



Cooper Medical School of Rowan University



The next generation of medical education

Rowan University

Rowan University is a Carnegie-classified national doctoral research institution dedicated to excellence in undergraduate education. It offers bachelor's through doctoral programs to almost 20,000 students through its campuses in Glassboro, Camden, Stratford and Sewell, New Jersey. Home to Cooper Medical School of Rowan University and the Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine, it is one of only three universities in the nation to grant both M.D. and D.O. medical degrees. In addition, Rowan comprises 15 schools and colleges.

Rowan is collaborating with regional leaders to create research and academic programs in health sciences. It has earned national recognition for innovation, commitment to high-quality, affordable education and developing public-private partnerships.

Advanced Medical Pathways and Programming

CMSRU distinguishes itself as an innovator in medical education and biomedical research that will lead to the transformation of healthcare. Academically advanced undergraduate students can pursue a 3+4 medical degree program—three undergraduate years of study plus four medical school years. Students can pursue a physician-engineer training program with the dual Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Biomedical Engineering (BME) and Doctor of Medicine (MD), a joint program from the Department of BME in the Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering and CMSRU. CMSRU also participates in a joint Doctor of Medicine and Master of Business Administration (MD/MBA) program with the William G. Rohrer College of Business.

Cooper University Health Care

Cooper University Health Care (CUHC) is the leading academic health care system in South Jersey. CUHC has nearly 11,000 team members, including 1,600 nurses, more than 1,000 physicians, and over 550 advanced practice providers practicing in more than 75 specialties. CUHC includes two hospitals—its Level 1 trauma center in Camden and Cooper University Hospital Cape Regional in Cape May Court House. CUHC is also home to MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper, the Children's Regional Hospital at Cooper, six urgent care centers, and more than 130 outpatient offices from Southeastern Pennsylvania to the Jersey Shore. Cooper University Hospital's flagship hospital in Camden is the core clinical campus for CMSRU.

History

A partnership between Rowan University and The Cooper Health System, Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) opened in summer 2012. It is the only four-year, M.D.-granting medical school in South Jersey. CMSRU is proudly mission-driven, focused on developing highly skilled and socially conscious physician leaders who value a patient-centered, team approach to healthcare. Its innovative curriculum provides students with small-group, self-directed learning with early and continuous patient care experiences, beginning the third week of medical school in the Cooper Rowan Clinic. Annette C. Reboli, M.D., is Dean of CMSRU. CMSRU earned Full Accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) in June 2016 and received full re-accreditation for the maximum eight years in November 2021.

CMSRU mission and core values

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 excellence in patient care, inclusivity, innovative teaching, scholarly activity, and service to our community are valued. Our core values include a commitment to: diversity, equity and inclusion, mentorship, professionalism, patient advocacy, wellness, the communities we serve, and scholarship. CMSRU and CUHC share a common mission: To serve, to heal, to educate.

Camden is our classroom. Camden is our home.

CMSRU is located in Camden, a city where basic needs such as housing, food, healthcare and education go unmet for many residents. CMSRU is helping 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.

State-of-the-art medical education facilities

CMSRU's Medical Education Building, located on the Cooper Health Sciences Campus in Camden, opened in July 2012. Designed for the school's curriculum, the building includes spaces and technologies to support faculty and students in their educational process. The building features 25 active learning rooms, a 250-seat auditorium, research and teaching labs, and dedicated space for student wellness activities.

In September 2019, a four-story Joint Health Sciences Center opened in Camden. The building houses CMSRU's state-of-the-art Simulation Center, as well as laboratory, instructional and research space for Rowan University, Rutgers University-Camden and Camden County College.

Curriculum

Over their four years at CMSRU, students are exposed to various cases and clinical settings designed to connect clinical relevance to basic sciences knowledge—beginning within the first few weeks of school, and frequently throughout the four years. Basic science knowledge is reinforced throughout clinical rotations. To establish these critical linkages, clinical faculty participate early in the medical school curriculum, working closely with basic science educators to tie basic tenets of scientific study to actual clinical scenarios.

CMSRU offers the Three-Year Accelerated Primary Care Track (PC3). The intensive program, designed for students pursuing primary care or pediatrics, enables aspiring doctors to graduate a year earlier than the standard, four-year M.D. program. It features year-round classes, early exposure to primary-care settings, and courses





designed to jump-start clinical skills. Graduates of PC3 are accepted directly into a residency program at Cooper University Hospital.

CMSRU's Simulation and Clinical Skills Center creates and supports programming designed to teach and enhance clinical competence and skill, teamwork, interdisciplinary partnership and interprofessional collaboration. To advance the field of healthcare simulation, the CMSRU SIM Center conducts innovative research into patient safety, medical education, simulation theory, practice, and technology. The Center utilizes simulation modalities such as standardized patients, task trainers and high fidelity mannequins to realistically replicate the clinical environment. The SIM Center is located in the Joint Health Sciences Center in Camden.

Providing a humanistic education in the art and science of medicine is the overarching mission of CMSRU. Students bring to their first day of medical school a high degree of empathy, and through elective classes, research, events and activities with dedicated faculty and experts, the Edward D. Viner Center for Humanism teaches each student to develop skills that allow them to connect and communicate with patients by nurturing their natural instincts as they strive to become accomplished and compassionate practitioners of medicine.

Match Day 2024

Our students match into prestigious residency programs across the nation. Each spring, graduating medical students learn where they will begin the next phase of their medical education as resident physicians at hospitals around the country in a process facilitated by the National Residency Matching Program (NRMP). In 2024, CMSRU's overall NRMP match rate was 99 percent for its MD seniors, well above the national average of 93.5 percent.

This year's CMSRU Match Day was the largest in the school's history, with 109 students seeking residency positions. Among them, 53 (49%) will embark on training programs in primary care medicine: 35 in internal or family medicine, 9 in pediatrics, and 9 in obstetrics and gynecology. Additionally, students matched in an array of specialties, including psychiatry, emergency medicine, general surgery, anesthesiology, radiology, neurology, pathology, and physical medicine and rehabilitation. Notably, many have secured spots in the most highly competitive fields of

Notable mentions

National Honor Recipient

CMSRU won the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) 2019 Spencer Foreman Award for Outstanding Community Engagement. The award recognizes the many ways the school partners with the Camden community, to both improve residents' well-being and educate future physicians.

National Rankings

Again in 2024, CMSRU is recognized among the best medical schools in the country by U.S. News & World Report with a Tier 2 rating in Primary Care and Tier 3 in Research. Our Tier 2 Primary Care rating is higher than any medical school in the Philadelphia region and the entire State of New Jersey.

Class of 2028 snapshot (as of August 2024)

Applications received	4,660
Total students	113
New Jersey residents	76% of class
Average overall GPA	3.86
Average science GPA	3.82
Average MCAT	513–83rd percentile (2023–24)
Graduates of Rowan University	18

Current Students and Alumni

743 CMSRU Alumni

452 enrolled at CMSRU (2024-25)

dermatology, neurosurgery, orthopedic surgery, otolaryngology, plastic and reconstructive surgery, radiation oncology, and vascular surgery. Students also gained acceptance to some of the nation's most prestigious and competitive programs, including: Beth Israel Deaconess/Harvard Medical School, Brown University, Children's National Medical Center, Duke University, Emory University, George Washington University, Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai, Kaiser Permanente, Loyola University, Nemours, New York Presbyterian Hospital at Columbia and Cornell, New York University, Northwestern University, Temple University, Thomas Jefferson University, University of California (Irvine and San Diego), University of North Carolina, University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School, University of Pennsylvania, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Yale University, and Zucker School of Medicine/Northwell. A notable 35% of students from the Class of 2024 will continue their training right here in New Jersey, with 21 students staying at CMSRU/Cooper University Health Care.

Current Students and Alumni

Since its first Commencement in 2016, CMSRU has graduated 743 physicians, all with a commitment to practicing confidently and compassionately and with a passion to affect change in their communities. Currently, 452 students are enrolled at CMSRU.

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