

Program Highlights

- Choice of either Basic & Biomedical Sciences or Clinical & Population Health Research
- Integrated curriculum
- Pool of over 350 thesis advisors
- Mentorship by physician-scientists
- Annual off-site program research retreat
- Monthly seminars and workshops by and for students
- Grant writing and fellowship opportunities
- Student Advisory Committee participation
- Career guidance

Eligibility

Massachusetts residents and those living out-of-state are eligible for admission to the joint MSTP (MD/PhD) program through the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) and the School of Medicine. Students must complete both the MD and PhD degree at the University of Massachusetts Medical School to be eligible for the benefits (tuition waiver and stipend) of the program.

Financial Support

MSTP (MD/PhD) students receive graduate student stipends (\$31,212 for 2017-2018) and health insurance throughout the program. Special program fees will apply upon discontinuation of the joint program.

Application Procedures

Candidates for the MSTP (MD/PhD) program begin the application process by submitting an application to the School of Medicine through the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS). After receipt of the AMCAS application, candidates will be sent a supplementary University of Massachusetts application. Only the MCAT is required for application.

About UMMS

University of Massachusetts Medical School (UMMS) is ranked 29th out of 139 U.S. medical schools in National Institutes of Health funding, according to the 2016 report from the Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research; additionally, we are also third in NIH funding in Massachusetts.

Beyond its core mission of distinction in medical education, the past decade has seen UMMS explode onto the national scene as a major center for research. The institution also ranks near the top among public medical schools in the Northeast in the amount of funding awarded by the National Institutes of Health. Federal and private grants and contracts at UMMS rose from about \$2 million in 1977 to over \$275 million in FY 2016, making it one of the fastest growing research institutions in the U.S.



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University of Massachusetts Medical School

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences



Medical Scientist
Training Program
(MD/PhD)

Program Choices for PhD Study

Biochemistry & Molecular Pharmacology | Bioinformatics & Computational Biology | Cancer Biology | Cell Biology | Clinical & Population Health Research
 Immunology & Microbiology | Interdisciplinary Graduate Program | Neuroscience | Translational Science

About the Medical Scientist Training Program (MD/PhD)

The Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) funded MD/PhD program offers exceptional training opportunities for those interested in pursuing a career as a physician/scientist. It combines the curriculum of the School of Medicine and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) to provide a structured foundation of diverse topics, with the flexibility necessary to meet the needs of the individual student.

Curriculum

Upon matriculation, first-year students are assigned an MSTP (MD/PhD) faculty advisor who will closely follow, guide and monitor their progress throughout their years in the program. Students begin the program by completing a mandatory lab rotation prior to the first year of medical school. During the first two years, students complete the integrated School of Medicine curriculum with emphasis on problem solving and small group learning. In addition, students enroll in a MSTP-specific course (MDP 740), Developing Solutions to Research Problems. This course focuses on the translational aspects of a research problem from the clinical question back through the scientific process.

During the summer between the first and second year, students select a rotation laboratory and continue with Developing Solutions to Research Problems (MDP740). After the second year of medical school, students take the Step 1 Board exam and then complete a 16 week clerkship before entering the lab of their chosen Thesis Advisor. During their time in Prequalifying Research, students prepare and defend a research Qualifying Proposal, then move into Thesis Research.

Upon successful completion of all requirements for the PhD degree, defense of the PhD thesis and submission of their dissertation, students join the third and fourth-year medical program for clinical training. Clinical rotations and electives are tailored to match students' academic needs and career goals and to fulfill the requirements for the MD degree, which include the clerkships, a scholarly capstone project and an advanced biomedical and translational science project. Students typically complete the program in 7-8 years.

Timeline

