



# MEDICINE



UNIVERSITY OF  
SASKATCHEWAN

# INTERESTED IN MEDICINE?



## **The College of Medicine: A provincial resource**

The College of Medicine serves the people of Saskatchewan by producing outstanding clinical practitioners, generating new knowledge and facilitating improved patient outcomes.

Originally founded as the School of Medical Sciences and located in the University Greenhouse in 1926, the College of Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan has come a long way from its humble beginnings. Today the College of Medicine has a full range of academic programming, including the School of Physical Therapy and the Division of Biomedical Sciences.

The college has a strong model of distributed medical education, meaning students have the opportunity to learn and train in sites across Saskatchewan. In addition to the Saskatoon and Regina campuses, there is an instructional site in Prince Albert and four distributed sites at smaller centres around the province.

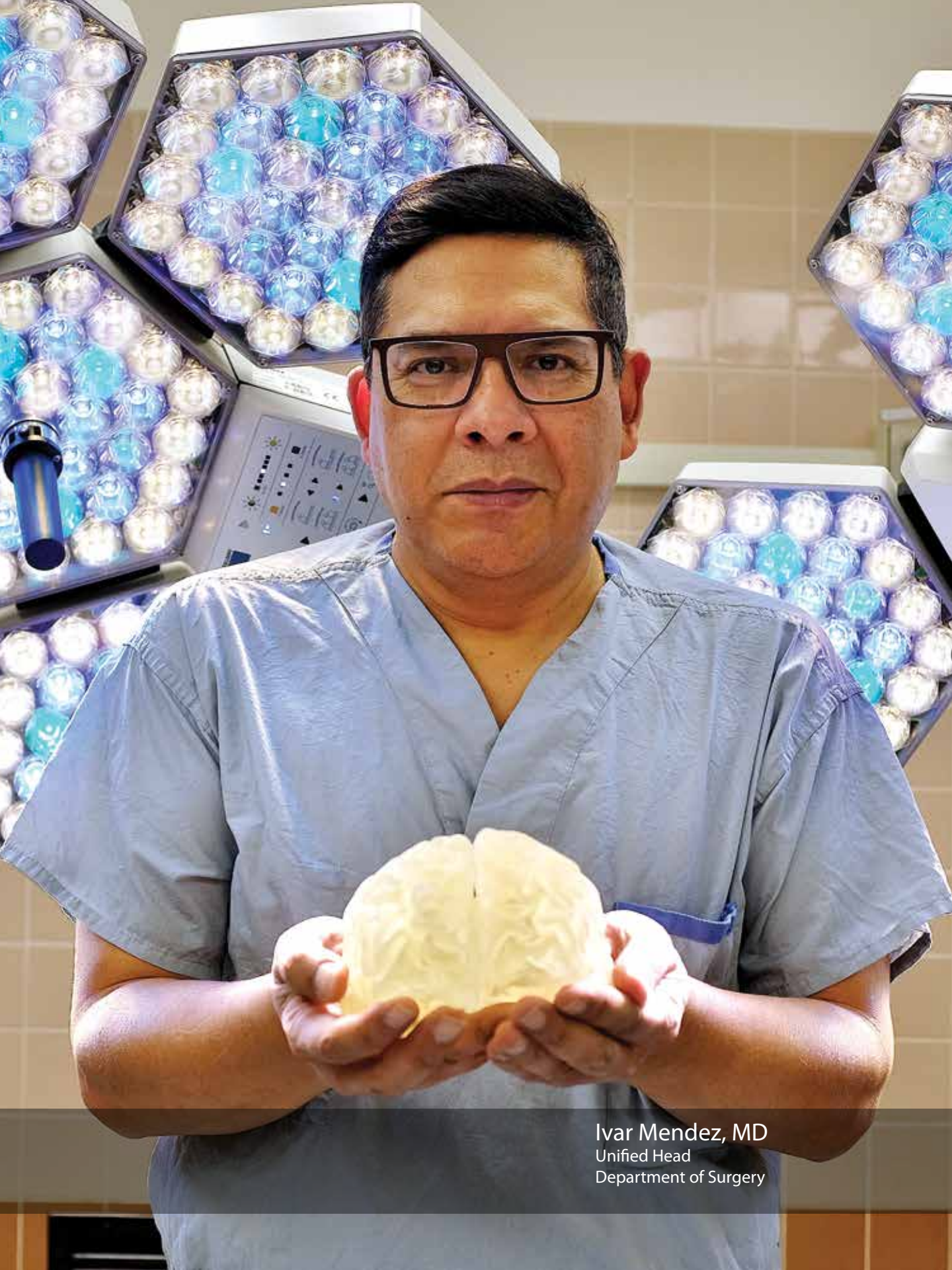
The College of Medicine is committed to increasing the number of Aboriginal physicians in Canada and has developed programs and

initiatives to encourage and support Aboriginal students, including the Aboriginal Admissions Program, Aboriginal Student Mentorship Program, Pre-Admission Workshop and Pre-Medicine Awards for Aboriginal Students.

For more information about the Aboriginal Admissions Program, visit: [medicine.usask.ca/students/undergraduate/aboriginal-admissions.php](https://medicine.usask.ca/students/undergraduate/aboriginal-admissions.php).

For more information about the College of Medicine, visit: [medicine.usask.ca](https://medicine.usask.ca).





Ivar Mendez, MD  
Unified Head  
Department of Surgery

# YOUR CAREER OPTIONS

The College of Medicine administers a four-year accredited undergraduate medical education program. The Doctor of Medicine (MD) program is designed to ensure our students graduate with a common foundation of knowledge, skills, values and attitudes. Upon completion of undergraduate medical education, students are well-prepared for further training in primary or specialty care areas, leading to careers in many diverse fields. Some of the fields are the following:

- Anesthesiology
- Cardiology
- Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
- Clinical Investigation
- Emergency Medicine
- Family Medicine
- General Internal Medicine
- General Pathology
- General Surgery
- Internal Medicine
- Medical Imaging
- Nephrology
- Neurology
- Neurosurgery
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopedic Surgery
- Pediatrics
- Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Public Health and Preventive Medicine
- Psychiatry
- Respiratory Medicine
- Rheumatology



Medical students in the  
Clinical Learning Resource Centre (CLRC)



# OUR PROGRAMS



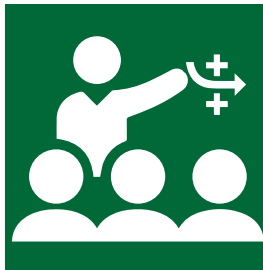
## DOCTOR OF MEDICINE (MD) DEGREE

The undergraduate medical education program is a fully accredited four-year program leading to the Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree. After earning the MD degree, you are eligible to apply for postgraduate training in the discipline of your choice.

Applicants must hold a four-year baccalaureate degree in any discipline from a college or university of acceptable standing. The College of Medicine admits 100 first-year students each year, and has 120 seats available for postgraduate trainees. 10% of first-year spaces are reserved for Aboriginal students.

Since the College of Medicine is one of Canada's smallest medical schools, you will get to know everyone in your class, as well as develop strong relationships with physicians, faculty and staff.

All first-year medical students will complete one year of training in Saskatoon. During the admissions process, successful applicants will be required to designate their preferred educational site for their second, third and fourth years of training. In addition to the Saskatoon and Regina campuses, there is an instructional site in Prince Albert and four distributed sites at smaller centres around the province.



### Years one and two

The first two years of medical education are called pre-clerkship. Students learn basic sciences and how to apply that learning in clinical conditions. They learn how to take medical histories and perform physical exams, first on standardized patients and then on real patients. At the same time, they are introduced to the factors that can affect both people's health and how they function in society. Students have the opportunity to participate in research and earn Global Health Certification.



### Years three and four

After pre-clerkship comes clerkship. During year three, which is the first year of clerkship, students put into practice what they have already learned. They participate in clinical rotations and provide patient care both in hospital and in outpatient clinics. Clinical experiences occur not only in Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert, but also in rural and remote communities throughout Saskatchewan. In year four, students have further opportunities to experience different fields of medicine by participating in electives in Saskatchewan and at other medical schools throughout Canada. This prepares them for choosing a residency program at the end of year four.



### Residency

After medical school, graduates enter into a residency program. The College of Medicine offers residency programs in a variety of specialties. Residency training varies from two years for certification by the College of Family Physicians of Canada to four to six years for certification by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Following successful completion of residency, residents enter into independent medical practice.



## BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

The Division of Biomedical Sciences in the College of Medicine offers undergraduate three-year, four-year, four-year honours and several double honours Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) degree programs through the College of Arts and Science in the following disciplines:

- **Anatomy and Cell Biology**
- **Biochemistry**
- **Biochemistry and Biotechnology**
- **Microbiology and Immunology**
- **Physiology and Pharmacology**

Students in these B.Sc. degree programs follow a common course curriculum, the Biomedical Sciences (BMSC) core platform, during their first two years of study. The BMSC core provides a broad background from which students can advance into the third and/or fourth-year of any one of our discipline-specific B.Sc. programs. It is also an excellent entry point for students intending to apply for admission into professional programs such as medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, optometry or veterinary medicine. For information about admission to the College of Arts and Science, visit: [admissions.usask.ca](https://admissions.usask.ca).

## POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL TRAINING PROGRAMS

Once you graduate with your MD, the College of Medicine offers residency training leading to certification by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada or the College of Family Physicians of Canada. Admission to these programs is through the Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS).

## MASTER OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

The College of Medicine is also home to the School of Physical Therapy, which administers the Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) degree program.

As this is a Master's degree program, applicants to the School of Physical Therapy must hold a four-year baccalaureate degree in any discipline from a college or university of acceptable standing.

For information about admission to the School of Physical Therapy, visit:

[medicine.usask.ca/programs/physical-therapy.php](https://medicine.usask.ca/programs/physical-therapy.php).

## MAKING THE LINKS - CERTIFICATE IN GLOBAL HEALTH

Making the Links–Certificate in Global Health is a unique certificate program for undergraduate medical students. The program combines academic courses with intense service learning experiences in the context of an urban underserved community at SWITCH (Student Wellness Initiative Towards Community Health) in Saskatoon, rural, remote and Indigenous communities in northern Saskatchewan and international communities in Mozambique, Vietnam and Australia. Rich in interactive, experiential, and didactic learning opportunities, this was the first undergraduate certificate in global health in Canada.

# YOUR USASK EXPERIENCE



## Health Sciences Building

The University of Saskatchewan Health Sciences Building has created a new standard for interprofessional education, research and practice. The state-of-the-art, integrated facility supports and enables collaboration among students, faculty and researchers in all health science disciplines and helps to educate health professionals using a team-centred approach.

We have introduced leading teaching concepts, conducted broad research investigations that advance our understanding of health issues and continue to explore how to best provide clinical services that respond to the needs of today's patients.

## Excellence in care

The College of Medicine is committed to incorporating social accountability to direct its clinical activity, advocacy, research and education (CARE) and training activities towards the priority health concerns of local, regional, national and international communities. The college supports a number of programs and initiatives that address community health needs, including Aboriginal health, primary health care, urban and rural underserved areas, gender and equity, eco-health, immigrant and refugee health and global health.

## Electives in Aboriginal health

Electives in Aboriginal Health that blend Western and Indigenous knowledge are available in year four. These electives give you the opportunity to work with Elders, Healers or Aboriginal communities. You may also go off-site to assist in clinical care in surrounding First Nations communities.

## Pre-Med Club

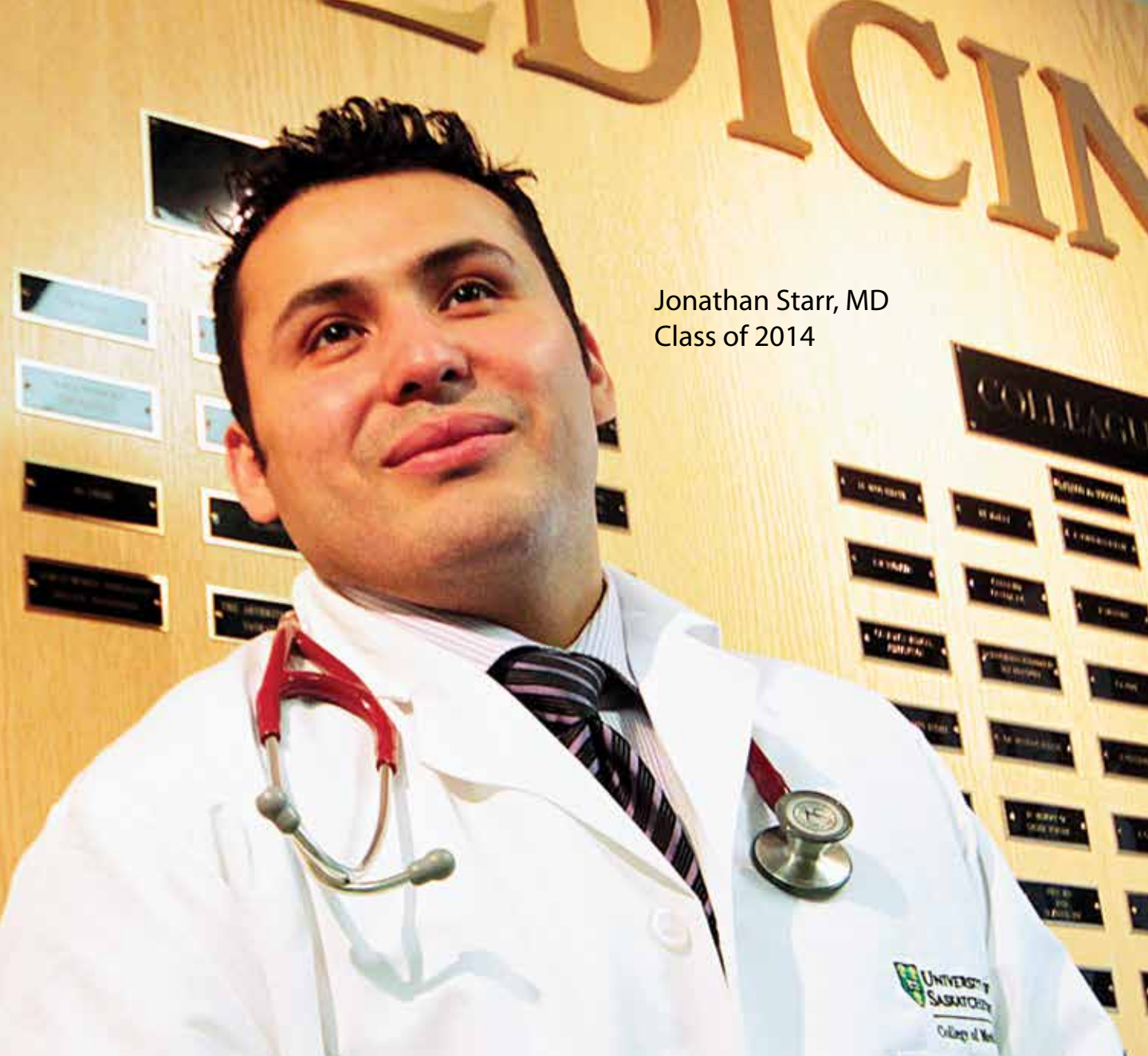
The goals of the Pre-Med Club at the University of Saskatchewan is to help students prepare for all aspects of medical school applications. They offer a range of preparatory and informative sessions such as mock MCATs, MCAT info sessions, multiple mini interview (MMI) prep groups, a mock MMI, a medical school applications crash course, a volunteer opportunities info session and much more. Membership also gains students a discount with one of the club's partner MCAT prep companies. To learn more, the U of S Pre-Med Club is active on Facebook.

## Student groups

Our college has an exceptionally active student body with leadership from the Student Medical Society of Saskatchewan (SMSS). Some examples of other diverse student groups include:

- Aboriginal Rural and Remote Health Group
- Living Well: Physician Wellness Initiative
- Equity, Diversity and Gender Group
- [saskmedstudents.com](http://saskmedstudents.com)





Jonathan Starr, MD  
Class of 2014



## Aboriginal Student Mentorship Program

Aboriginal students interested in medicine have the opportunity to spend either a half or full day with a physician while meeting medical students, doctors and other health care workers. For more information, contact Valerie Arnault-Pelletier, College of Medicine Aboriginal Coordinator.

# READY TO APPLY?



## **Doctor of Medicine (MD) admission overview**

The College of Medicine reserves 95% of the 100 first-year positions for Saskatchewan residents with 10% of the 100 first year seats allocated for self-identified First Nations, Métis and Inuit students.

Students must have completed a four-year baccalaureate degree in any subject area prior to entry into the MD program. Saskatchewan residents must have attained a university academic average (UAA) of 75% while out-of-province applicants must have a UAA of 83% on all courses taken to be considered.

Students will also be required to take the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) prior to the application deadline, as well as complete a multiple mini interview, and provide three references, a criminal record check and up-to-date immunization record.

### **MCAT**

Registration for the MCAT is online and the test must be completed prior to the application deadline in the year you plan to apply for admission.

While prerequisite courses are not mandatory, applicants are strongly encouraged to complete equivalent/similar courses to ensure readiness for the basic sciences covered in the first two years of the undergraduate medical curriculum and to prepare for the MCAT. Recommended courses include introductory biochemistry, chemistry, biology, physics, statistics, sociology and psychology.

### **Multiple mini interview**

The multiple mini interview (MMI) is a series of short, structured interviews used to assess personal traits and qualities in each applicant, including communication skills, maturity, ethical and decision-making abilities, knowledge of the healthcare system, understanding of health determinants in a local or global context, commitment to helping others, non-academic achievements or desire for studying medicine.

### **References**

Applicants must provide the names of three references who have supervised them either as a research supervisor or have been their immediate supervisor in recent employment or a volunteer role.

**Note:** for the most up-to-date information and admission requirements, visit: [medicine.usask.ca/admissions](https://medicine.usask.ca/admissions).



# ADMISSIONS. USASK.CA



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