

MD Educational Program: Graduation Requirements

UAB SOM Core Curriculum Components for the MD Degree:

Pre-Clerkship Curriculum:

Years 1 & 2

MS1 year

- Learning Communities 1
- Special Topics
- Patient Doctor & Society (PDS)
- Fundamentals of Medicine
- Cardiovascular
- Pulmonary
- Gastrointestinal
- Renal

MS2 year

- Learning Communities 2
- Intro to Scholarly Activity (begins)
- Special Topics
- Neurosciences
- Musculoskeletal/Skin
- Endocrine
- Reproductive
- Hematology
- Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM)

Clinical Curriculum:

Years 3 & 4

MS3 year

- Learning Communities 3
- Scholarly Activity (continues)
- Special Topics
- Required Clerkships:
 - Medicine Clerkship (8 weeks)
 - Pediatrics Clerkship (8 weeks)
 - OB/Gyn Clerkship (8 weeks)
 - Surgery Clerkship (8 weeks)
 - Family Medicine Clerkship (4 weeks)
 - Neurology Clerkship (4 weeks)
 - Psychiatry Clerkship (4 weeks)
 - Primary Care Track Longitudinal Curriculum (Primary Care Track, Tuscaloosa Regional Campus)

MS4 year

- Learning Communities 4
- Scholarly Activity (completed)
- Special Topics
- Required Acting Internships (AIs):
 - Medicine AI or Pediatrics AI (4 weeks)
 - Ambulatory AI (4 weeks)
 - Surgery AI, Critical Care AI, or OB/Gyn AI (4 weeks)
 - Primary Care Track Longitudinal Curriculum (Primary Care Track, Tuscaloosa Regional Campus)
- Required Electives (22 weeks)
- Preparation for Residency Course (2 weeks)

Visit the [MD Degree Educational Program Objectives](#)

UAB SOM Core Graduation Requirements for the MD Degree:

MD Educational Program Component	CORE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS for Regular MD Degree and including MD Dual Degrees (MPH, MSPH, MS, MBA) MD Curriculum	RURAL TRACKS Parallel Curriculum for MD Degree Rural Medicine Program (RMP) & Rural Medicine Scholars Program (RMSP) <i>Must complete pre-matriculation year for entry into each of the rural medicine programs</i>	PRIMARY CARE TRACK Parallel Curriculum for MD Degree Primary Care Track Curriculum <i>Clinical Years 3 & 4, Tuscaloosa Regional Medical Campus Only</i>	MSTP TRACK Parallel Curriculum for MD/PhD Dual Degree Medical Scientist Training Program	OMFS Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery for MD degree OMFS-MD Degree and Dental Graduates Residency
Learning Communities	Required	Required	Required	Required	Waived
Special Topics (STP)	4 weeks	4 weeks, Required (for RMP): STP 2120: Sharing My Path to Medical School	4 weeks	2 weeks, Required: STP 2043: Survival Skills for Physician Scientists	2 weeks
Required Clerkships	Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Neurology, OB/Gyn, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Surgery	Same as Regular MD	Same as Regular MD, within Primary Care Track longitudinal curriculum on Tuscaloosa campus	Same as Regular MD	Same as Regular MD
Required Acting Internships (AI's):	12 weeks: (1) Medicine AI (or) Pediatrics AI (4 weeks) (2) Surgery AI (or) Critical Care AI (or) OB/Gyn AI (4 weeks) (3) Ambulatory AI (4 weeks)	12 weeks: <i>Same AIs as regular MD program, or Primary Care Track program (Tuscaloosa Campus)</i>	12 weeks: (1) Inpatient AI (4 weeks) (2) Acute Care AI (4 weeks) (3) Community Medicine AI (4 weeks)	8 weeks: (1) Medicine AI (4 weeks) (2) Any other AI (4 weeks)	12 weeks: Same AIs as regular MD program
Required Electives	22 weeks * <i>*12 of the 22 weeks need to be clinical electives. This requirement applies to all students except MSTP.</i>	22 weeks <i>Same AIs as regular MD program, or Primary Care Track program (Tuscaloosa Campus)</i>	18 weeks PLUS Required LCPM Course: "Leadership in Community and Population Medicine"	2 weeks	24 weeks
Co-Enrolled Electives	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional
Preparation for Residency	2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks	2 weeks	Waived
Scholarly Activity	Required	Required	Required	Waived, complete PhD research degree	Waived, complete OMFS project

UAB SOM Core Curriculum Components:

- **Scholarly Activity (SA):** Students must successfully complete Scholarly Activity requirements and a SA project.
- **Special Topics (STP):** Students must successfully complete 4 weeks of Special Topics unless otherwise indicated by an approved UAB SOM MD dual degree/parallel curriculum. There are multiple weeks allotted solely for Special Topics in the MS2-MS4 years, upon successful completion of the Fundamentals.
- **Clerkships:** Students must successfully complete all required clerkships before taking Step 2 CK or participating in “away”/extramural electives. All clerkships must be complete by the end of Block 2 of the fourth year. Students enrolled in the Primary Care Track (Tuscaloosa Regional Campus) complete the third year clerkships within the Primary Care Track LIC.
- **Acting Internships (AIs):** Students must meet acting internship requirements as required for their tracks. Most students complete an Ambulatory Acting Internship (AI), a Medicine Acting Internship (MI), and a Surgical/Critical Care Acting Internship (SI or CI) for a total of 12 weeks. Any AI’s completed beyond the required AI’s count toward elective credit (elective-AI’s).
- **Elective:** Students must complete a minimum of 8 weeks in clinical electives or acting internships on their assigned clinical campus. A minimum of 12 weeks of elective coursework must be completed in clinical rotations.
 - Electives may be completed in a standard 2-4 week format, co-enrolled format (max 4 weeks), 3rd year elective format, and/or Teaching Associate format (max 4 weeks).
 - Students must successfully complete all required clerkships before taking Step 2 CK or participating in “away”/extramural electives.
 - Successful completion of a co-enrolled elective may be credited toward 2 weeks of elective credit. A maximum of 4 weeks of co-enrolled electives (2 co-enrolled electives only) may be used toward the elective requirement for graduation.
- **USMLE Exam Requirements:** Step 1 must be taken before beginning 3rd year clerkships. Step 2 Clinical Knowledge (CK) must be passed in order to graduate.

UAB SOM Parallel Curricula and/or Dual Degree Programs:

Rural Medicine Program (RMP) Parallel Curriculum:

Five-year program for students accepted into the RMP. Pre-matriculation year of study at the post-baccalaureate level in the College of Science and Mathematics at Auburn University, followed by four years of medical school. RMP students complete their pre-clinical coursework at the UAB SOM Birmingham campus, including extracurricular activities emphasizing rural medicine. RMP students complete their clinical training at the Huntsville Regional Medical Campus, with special courses and rotations in rural medicine. Students complete core graduation requirements for the regular MD Program, including courses and rotations in rural medicine as delineated by the RMP. STP 2120 “Sharing My Path to Medical School” is a required Special Topics course for RMP students.

RMP Website: <https://www.uab.edu/medicine/home/education/md-program/rural-medicine/rural-medicine-program>

Contact: Paula Claswon, Office for Family Health, Education and Research, Huntsville Regional Campus (paulaclawson@uabmc.edu)

Rural Medicine Scholars Program (RMSP) Parallel Curriculum:

Five-year program for students accepted into the RMSP. Pre-matriculation year of study leading to master’s degree in Rural Community Health from the College of Community Health Sciences at The University of Alabama, followed by four years of medical school. RMSP students complete their pre-clinical coursework at the UAB SOM Birmingham campus. RMSP students complete their clinical training at the Tuscaloosa Regional Medical Campus, with special courses and rotations in rural medicine. Students complete core graduation requirements for the Primary Care Track MD program, including courses and rotations in rural medicine as specifically delineated by the RMSP.

RMSP Website: <https://www.uab.edu/medicine/home/education/md-program/rural-medicine/rural-medical-scholars-program>

Contact: Susan Guin, UA College of Community Health Sciences, Tuscaloosa Regional Campus (smguin@ua.edu)

Tuscaloosa Primary Care Track Parallel Curriculum:

Primary Care Track students spend their third year in a longitudinal integrated clerkship on the UAB SOM’s Tuscaloosa Regional Medical Campus that is part of the UA College of Community Health Sciences. The curriculum consists of a 24-week Tuscaloosa Immersion Blocks Experience in Internal Medicine (8 weeks), Surgery (4 weeks), OB/Gyn (4 weeks), Pediatrics (4 weeks), and Neurology (4 weeks), 24-week Tuscaloosa Integrated Longitudinal Experience, and Community Integrated Experience at approved community site.

- Primary Care Track Required Acting Internships: 12 weeks total
 - Inpatient AI (4 weeks) in Medicine, Pediatrics, or OB/Gyn
 - Acute Care AI (4 weeks) in Adult Critical Care, Emergency Medicine, or Surgery
 - Community Medicine AI (4 weeks) completed on the Tuscaloosa Regional Campus or at approved community site
- Primary Care Track Required Electives: 18 weeks total, including required successful completion of the required longitudinal course: “Leadership and the Leadership in Community and Population Medicine” Course (LCPM)

Primary Care Track Website: <https://cchs.ua.edu/medical-student-education/>

Contact: meded@ua.edu

MSTP MD/PhD (Medical Scientist Training Program) Parallel Curriculum/Dual Degree:

- Overlapping GBS courses; no exempted SOM courses in the preclinical curriculum
- MSTP Special Topics requirements: 2 weeks total: All MSTPs are required to take the 2-week Special Topics course: STP2043 – Survival Skills for Physician Scientists)
- Clerkship requirements same as regular MD program, except Family Medicine clerkship is not required
- 2 weeks of electives (students are strongly encouraged to take the Family Medicine *elective* before students enter research phase); if time available, extra electives possible
- 2 required AIs (Medicine AI + any other AI)
- No Scholarly Activity requirement. Students must successfully complete PhD research degree.

Website: <https://www.uab.edu/medicine/mstp/>

MSTP Curriculum: <https://www.uab.edu/medicine/mstp/academics>

MSTP STP 2043: <https://www.uab.edu/medicine/mstp/academics/mstp-courses/special-topics>

Contact: mstp@uab.edu

MD/MPH and MD/MSPH Dual Degree with School of Public Health:

The MD/MPH degree program requires 42 hours, with 12 hours from the UAB SOM MD curriculum. There are four-year and a five-year program options available to students. Students in the MD/MPH program earn the MPH degree with a concentration in Population Health. In this individualized concentration, students gain a foundation in public health through completion of the MPH course, an Applied Practice Experience internship, and a capstone Integrative Learning Experience. Students also select from among all master's level Public Health courses to build a unique curriculum that supports career goals. The MD/MSPH degree program requires 43 hours, with 12 hours from the UAB SOM MD curriculum. Students in the MD/MSPH program earn the MSPH in Outcomes Research. This curriculum includes rigorous training in biostatistics and epidemiology in addition to focused coursework in health economics, cost effectiveness, etc. and a scholarly project. Credit for Scholarly Activity is shared between the MD/MPH and MD/MSPH programs. Scholarly Activity follows SOPH internship. SOPH internships in community will meet the UAB SOM Ambulatory AI requirement. Scholarly Activity project must have a public health research activity/focus.

MD/MPH Website: <https://www.uab.edu/soph/home/graduate/programs/md-mph>

MD/MSPH Website: <https://www.uab.edu/soph/home/graduate/programs/md-msph>

Contact: soph@uab.edu

MD/MBA Dual Degree with School of Business:

Requirements: 30 SOB hours, with possible 3 SOM credit hours contributing (e.g., Health Care Systems co-enrolled elective).

The MD/MBA Program is an integrative, four-year degree which combines 10 business courses (30 semester hours) from the UAB Collat School of Business with the UAB SOM MD curriculum. Students begin business classes the summer prior to medical school matriculation. The remaining courses are offered after the second year of medical school classes and after finishing the USMLE Step 1 examination.

MD/MBA Website: [MD/MBA - Collat School of Business \(uab.edu\)](https://www.uab.edu/collat/school-of-business/)

Contact: Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD. MBA (mzayzafoon@uab.edu)

Oral Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) MD Degree Dental Graduates Residency Program:

- Six-year program, with Years Two and Year Three coordinated with the UAB SOM clinical curriculum.
- Dental school graduates enter the UAB SOM MD clinical curriculum at the beginning of Year Two of the OMFS Program, after successfully completing Year One of surgical residency and OMFS requirements.
- The clinical curriculum requirements for OMFS Program students in Years Two and Three are the same as the regular MD degree core curriculum for Years Three and Four except there is no UAB SOM Scholarly Activity requirement and no UAB SOM Learning Communities requirement for students in the OMFS program.
- Years Five and Six of the OMFS program are the clinical residency years, including didactics and research and patient experiences.
- Each OMFS student must successfully complete a research project in the field of oral and maxillofacial surgery. The Scholarly Activity requirement for the UAB SOM is waived.

OMFS Website: <https://www.uab.edu/dentistry/home/academics/postdoctoral/omfs>

Contact: Karen Waits (kwaits@uab.edu); dentaladmissions@uab.edu