Mission
Cooper Medical School of Rowan University is committed to providing humanistic education in the art and science of medicine within a scientific and scholarly community in which inclusivity, excellence in patient care, innovative teaching, research and service to our community are valued.

Core values include a commitment to diversity, personal mentorship, professionalism, collaboration and mutual respect, civic responsibility, patient advocacy and lifelong learning.

Vision
Cooper Medical School of Rowan University will distinguish itself as a leader in medical education with a programmatic emphasis on patient-centered care, patient safety, innovative healthcare delivery systems, research and preventive health programs that meet the needs and challenges of patient care in the 21st century.

History
Rowan University and The Cooper Health System partnered in June 2009 to establish Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU), the 135th allopathic medical school in the country and the first new medical school in New Jersey in 35 years.

Milestones:
- June 2009 – Executive Order to create medical school issued
- October 2009 – Rowan and Cooper develop accreditation plan
- December 2009 – LCME grants “applicant school” status, the first step toward accreditation
- June 2010 – Dr. Paul Katz named Founding Dean
- October 2010 – Groundbreaking ceremony on site of Medical Education Building
- December 2010 – CMSRU submits application for preliminary accreditation
- June 2011 – Preliminary LCME accreditation earned with high regard in every category of review
- September 2011 – First of 300 student interviews is conducted for Class of 2016
- May 2012 – 50 men and women are admitted to the charter class
- July 2012 – Grand opening ceremony held at Medical Education Building
- August 2012 – Class of 2016 begins its medical education at CMSRU

LCME Accreditation
CMSRU received preliminary accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) in June 2011 for having met or exceeded more than 130 rigorous standards for structure, function and performance. It is the third step of the five-step LCME accreditation process, which is complete when the first class graduates.
Camden is Our Classroom. Camden is our Home.

CMSRU is located in Camden, New Jersey, a city where basic needs such as housing, food, healthcare and education go unmet for many residents. CMSRU will help close this gap by educating new physicians who will practice regionally, as well as through the creation of new programs where students and faculty can provide care, resources and services to the community. Already noted as a “Hot Spot” for progressive approaches to addressing community health, Camden provides an ideal setting for exposing students to diverse cultures and socioeconomic groups with a range of social, emotional and medical needs.

Curriculum Highlights

CMSRU’s educational program provides each student with a solid foundation in the science of medicine by offering an early and continuous clinical experience. CMSRU curriculum emphasizes small group and “self-directed” learning. Early patient contact (during the third week of classes), a student-directed ambulatory clinic and the “Scholar’s Workshop” enhance learning by exposing students to the many facets of providing medical care and preparing them for the rapidly changing world of healthcare.

Faculty

CMSRU has more than 450 clinical and basic science faculty in 17 departments. They are experienced medical educators with discipline-specific knowledge. The Department of Biomedical Sciences encompasses traditional basic science disciplines in 16 clinical departments: anesthesiology, diagnostic imaging, emergency medicine, family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, neurology, neurosurgery, orthopedic surgery, ophthalmology, pathology, pediatrics, physical medicine and rehabilitation, psychiatry, radiation oncology, and surgery. Part-time basic science faculty includes scientists from Coriell Institute for Medical Research and University of the Sciences in Philadelphia.

Medical Education Building

CMSRU’s Medical Education Building is located on the Cooper Health Sciences Campus on South Broadway, between Benson and Washington Streets in Camden. The new $139 million building, which opened in July 2012, was designed for CMSRU’s curriculum with spaces and technologies to support faculty and students in their educational process.

Features:

- Six stories; 200,000 square feet
- 25 Active Learning Rooms
- 250-seat auditorium and 140-seat multipurpose room
- A Learning Commons and satellite Medical Library
- A Clinical Simulation Center with space to learn and practice interviewing and clinical skills
- Research and teaching labs for students and faculty
- Medical school administrative offices
- Easy access to the primary clinical affiliate, Cooper University Hospital

Students

CMSRU is committed to providing an academic and work environment where diversity is celebrated, and to foster access to medical education for learners from all walks of life. Fifty students are enrolled in CMSRU’s Class of 2016. The class size will increase by 10 each year until it reaches 100 students per class, for a total of 400.

Class of 2016 Statistics:

- 74 percent from New Jersey
- 75 percent attended universities designated “Most Competitive” or “Highly Competitive”
- 100 percent have significant community service experience
- 58 percent female, 42 percent male
- 48 percent live in Camden
- Age range: 22 to 36. Average age: 25

Prospective students must submit applications and letters of recommendation via the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS). CMSRU requires submission of MCAT scores.

About Rowan University

Founded in 1923, Rowan University is an award-winning public institution with campuses in Glassboro and Camden, New Jersey. It offers bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees to more than 12,000 students in 57 programs in nine academic colleges.

About Cooper University Hospital

Cooper University Hospital, with more than 125 years of service to South Jersey, provides comprehensive health services and cutting-edge medical technology. Renowned for its signature programs in cardiology, cancer, critical care, trauma, orthopedics and neurosciences, Cooper provides the core clinical faculty for CMSRU.

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