

## MD Core Educational Program: Graduation Requirements

Last revised 07.18.18

### MS1 year (July-June):

- Intro to Clinical Medicine (ICM 1)
- Patient Doctor & Society (PDS)
- Fundamentals
- Cardiovascular
- Pulmonary
- Gastrointestinal
- Renal
- Co-Enrolled Elective Offerings (optional, spring)

### MS1 summer break

- MS1 summer research opportunities
- Special Topics Offerings or break

### MS2 year (July-March)

- Intro to Clinical Medicine (ICM 2)
- Neurosciences
- Musculoskeletal/Skin
- Endocrine
- Reproductive Health
- Hematology
- Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM)
- Special Topics Offerings or break
- Co-Enrolled Elective Offerings (optional)

**~ 6-week USMLE Step 1 study prior to taking required Step 1 examination; successful completion of Step 1 exam is required for a student to enter into the MS3 clerkship year**

### MS3 year (May-following July)

- Intro to Clinicals (orientation week; scheduling varies by campus site)
- Required clerkships
  - Medicine (8 weeks)
  - Surgery (8 weeks)
  - OB/GYN (8 weeks)
  - Pediatrics (8 weeks)
  - Scholarly Activity (8 weeks)
  - Neurology (4 weeks)
  - Psychiatry (4 weeks)
  - Family Medicine (4 weeks)
  - [TLC<sup>2</sup> Tuscaloosa Primary Care Parallel Longitudinal Integrated Curriculum](#) (for students only who have been admitted to the TLC<sup>2</sup> Primary Care Track)
- Special Topics Offerings or break
- Co-Enrolled Elective Offerings (optional)

### MS4 year

- Acting Internships (12 weeks total required in MS3-4 years)
  - Ambulatory (4 weeks)
  - Medicine (4 weeks)
  - Surgery or Critical Care (4 weeks)
- Electives (22 weeks)
- Residency Preparation Course (2 weeks)
- Special Topics Offerings or break
- Co-Enrolled Elective Offerings (optional)
- Match Day (March)
- Graduation (May)

Additionally,

- **Learning Communities** and **Scholarly Activity** are required and span all four years.
- **Special Topics** are available throughout the curriculum in meeting required graduation requirements.
- **Co-enrolled electives** are optional and vary in class enrollment availability, depending upon the course.
- *Students in dual degree programs should consult their dual degree requirements, as requirements may differ according to program or degree track and additional requirements may be necessary.*

[MD Program Core Curriculum Components](#)

[Curriculum Schematics](#)

[Academic Year Calendars](#)

**MS 1: Required Courses \*\***

PCL1100: Patient, Doctor, & Society (PDS)  
 PCL1130: Introduction to Clinical Medicine - 1  
 PCL1125: Fundamentals (5 blocks: B1, B2, B3, B4, B5)  
 PCL1160: Cardiovascular  
 PCL1165: Pulmonary  
 PCL1175: Gastrointestinal  
 PCL1170: Renal

**MS 2: Required Courses \*\***

PCL1195: Introduction to Clinical Medicine - 2  
 PCL2215: Neurosciences  
 PCL1180: Musculoskeletal & Skin  
 PCL2235: Endocrinology Systems (Endocrine)  
 PCL2245: Reproductive Systems (Reproductive)  
 PCL2225: Hematology / Oncology  
 PCL 2250 Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM)

\*\*Learning Communities, Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM), Scholarly Activity, Special Topics, and a 2-week Residency Preparation course are required within the four-year curriculum, as specified per the core graduation requirements and course syllabi/guidelines.

**MS 3: Required Clerkships \*\***

Students are assigned to clinical campus sites. Clerkships are taken at the assigned campus sites

***ATTENTION: Students must successfully complete all required clerkships before taking Step 2 CK or participating in “away”/extramural electives.***

Clerkship	Number of Required Weeks	Birmingham (BHM)	Huntsville (HSV)	Tuscaloosa (TSC)	Montgomery (MTGY)
Medicine	8 weeks	02-280	02-281	02-282	02-283
Surgery	8 weeks	02-800	02-801	02-802	02-803
Obstetrics/Gynecology	8 weeks	02-400	02-401	02-402	02-403
Pediatrics	8 weeks	02-520	02-521	02-522	02-523
Family Medicine	4 weeks	02-300	02-301	02-302	02-303
Neurology	4 weeks	02-350	02-351	02-352	02-353
Psychiatry	4 weeks	02-680	02-681	02-682	02-683

[TLC<sup>2</sup> Tuscaloosa Primary Care Parallel Longitudinal Integrated Curriculum](#)  
 (for students only who have been admitted to the TLC<sup>2</sup> Primary Care Track)

## SOM MD Degree Core Educational Program: Detailed Graduation Requirements

In general, core graduation requirements for the M.D. degree program (required of all students for graduation with the M.D. degree) are listed in the table below. For joint degree/dual degree programs and parallel curricular tracks (TLC<sup>2</sup>, MSTP, etc.), refer to specific graduation requirements required by those degree programs. **ATTENTION: Students must successfully complete all required clerkships before taking Step 2 CK or participating in “away”/extramural electives.**

### Deferral of Clerkship, Ambulatory AI, or Scholarly Activity to Year 4:

A student in the third year can defer a Clerkship, Ambulatory AI, or Scholarly Activity 8-week credit to the fourth year provided the student has successfully completed/passed the (1) Medicine Clerkship, (2) Surgery Clerkship, and (3) any clerkship discipline in which the student is planning to add as the AI or elective.

**All clerkships and the 8-week Scholarly Activity requirement must be complete by the end of Block 2 of the fourth year.**

Component	Timeline and Requirements
<b>Learning Communities</b>	<p><b>Longitudinal requirement in the MS1 through MS4 years; 80% attendance and completion of all written assignments in order to pass the course.</b> Refer to the Learning Communities syllabus guidelines for expectations and requirements.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Completion of Learning Communities 3 and Learning Communities 4, and exceptions from normal course requirements:</u></b></p> <p><b>Guidelines for MS3 students:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Learning Communities 3 (LC3) course is required for all students, including MSTP and transfer students.</li> <li>• Students assigned to a regional campus will complete the requirements for the LC3 course as a part of their campus’ Dean’s Conference, or equivalent.</li> <li>• Students assigned to the Birmingham campus will complete the requirements for the LC3 course as a part of monthly LC sessions/Dean’s Conference.</li> <li>• The LC3 course requirement is waived for OMFS students.</li> <li>• Any off-cycle student to participate in the LC3 course until they have attended 80% of the sessions, even if that means participating in LC3 sessions as an MS4.</li> </ul> <p><b>Guidelines for MS4 students:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Learning Communities 4 (LC4) course is required for all students, including transfer students, regardless of campus assignment.</li> <li>• Students on regional campuses may still be required to attend Dean’s Conference on their local campus, in addition to LC4 course sessions with their Birmingham-based mentor.</li> <li>• The LC4 course requirement is waived for OMFS students.</li> <li>• Any student scheduled to graduate in December will be exempt from the LC4 course requirement. Students may still choose to attend LC4 sessions until they graduate.</li> </ul>

Component	Timeline and Requirements
<p><b>Preclinical Modules and ICM</b></p>	<p><b>MS1 and MS2 years</b> Students must successfully pass <u>all required courses in the preclinical curriculum</u> at the Birmingham campus (Years 1 and 2).</p>
<p><b>Evidence-Based Medicine</b></p>	<p><b>1 week, MS2 year EBM Course</b> Students must successfully complete each of the evidence-based medicine course requirements.</p>
<p><b>Special Topics</b></p>	<p><b>4 weeks</b> Students must successfully complete <u>4 weeks of Special Topics</u>. Special Topics are available throughout the curriculum in MS years 2-4. Special Topics may be student-or-faculty-initiated and must have approval of the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Medical Education.</p>
<p><b>Co-Enrolled Electives (Optional)</b></p>	<p><b>Maximum of 4 weeks may substitute for elective credit.</b> <u>Co-enrolled electives are optional.</u></p> <p>Students must be Active in Good Standing and may only enroll in one co-enrolled elective at a time. Co-enrolled electives may be available for concurrent enrollment of one or more medical classes during a specified term but are not available for MS1 enrollment in the fall.</p> <p><u>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.</u></p> <p>Students do have the option to take more than two co-enrolled electives during their course of study - but any additional co-enrolled electives over 4 weeks credit (2 total) will not count toward elective credit in fulfilling graduation requirements.</p>
<p><b>Scholarly Activity</b></p>	<p><b>8 weeks Scholarly Activity credit <u>plus</u> Scholarly Activity Project</b></p> <p>Students must adhere to <u>Scholarly Activity requirements and deadlines</u>, are required to successfully complete <u>8 weeks of Scholarly Activity credit</u>, and must successfully complete a <u>Scholarly Activity Project</u>.</p> <p>Students may register for an additional 4 weeks of Scholarly Activity Elective credit; these additional 4 weeks will count toward elective requirements.</p> <p><a href="#">Medical Student Research and Scholarly Activity</a></p>

Component	Timeline and Requirements										
<p><b>Clerkships</b></p>	<p><b>44 weeks</b></p> <p>Students must successfully complete <u>all 44 weeks of required third-year Clerkships</u> at their assigned clinical campus sites (Birmingham, Tuscaloosa, Huntsville, or Montgomery). Required Clerkship experiences include the following and may be taken in any order.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="418 510 948 730"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="418 510 685 548">8-week clerkships</th> <th data-bbox="685 510 948 548">4-week clerkships</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="418 548 685 585">Medicine</td> <td data-bbox="685 548 948 585">Psychiatry</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="418 585 685 623">Surgery</td> <td data-bbox="685 585 948 623">Neurology</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="418 623 685 661">Pediatrics</td> <td data-bbox="685 623 948 661">Family Medicine</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="418 661 685 730">Obstetrics/ Gynecology</td> <td data-bbox="685 661 948 730"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><a href="#">TLC<sup>2</sup> Tuscaloosa Primary Care Parallel Longitudinal Integrated Curriculum</a> (for students only who have been admitted to the TLC<sup>2</sup> Primary Care Track)</p> <p><b>ATTENTION:</b></p> <p><b>Students must successfully complete all required clerkships <u>before</u> taking Step 2 CK or participating in “away”/extramural electives.</b></p>	8-week clerkships	4-week clerkships	Medicine	Psychiatry	Surgery	Neurology	Pediatrics	Family Medicine	Obstetrics/ Gynecology	
8-week clerkships	4-week clerkships										
Medicine	Psychiatry										
Surgery	Neurology										
Pediatrics	Family Medicine										
Obstetrics/ Gynecology											
<p><b>Residency Preparation Course</b></p>	<p><b>2 weeks</b></p> <p>Students must successfully complete 2 weeks of a residency preparation course, typically held in Block 5B of the third-year.</p>										

Component	Timeline and Requirements
<p><b>Required AI's (Acting Internships)</b></p>	<p><b>12 weeks</b> (may be taken in any order)                      (a) 4 weeks <u>Medicine AI</u>,                      (b) 4 weeks <u>Ambulatory AI **</u>, and                      (c) 4 weeks <u>Surgery AI or Critical Care AI</u>.</p> <p>Students must successfully complete <u>12 weeks of required Acting Internships (AIs)</u> -- this AI requirement includes (a) 4 weeks Medicine AI, (b) 4 weeks Ambulatory AI, and (c) 4 weeks Surgery AI or Critical Care AI. AI's may be taken in any order following completion of any required prerequisites.</p> <p>Any AI's completed beyond the required AI's count toward elective credit (elective-AI's).</p> <p><b>The required <u>Medicine AI</u> and <u>Ambulatory AI</u> must be taken on the student's assigned clinical campus.</b></p> <p><b>** Specific Guidelines for Required Ambulatory AI Credit:</b></p> <p><u>ALL STUDENTS irrespective of clinical campus are required to take 4 weeks of Ambulatory AI credit in the clinical years for graduation.</u></p> <p>When students enroll in the required ambulatory AI may vary by student and by clinical campus in completion of other clerkship and required experiences.</p> <p><u>Completion of the Family Medicine clerkship is a prerequisite for any required Ambulatory AI.</u></p> <p><b>Ambulatory AI and Rural Medicine:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>During the third year, students on the Birmingham campus may enroll in the third-year Rural Medicine clinical elective (successful completion of the Family Medicine clerkship is a prerequisite) for elective credit OR a 4-week required ambulatory AI (may include Rural Medicine) for ambulatory AI credit.</u></li> <li>2. <u>The required Ambulatory AI on the Huntsville, Tuscaloosa, and Montgomery regional campuses must be a required Ambulatory AI in Rural Medicine. The required Ambulatory AI in Rural Medicine may be taken in the third year but must follow the Family Medicine clerkship on the assigned campus. Students on the regional campuses have the option of deferring both the Family Medicine clerkship and the required Ambulatory AI in Rural Medicine to the fourth year with permission and approval from the respective regional campus. If a student does defer the Family Medicine clerkship and required Ambulatory AI in Rural Medicine to the fourth year, the student may take another AI or clinical elective, provided the student has passed the (1) Medicine Clerkship, (2) Surgery Clerkship, and (3) any clerkship discipline in which they are planning to add as the AI or elective.</u></li> </ol>

Component	Timeline and Requirements
<p><b>Electives</b></p>	<p><b>22 weeks</b></p> <p>Students must successfully complete <u>22 weeks of Electives</u>. This includes any electives in years 3 and 4 and co-enrolled electives ** (see above, co-enrolled electives section) that meet elective credit.</p> <p>Any AI's completed beyond the required AI's may count toward elective credit (elective-AI).</p> <p>Extramural electives are subject to screening and approval by the School of Medicine leadership.</p> <p><b>REMINDER: Students must successfully complete all required clerkships <u>before taking Step 2 CK or participating in "away"/extramural electives.</u></b></p>
<p><b>USMLE Step 1</b></p>	<p><b>Successful passing score on the USMLE Step 1.</b></p> <p>Students must successfully pass USMLE Step 1 (the MS2 year) before they will be permitted to enroll/participate in a third-year clerkship.</p> <p>See "Policy on USMLE Examinations" :  <a href="http://www.uab.edu/medicine/home/current-students/policies-procedures/usmle">http://www.uab.edu/medicine/home/current-students/policies-procedures/usmle</a></p>
<p><b>USMLE Step 2 CK</b></p>	<p><b>Successful completion and passing score on the USMLE Step 2 CK.</b></p> <p><b>ATTENTION: Students must successfully complete all required clerkships <u>before taking Step 2 CK or participating in "away"/extramural electives.</u></b></p> <p>See "Policy on USMLE Examinations" :  <a href="http://www.uab.edu/medicine/home/current-students/policies-procedures/usmle">http://www.uab.edu/medicine/home/current-students/policies-procedures/usmle</a></p>
<p><b>SOM OSCE Formative Clinical Skills Assessment</b></p> <p><u>BEFORE</u></p> <p>USMLE Step 2 CS</p>	<p><b>Students must participate in a formative clinical skills assessment and meet appropriate benchmarks BEFORE they take Step 2 CS.</b></p> <p>This formative clinical skills assessment is to be administered in Spring of the MS3 year.</p>

Component	Timeline and Requirements
<b>USMLE Step 2 CS</b>	<p><b>Successful completion and passing score on the USMLE Step 2 CS.</b></p> <p>Students must participate in a formative clinical skills assessment and meet appropriate benchmarks before they take Step 2 CS (to be administered in Spring of the MS3 year).</p> <p>See “Policy on USMLE Examinations” : <a href="http://www.uab.edu/medicine/home/current-students/policies-procedures/usmle">http://www.uab.edu/medicine/home/current-students/policies-procedures/usmle</a></p>



## Overview of differences in core GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS for M.D. DEGREE VS. JOINT/DUAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

Students in dual degree programs/special tracks should refer to  
the specific graduation requirements for that specific degree program or track

REQUIRED COMPONENT	REGULAR MD (including MD- MPH & MD-MBA)	MSTP	OMFS	MS
<b>Special Topics (STP)</b>	4 weeks	<b>2 weeks</b> (STP2043 – Survival Skills for Physician Scientists)	<b>2 weeks</b>	4 weeks
<b>Required Acting Internships (AI's):</b>  The following AIs are required in the regular M.D. Program (4 weeks each, for a total of 12 weeks of required AI credit):  (1) Medicine AI (2) Surgery AI ( <u>or</u> ) Critical Care AI (3) Ambulatory AI	12 weeks	<b>8 weeks</b>  Students are required to enroll in the Medicine AI (4 weeks). Additionally, MSTP students must take a 4-week AI in one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Surgery AI (<u>or</u>)</li><li>• Critical Care AI (<u>or</u>)</li><li>• Ambulatory AI (<u>or</u>)</li><li>• Elective AI</li></ul> <b>There is no 4-week Ambulatory AI requirement.</b>	12 weeks	12 weeks
<b>Electives</b>	24 weeks	<b>4 weeks</b>	24 weeks	24 weeks
<b>Scholarly Activity</b>	8 weeks	<b>0 weeks</b>	<b>0 weeks</b>	<b>0 weeks</b>
<b>Successful completion and passing scores on the USMLE Step 1 and Step 2 CK.</b> Students must successfully pass USMLE Step 1 (the MS2 year) before they will be permitted to enroll/participate in a third-year clerkship. <a href="http://www.uab.edu/medicine/home/current-students/policies-procedures/usmle">http://www.uab.edu/medicine/home/current-students/policies-procedures/usmle</a>	Required	Required	Required	Required
<b>Successful completion of the SOM OSCE Formative Clinical Skills Assessment in the MS3 Year <u>and</u> successful completion and passing score on the USMLE Step 2 CS</b>	Required	Required	Required	Required

## MD-MPH PROGRAM

[http://www.soph.uab.edu/md\\_mph\\_program](http://www.soph.uab.edu/md_mph_program)

**SOPH contacts:** Angela Sullivan ([amsulli@uab.edu](mailto:amsulli@uab.edu)) and Peter Ginter, MBA, PhD ([pginter@uab.edu](mailto:pginter@uab.edu))

<p>Program can completed in 4 or 5 years Requirements: 42 SOPH hours</p> <p>Minimum 30 SOPH hours Possible 12 hours credit from SOM courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EBM (MS2 course) – 2 credit hours</li> <li>• Scholarly Activity (MS3 course) – 8 credit hours</li> <li>• SOM electives (per SOPH) 2 credit hours</li> </ul>	<p>4-year program required scheduling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FM clerkship – 1<sup>st</sup> block of MS3 year (May)</li> <li>• Ambulatory AI – 2<sup>nd</sup> block of MS3 year (June): <i>SOPH internship in community will meet SOM Ambulatory AI requirement (Ambulatory AI waived)</i></li> <li>• Scholarly Activity – 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> block of MS3 year (July and August): <i>Scholarly Activity follows SOPH internship. Scholarly Activity project must be a public health research activity/focus.</i></li> </ul>
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## MD-MBA PROGRAM

<http://www.uab.edu/business/home/degrees-certificates/mba/md-mba-dual-degrees>

**Faculty contact:** Majd Zayzafoon, MD, PhD ([mzayzafoon@uab.edu](mailto:mzayzafoon@uab.edu))

<p>Program can be completed in 4 or 5 years Requirements: <u>30</u> School of Business hours, with possible 3 credit hours from SOM course [E.g., Health Care Systems co-enrolled elective (Will Ferniany)]</p>
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## MSTP (Medical Scientist Training Program)

<http://www.uab.edu/medicine/mstp/current-students>

**Contacts:** Randy Seay ([rseay@uab.edu](mailto:rseay@uab.edu)) and Robin Lorenz MD, PhD ([rlorenz@uab.edu](mailto:rlorenz@uab.edu))

<p>Preclinical Curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overlapping GBS courses, no SOM exemptions</li> <li>• Special Topics requirement (2 weeks) – course per MSTP (<i>STP2043 – Survival Skills for Physician Scientists</i>)</li> </ul>	<p>Clinical Curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clerkships unchanged except Family Medicine clerkship is not required</li> <li>• No Scholarly Activity requirement</li> <li>• 2 AIs (Medicine + any other AI)</li> <li>• 4 weeks of electives (strongly encouraged to take Family Medicine elective before students enter research phase)</li> <li>• If time available, extra electives possible</li> </ul>
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## Oral Maxillofacial Surgery Program (OMFS)

<https://www.uab.edu/dentistry/home/departments-programs/oral-and-maxillofacial-surgery/postdoctoral-programs>

**Contact:** Patrick Louis, DDS, MD ([plouis@uab.edu](mailto:plouis@uab.edu))

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dental school graduates enter the SOM clinical curriculum after 1 year of surgical residency</li> <li>• Clinical curriculum unchanged except no Scholarly Activity requirement</li> </ul>
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