Creighton University School of Medicine admission policy, please visit us online at http://medicine.creighton.edu.
Application Timeline

JUNE

1 All applicants are able to complete an application through the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS)
   http://www.aamc.org/students/amcas/start.htm

AUGUST

1 Early Decision Applicants:
   AMCAS application deadline.
   Deadline for transcript(s) to be submitted to AMCAS.

SEPTEMBER

1 Early Decision Applicants:
   Deadline for submission of the following application credentials to the Office of Medical Admissions:
   • Supplemental Application
   • Application Fee
   • Letters of Recommendation
   • Photograph
   Interviews begin (continue through March)

OCTOBER

1 Early Decision Applicants: Applicants notified of admissions decision.
15 Regular Cycle Applicants: Applicants begin to receive notifications of admission decisions.

NOVEMBER

1 AMCAS Application Deadline.
15 Deadline for submission of transcript(s) to AMCAS.

JANUARY

15 Deadline for submission of the following application credentials to the Office of Medical Admissions:
   • Supplemental Application
   • Application Fee
   • Letters of Recommendation
   • Photograph

MAY

15 Deadline to withdraw acceptance in order to receive a deposit refund.

ROLLING ADMISSIONS

The Office of Medical Admissions reviews applications on a rolling basis. Due to this fact we encourage all applicants to complete the AMCAS and Supplementary application procedures as early as possible.

Please contact the Office of Medical Admissions at MedSchAdm@creighton.edu or 800-325-4405 if you have any questions about applying to the Creighton University School of Medicine.