



Cooper Medical School of Rowan University



The next generation of medical education

About 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 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.

Academically advanced undergraduate students can pursue a 3+4 medical degree program; 3 undergraduate years of study + 4 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 Rowan College of Engineering and CMSRU.

About Cooper University Health Care

Cooper University Health Care is the leading academic health care system in South Jersey. Over 800 physicians provide expert care in over 75 specialties at outpatient offices and urgent care centers in the southern New Jersey region. CUH is South Jersey's only Level 1 Trauma Center and its Children's Regional Hospital is the only Level II Pediatric Trauma Center in the Delaware Valley. CUH's flagship, Cooper University Hospital in Camden is the core clinical campus for CMSRU.

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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 health care. 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.

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 (JHSC) opened in Camden. The building includes 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 (SPs), task trainers and high fidelity mannequins to realistically replicate the clinical environment. The SIM Center is located in the Joint Health Science 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 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 2022

In March 2022, the CMSRU Class of 2022 celebrated the annual rite of passage for graduating medical students known as Match Day, CMSRU's seventh. CMSRU students were offered residency spots at some of the nation's most prestigious and competitive programs, matching in specialties like neurosurgery, dermatology, otolaryngology, orthopedic surgery, integrated interventional radiology, and ophthalmology. CMSRU's overall National Residency Matching Program match rate was 99 percent; the national average for U.S. MD seniors was 92.9 percent.

From the Class of 2022, fifty students (50.5%) are entering training programs that prepare residents in primary care medicine: 35 will begin internal or family medicine residencies; 12 will specialize in pediatrics; and three will go into obstetrics and gynecology. CMSRU students also matched in psychiatry, emergency medicine, general surgery, anesthesiology, pathology, radiology, neurology, and physical medicine and rehabilitation. Fifteen percent of this class will remain in New Jersey to complete their training, including eight students who matched at CMSRU/Cooper University Health Care.

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.

COVID-19

CMSRU students embraced their mission to serve the community as they complied with public health mandates and transitioned to online learning and clinical experiences. Students from the Class of 2022 collectively completed 17,170 hours of service during their four years at CMSRU. Their volunteer initiatives supported the Camden community and area hospitals.

LCME re-accreditation

CMSRU received full reaccreditation in November 2021 for the maximum eight years from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME).

Class of 2026 snapshot (as of July 2022)

Applications received	Over 5,000
Total students	112
New Jersey residents	73
Out of state	35
Average overall GPA	3.80
Average science GPA	3.75
Average MCAT	512 (85th percentile)
Graduates of Rowan University	14

CMSRU faculty snapshot (as of March 2022)

Total faculty	Biomedical Science: 77 Clinical: 598
Total dollars in research funding	\$1.401 million
CUH total grant supports	\$17.9 million

In addition to Cooper University Health Care, members of CMSRU's Class of 2022 also matched at a range of esteemed programs across the country, including: Brown, Cornell, Johns Hopkins, Cleveland Clinic, University of Pennsylvania and New York University (NYU). Other well-known and highly regarded programs include: Boston University, George Washington University, Indiana University, Mt. Sinai, Penn State, Rush University, Thomas Jefferson University, University of Arizona, University of California – San Francisco, University of Maryland, University of Massachusetts, University of Texas, University of Utah, and University of Washington.

Current Students and Alumni

Since its first Commencement in 2016, CMSRU has graduated 521 physicians, all with a commitment to practicing confidently and compassionately and with a passion to affect change in their communities. Currently, 448 students are enrolled at CMSRU (M1=112; M2=111; M3=112; M4=113).