Education

The College of Medicine is the largest college within UF Health, the university’s academic health center, and one of the largest colleges within the university as a whole. Its mission is to improve health care in Florida, the nation and the world through excellence and leadership in education, clinical care, discovery and service.

Established in 1956, the college was one of the first in Florida to provide students with the opportunity to earn a medical degree. The college is ranked No. 36 among the nation’s top research medical schools, according to U.S. News & World Report. Among public medical schools, UF ranks No. 15 nationally and is the highest-ranked medical school in the state of Florida.

In July 2015, the college opened the George T. Harrell, M.D., Medical Education Building. Designed to support the college’s updated medical education curriculum, the building provides a dynamic environment for all learners as they develop the skills necessary to meet society’s health care needs and to ensure the highest level of patient care possible.

In addition to medical training, the college offers a variety of educational opportunities, including the Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences, which leads to a Ph.D. or an M.S. degree, and joint programs for M.D. and Ph.D. degrees. The College of Medicine is also home to the School of Physician Assistant Studies.

The college plays an important role in the continuing education of resident physicians and fellows through its collaboration with UF Health Physicians practices, UF Health Shands Hospital and the Malcom Randall Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Located in Gainesville, the college comprises 29 clinical and basic science departments.

Top 50

In addition to the college’s ranking as No. 36 among the nation’s best research medical schools and No. 15 among public medical schools, UF Health Shands is also ranked among the nation’s best hospitals in six adult and eight pediatric medical specialties.
Research
College of Medicine faculty are national leaders in fundamental, translational and clinical research in areas pertaining to diseases of the nervous system, human aging, cancer, diabetes, infectious disease, immunology and inflammation, genetics and gene therapy. College researchers are involved in collaborative research in several institutes and centers within the university, including the Evelyn F. and William L. McKnight Brain Institute, the Emerging Pathogens Institute, the Genetics Institute, the Institute on Aging, the UF Health Cancer Center, the Diabetes Institute, the Clinical and Translational Science Institute, the Institute for Child Health Policy, the Norman Fixel Institute for Neurological Diseases at UF Health and the Research and Academic Center at Lake Nona.

College of Medicine faculty and collaborative research teams continue to receive awards and honors that reflect their exceptional distinctions and contributions. For the third consecutive year, the UF College of Medicine’s annual grant awards from the National Institutes of Health eclipsed $100 million in fiscal year 2020.

The college’s steady increase in NIH funding over the last 10 years is reflected in the impressive rise in its national rankings in recent years to No. 15 among public medical schools — joining the upper third of U.S. colleges of medicine, according to U.S. News & World Report.

With lab spaces across UF in Gainesville and at the UF Research and Academic Center at Lake Nona, the college is home to more than 380,000 square feet of research space.

Patient Care
College faculty members practice at UF Health Shands Hospital, the UF Health Shands Children’s Hospital, the UF Health Shands Cancer Hospital, the UF Health Heart & Vascular Hospital, the UF Health Neuromedicine Hospital, the Malcom Randall Veterans Affairs Medical Center, the UF Health Shands Rehab Hospital and the UF Health Psychiatric Hospital. In addition, physicians practice throughout Central and North Central Florida at more than 50 UF Health Physicians locations. College of Medicine physicians accounted for nearly 919,401 physician visits at UF Health Physicians practices in fiscal year 2020. Within UF Health Shands, College of Medicine physicians accounted for more than 53,991 patient discharges in fiscal year 2020.

Clinical strengths of UF physicians include cancer, heart and vascular, neuromedicine, aging, psychiatry and addiction medicine, diabetes, orthopaedics, children’s health services and transplant services.