



RUTGERS HEALTH
Robert Wood Johnson
Medical School

AT A GLANCE 2025-2026



OUR SCHOOL:

729 MD students

47 MD/PhD students

6 Joint degree programs: BA/MD, MD/PhD, PharmD/MD, MD/MPH, MD/MBA, MD/MSCTS

10 Programs of Distinction

61 Graduate Medical Education programs

OUR RESIDENCY MATCH



Our students continue to match into exceptional residency programs, including

- Brown University
- Children's Hospital–Boston
- Children's Hospital of Pennsylvania
- Cleveland Clinic
- Cornell University
- Harvard Medical School
- Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania
- Johns Hopkins Hospital
- Massachusetts General Hospital
- NewYork–Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center
- Yale–New Haven Hospital



2025 GRADS matched in:

21 different states

23 specialties/subspecialties

12% will train at RWJMS

CLASS OF 2029: 165 New Students



23 Average age of first-year students

58% are women

26% Out of state **19%** First-generation college

44% speak a second language at an advanced or native level

3.76 Average GPA



513 Average MCAT



54 Undergraduate schools

70% took 1-10 years between undergrad and graduate degree

14% majored in a field other than natural or physical science

14% double majors

DIVERSE INTERESTS

Our matriculated students applied with a breadth of experiences. ALL have medical experiences (e.g., paid employment, volunteer, personal caregiver).

And More.....

- ✓ Volunteering
- ✓ Research
- ✓ Teaching
- ✓ Athletics
- ✓ Leadership



INNOVATIONS IN EDUCATION



A member of the American Medical Association's Accelerating Change in Medical Education Consortium, now known as the ChangeMedEd Consortium, since 2015, **Robert Wood Johnson Medical School** has been among those at the forefront of innovation in medical education. In 2024, the medical school became one of 16 medical schools nationwide to serve as part of the ChangeMedEd "Innovation Groundwork" teams, focused on coaching for competency development, and has received funding as part of the AMA's Innovation Grant Program, in addition to national recognition for our achievements in medical education innovation.

Our curriculum offers **academic, wellness, and social support** to all our students. The faculty ensure the curriculum is aimed to support learning through multiple modalities by connecting students to the patient/physician experience, case-based learning through large group question sessions, and a dedicated time to focus on physician skills. Experiential learning is included from the beginning of your first year. The Robert Wood Johnson Medical School curriculum is composed of three phases: an 18-month pre-clerkship phase covering foundational sciences, organ systems, patient-centered medicine and health equity, and Community Engaged Service Learning; a clerkship phase; and an advanced clinical experiences phase. We are focused on improving health equity within the school and the greater community.

At Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, students benefit from an engaging, hands-on education by being on campus at least three days a week. These in-person days are thoughtfully designed to maximize collaboration, connection, and active learning. Through small-group discussions, interactive case-based sessions, and team-based clinical exercises, students work closely with peers and faculty to deepen their understanding and sharpen their skills. This dynamic, community-centered approach ensures that every moment on campus is meaningful, preparing students to think critically, communicate effectively, and thrive.



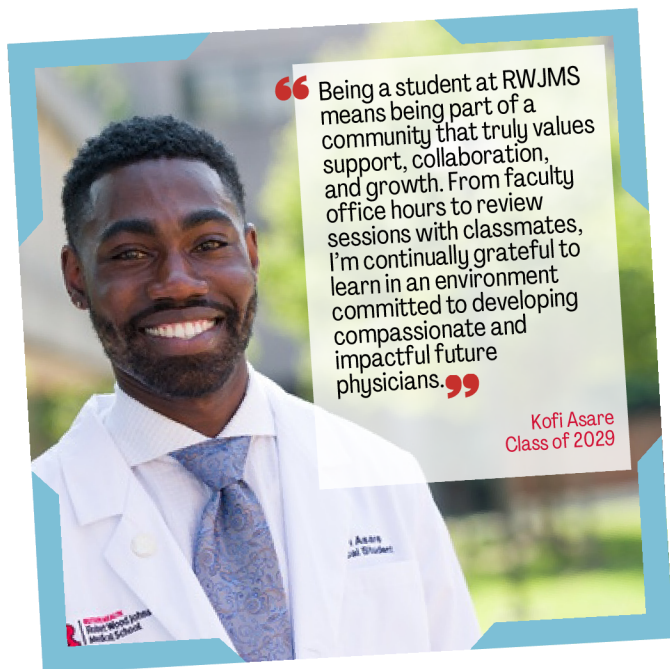
More time for advanced clinical experiences



More than 148 electives



Research opportunities



“Being a student at RWJMS means being part of a community that truly values support, collaboration, and growth. From faculty office hours to review sessions with classmates, I’m continually grateful to learn in an environment committed to developing compassionate and impactful future physicians.”

Kofi Asare
Class of 2029

Three-Year Accelerated Program

This accelerated track includes early clinical experiences in family medicine or pediatrics during the pre-clerkship phase of the curriculum and longitudinal primary care experiences during the clerkship phase. Students are engaged in clinical learning and receive mentoring by faculty and residents beginning in their first year at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. After successfully completing this three-year curriculum, students will be in position to match into one of our affiliated family medicine or pediatrics residency programs.



Student Support Services

- Student affairs deans highly rated for responsiveness to student needs
- Student wellness programs include confidential counseling, mindfulness electives, student-sponsored health activities, and self-designed electives
- Gold standard academic support, including peer tutoring, faculty mentoring, and educational psychologists



THRIVE Program

THRIVE: Together for **H**ealth, **R**esilience, **I**nclusivity, **V**itality and **E**quity Program—across all years of the curriculum—includes:

- Advising on career pathways
- Resources for **physical, mental, emotional and financial wellness**
- Sessions that promote **health equity and inclusion**
- Celebrations of our **vibrant and diverse** Robert Wood Johnson Medical School community

Student Leadership/Interest Groups

- Ample opportunities to participate in national groups, student organizations, and interest groups
- Active Student Government Association and elections to be members of curriculum and admissions committees



Distinguish Yourself! Pursue Your Passion, Amplify Your Impact

At **Robert Wood Johnson Medical School**, our **Distinction Programs** recognize and support students who go above and beyond in their medical education journey—demonstrating outstanding dedication, leadership, and scholarship across **10 specialized areas**:

- **Bioethics**
- **Climate Health and Environmental Sustainability**
- **Inclusion and Diversity**
- **Global Health**
- **Leadership in Academic Healthcare**
- **Medical Education**
- **Medical Humanities**
- **Medical Innovation and Entrepreneurship**
- **Research**
- **Service to the Community**

Whether you're drawn to research, advocacy, innovation, or leadership, there's a pathway that aligns with your passion and prepares you for a career of meaningful impact.

Students declare interest in a Distinction Program by the **spring of their M1 year** and are guided throughout the experience by **dedicated faculty mentors**. Each participant develops and completes a capstone project that reflects their unique focus and contributions.

The Distinction Programs are more than an academic achievement—they're a platform to deepen your expertise, elevate your voice, and make a lasting difference in the field of medicine.

Past Distinction Program projects have tackled a wide range of topics, including studying decreasing waste in the operating room, helping faculty address microaggressions, looking at whether pediatric patients are helped by representation in literature, and development of a mitral valve sizing device.



Rising Stars Program

This loan forgiveness program for medical students who commit to residency/fellowships and future employment at Rutgers or RWJBarnabas Health (RWJBH) recognizes students who demonstrate excellence across the Rutgers Health mission areas, including academic achievement, excellence in discovery, innovation and entrepreneurship, and commitment to our community. Funding support continues for up to 10 years of their employment by Rutgers or RWJBH.



CiM – Careers in Medicine: Empowering Your Journey through Medical Career Exploration

The **CiM Program** offers comprehensive support to medical students exploring the diverse landscape of medical specialties. Inspired by the *Careers in Medicine* initiative by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), CiM is your trusted guide from preclinical years through residency application.

Led by our dedicated **CiM Faculty Champions and Trained Specialty Advisors**, this initiative provides **personalized advising** to help you discover, define, and pursue your professional goals.

Key Program Components

- **Career Fairs:** Explore a broad range of specialties and meet professionals in the field
- **Student Mentorship Opportunities:** Connect with upperclassmen and physicians for firsthand advice and support
- **Clinical Shadowing Experiences:** Gain real-world insight into different specialties through guided clinical exposure

CiM Helps Students:

- Gain firsthand **insight into various specialties**
- Build **valuable professional connections**
- Join a **supportive community** of peers and mentors
- Navigate the complexities of **residency selection**
- Pursue your **professional aspirations with confidence**



CLINICAL TRAINING

Outstanding training at our clinical sites while doing **8** clerkships!

Clerkship sites include:

- RWJBarnabas Health facilities, including Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital (RWJUH) New Brunswick, RWJUH Somerset, and Monmouth Medical Center
- Saint Peter's University Hospital
- JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute
- Penn Medicine Princeton Health



In conjunction with our primary teaching hospital, RWJUH, students, residents, and fellows have the opportunity to train at a clinical site that is an innovative leader in advancing state-of-the-art care.

- Level 1 Trauma Center
- First Pediatric Trauma Center in the state
- The Bristol-Myers Squibb Children's Hospital at RWJUH, part of the academic children's health campus that includes the medical school's Child Health Institute of New Jersey and Children's Specialized Hospital

In addition, two new facilities debuted in the past year: the **RWJUH Ambulatory Medical Pavilion** for outpatient services in more than a dozen specialties and subspecialties, and the 12-story **Jack & Sheryl Morris Cancer Center** with the state's only NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, Rutgers Cancer Institute—the state's first and only freestanding cancer hospital—including inpatient and outpatient cancer services and research laboratories.



CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY AND GLOBAL HEALTH

Eric B. Chandler Health Center:

A federally qualified community health center owned by the medical school and operated jointly with a community board.

Medical students train alongside Robert Wood Johnson Medical School faculty, providing care through **more than 49,500** medical and dental encounters for the underserved New Brunswick community.



Homeless and Indigent Population Health Outreach Project (HIPHOP):

HIPHOP – Community Health Initiative:

The student-directed HIPHOP is in its **33rd** year of service, supervised and supported by medical school faculty and staff. HIPHOP hosts and partners with the community in **more than 40** outreach programs and events yearly, including food banks, mentoring/tutoring, health preventive education programs, and much more.

HIPHOP – Promise Clinic:

Our student-run health clinic, which is faculty advised and integrated through all four years of medical school, provides free primary care to clients of a local community soup kitchen who are uninsured and many of whom have common chronic conditions.

HIPHOP – Garden Initiative:

A student-run and faculty/staff-supervised garden initiative partners with the Ozanam Family Shelter, educating the residents on sustainable gardening. The Garden Initiative goal is to make the indoor and outdoor gardening a long-term, engaging activity that the residents can contribute to and benefit from, while addressing food insecurities.

HIPHOP – Health Career Collaborative (HCC):

HCC is a student-run and faculty/staff-supervised initiative and chapter of HCC, a nonprofit organization that supports healthcare partners to engage with youth from communities traditionally underrepresented in medicine, and the initiative's community partner is New Brunswick Health and Science Technology High School. HCC engages 10th- and 11th-graders in a curriculum that introduces them to emergency medicine and health professions.



“Alongside my medical education, RWJMS has provided me with opportunities to be present in the communities we serve, allowing me to understand how what we learn in the classroom applies to real-life situations. I have been able to discover not only the type of doctor but also the type of person I want to be while providing care to patients.”

Sebastian Saenz
Class of 2028

Global Health:

Our global health programs help medical students gain cultural insight and diverse clinical experiences and collaborate worldwide to shape the future of medicine. These programs create opportunities for medical students to broaden their awareness of global health issues and immerse themselves in the culture and health systems of other countries.



Specific study-abroad programs include Africa, Asia, Europe, South America, and even multi-country programs.

Spotlight: Kobe University

Student Jersey Chen had the opportunity to travel to Kobe University in Japan for a three-week rotation in the Division of Disaster and Emergency Medicine, where he was able to learn about emergency care in the context of Japanese society and medicine. During this time, he trained at four hospitals, each reflecting differences in culture, procedures, patient volume, and residency training.



“I think there are a few key differences in how physicians in the U.S. and Japan are trained, but at the end of the day, I have seen that the heart of a doctor is the same,” Chen says. “Whether they are Japanese or American, doctors across the world share the desire to always want to improve so that they can best take care of patients. At the core of everything a doctor does is taking care of the patients who put their trust in them.”

Read more: go.rutgers.edu/JerseyChenAtKobe

PARTICIPATING IN GROUNDBREAKING RESEARCH



Medical students across all years have opportunities to conduct research with more than **200** internationally recognized physicians and scientists in areas including:

- Addiction
- Biomedical research
- Cancer
- Cardiovascular disease
- Child health disorders, including autism
- Microbiome
- Metabolic disorders, including diabetes
- Neurological disease, including multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease, etc.
- Respiratory disease, including asthma
- Reproductive health
- Women's health

Summer Research Programs and the Distinction in Research Program enable students to enhance their research and analytical skills. Medical students who continued working on their projects throughout their medical education have presented research findings at national conferences and/or co-authored articles in peer-reviewed journals.

A NEW HOME FOR THE MEDICAL SCHOOL!

In 2026, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School will welcome the first class at its new, state-of-the-art school on a campus in New Brunswick that's hardwired for innovation and critical thinking.

For most of its history, students at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School have taken preclerkship courses for two years in Piscataway, followed by two years of clinical rotations in New Brunswick.

A new 165,000-square-foot school will be housed on four floors in the Health & Life Science Exchange (HELIX), conveniently located across from the New Brunswick train station. As New Jersey's first "innovation district," the project combines healthcare and bioscience industry with an emphasis on research, learning, and collaboration.



The medical school will be located in the first of three buildings on the site, which also will include translational research space and the New Jersey Innovation Hub. Specifically, it will include classrooms with interactive technology, seminar rooms, conference rooms, a high-tech simulation lab, gross anatomy and clinical skills labs, a student lounge, meditation space, a medical library, Rutgers translational research labs, a vivarium, studying spaces in various sizes, and administrative offices. The ground floor will feature a coffee shop, 100-seat restaurant, meeting spaces, and a makerspace with 3D printers, sewing machines, and wood and metal shops to develop prototypes. The school will also feature an open, light-filled, amphitheater-like staircase designed to encourage socializing and collaboration. **Learn more at go.rutgers.edu/HELIX.**

