

FAST FACTS

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

College of Medicine – Tucson



The University of Arizona
Health Sciences



MISSION

Advancing the health wellness of our community and beyond while embracing diversity in the pursuit of excellence through innovation in our tripartite mission: education, research and patient care.

- The College of Medicine – Tucson was established as the state's first medical school in 1967.
- The College has 22 departments – five basic science and 17 clinical science – and nine centers and institutes dedicated to specific areas of research, clinical care and teaching. Clinical departments provide medical care through the Banner – University Medical Center Tucson, our on-site teaching and research hospital. In addition, clinical faculty teach critical components of the medical school curriculum and supervise medical students and residents on clinical rotations.
- Medical students and residents receive instruction from 1,601 UArizona faculty members.
- More than 900 staff members call the College of Medicine – Tucson home.
- Total annual research awards for the College have grown from \$101 million in FY18 to \$148 million in FY23.
- Each year, the UArizona College of Medicine – Tucson admits approximately 120 students from among more than 7,000 applicants.
- The College currently has nearly 500 medical students who are actively involved in faculty research initiatives and Tucson community service activities.
- With nearly 2,400 undergraduates, the College of Medicine – Tucson has the largest undergraduate science education degree program in the world.
- The College offers three dual-degree programs in MD-PhD, MD-MPH and MD-online MBA. Thirty-nine students are enrolled in the MD-PhD program.
- The College of Medicine – Tucson facilities currently encompass more than 455,000 square feet of classroom, lab and office space.
- The University of Arizona's clinical partner Banner Health opened a new \$446 million, 670,000-square-foot hospital in April 2019. The new building replaced the aging hospital complex and includes 228 private rooms, 20 operating rooms and 649 licensed beds. It also includes \$50 million in new patient-care equipment and computer technology.

CONTINUED

Established:
1967

Medical Students: 483*

- 124 in the Class of 2024
- 121 in the Class of 2025
- 117 in the Class of 2026
- 121 in the Class of 2027

**Not including students in dual-degree programs.*

Residents and Fellows:
745

Research Awards:
\$148 million (FY23)

Research Focus Areas:

Airway Disorders and Disease

Brain Science

Cancer

Diabetes

Heart Disease

Microbiome

Basic Science Departments:

Cellular & Molecular Medicine

Chemistry & Biochemistry

Immunobiology

Pharmacology

Physiology



**Dean Michael Abecassis, MD,
MBA**

medicine.arizona.edu • 520-621-2211

College of Medicine – Tucson Fast Facts

- In the spring of 2017, Banner – University Medicine North, a \$100 million outpatient clinic, opened in Tucson. The new 208,000-square-foot clinic houses numerous specialties, including cardiology, gastroenterology and general surgery. There are more than 4,500 MedCats worldwide.
- The UArizona College of Medicine – Tucson Graduate Medical Education Program oversees 63 ACGME-accredited residency and fellowship programs in all major specialties and subspecialties.
- Nearly 750 residents and fellows are training at more than 35 sites, including the College’s primary teaching hospitals, Banner – University Medical Center Tucson and Banner – University Medical Center South, as well as the Southern Arizona VA Health System, Tucson Medical Center and various Indian Health Service locations.
- Amongst all medical schools in the country, the College of Medicine –Tucson ranks No. 63 in research and No. 53 in primary care, according to U.S. News and World Report.
- In 2021, College of Medicine – Tucson faculty received more than \$106 million in grants from the National Institutes of Health.
- In 2022, the College began enrolling students in a new Bachelor of Science in Medicine degree program. The four-year program is designed and delivered as a collaboration between medical care professionals, basic scientists, and humanists, focusing on clinical reasoning and case-based learning. Four available areas of emphasis include medical technology, basic medical sciences, medicine and society, and integrative and practice-based medicine.

INNOVATIONS & BREAKTHROUGHS

- 1974 Researchers develop the first artificial wrist.
- 1979 Physicians perform Arizona’s first heart transplant.
- 1985 Physicians successfully use the world’s first total artificial heart as a bridge to transplant.
- 1990 The University of Arizona Cancer Center, founded by College of Medicine – Tucson faculty in 1978, receives one of the first comprehensive cancer center designations in the U.S. from the National Cancer Institute.
- 2004 The Sarver Heart Center introduces cardiocerebral resuscitation, a significantly improved method to increase the survival rate of patients with cardiac arrest.
- 2005 Arizona’s first medical simulation lab – ASTEC – is established.
- 2016 Researchers in the College of Medicine – Tucson are appointed lead investigators for the largest peer-reviewed National Institutes of Health grant in Arizona history at the time (\$43 million).
- 2021 Researchers developed a canine vaccine candidate that provided a high level of protection against *Coccidioides posadasii*, a fungus that causes Valley fever. If approved for commercial use, it would be the world’s first vaccine against fungal infection. The development of a potential canine vaccine serves as a positive harbinger of a human vaccine.

The College of Medicine – Tucson is part of the University of Arizona Health Sciences, one of the top-ranked academic medical centers in the southwestern United States. UArizona Health Sciences includes the College of Health Sciences, College of Medicine – Phoenix, College of Medicine – Tucson, College of Nursing, R. Ken Coit College of Pharmacy, and Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health. In addition, 15 UArizona Health Sciences centers and programs focus on cancer, neurodegenerative diseases, pain and addiction, and respiratory diseases; biomedical informatics, health technology innovation and simulation training; and precision health care and health disparities.

Clinical Departments:

Anesthesiology
Emergency Medicine
Family & Community Medicine
Medical Imaging
Medicine
Neurology
Neurosurgery
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Ophthalmology & Vision Sciences
Orthopaedic Surgery
Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery
Pathology
Pediatrics
Psychiatry
Radiation Oncology
Surgery
Urology

Centers & Programs:

Arizona Telemedicine Program
Andrew Weil Center for Integrative Medicine
Center on Aging
Emergency Medicine Research Center
Arthritis Center
Sarver Heart Center
Steele Children's Research Center
Thomas D. Boyer Liver Institute
Valley Fever Center for Excellence