

MD / PhD  
PROGRAM GUIDE

# TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF PHYSICIAN- SCIENTISTS

 University of  
Kentucky



The University of Kentucky's MD/PhD Program trains the best and brightest in the skills, intellectual tools and science of both clinical medicine and ground-breaking biomedical research.

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The University of Kentucky's MD/PhD Program trains the best and brightest students to break new ground in medical knowledge and serves as a gateway to a career in biomedical research. As one of only a handful of universities to have six healthcare colleges on the same campus, we offer a wide range of graduate training opportunities. What makes UK unique is the multidisciplinary research and the exchange between investigators from different academic disciplines in our research centers.



*Fast Facts:*

Integrated curriculum.

UK College of Medicine contracts and grants reached nearly \$285 million in the last fiscal year.

Average time to dual degree is 7.6 years.

Students receive a competitive stipend during medical and graduate school.

UK's MD/PhD students are routinely published in major medical journals, including *Science*, *Nature*, *Proceedings of National Academy of Science* and *Nature Medicine*.

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**50%**  
of our  
students  
have  
published  
research  
articles  
before  
entering into  
the program

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The University of Kentucky  
MD/PhD Program is designed to  
prepare exceptional students to  
assume leadership positions at  
the forefront of scientific and  
medical discovery.

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



**Susan S. Smyth, MD, PhD**  
MD/PhD, Program Director

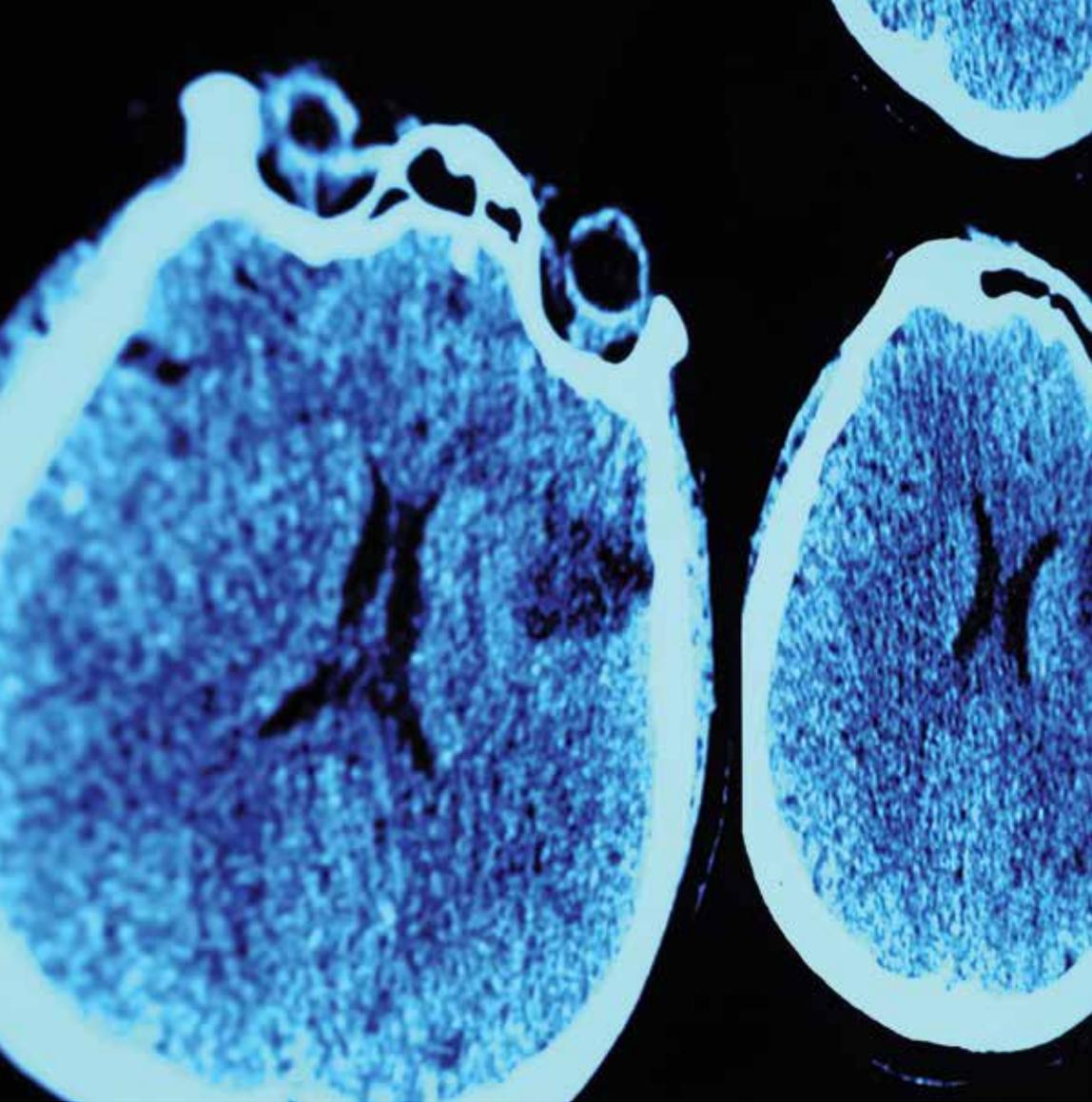
UK MD/PhD students contribute to the nation's scientific agenda through their basic and clinical research. Our students excel not just in their scientific achievements, but also in academic records, leadership roles, and community service. Applications for the UK program come from across the United States and our current students reflect that diversity with undergraduate degrees from the finest schools around the country. Students gain visibility by presenting high-caliber science at national and international meetings and with the receipt of local and national awards, with most of our students receiving extramural funding for their work during graduate school. UK MD/PhD graduates are well prepared to meet challenges and opportunities that may lie ahead for healthcare and academic medicine and to continue the critical role that physician-scientists have played in the biomedical work force.



**John D’Orazio, MD, PhD**  
Regina Drury Chair in  
Pediatrics Research  
Pediatrics, Division of  
Hematology & Oncology  
Co-Director, MD/PhD Program



**Romulo Albuquerque, MD, PhD**  
Ophthalmology  
Assistant Director,  
MD/PhD Program



## WHAT TO EXPECT

**Did You Know:** *Our students have had leadership roles in organizations such as the American Physician Scientist Association and positions as co-chair of the Gordon Research Conference Seminars. They hold patents and pursue funding for small research business awards.*

Our current students' qualifications are impressive, not only in terms of academic records, but also in community service, leadership roles, and scientific achievements. During their training, students gain national visibility by presenting high-caliber science at prestigious meetings in the U.S. and at international forums.

Students in our program benefit from participation in NIH-funded research programs that serve as a pipeline to a career in biomedical science. These include training in disease-specific areas such as cancer, cardiovascular disease, neurobiology and drug addiction. Mechanistic training programs focus on oxidative stress, pharmacology, nutritional science, biochemistry, nanotechnology, risk behaviors and other areas.



As one of UK's MD-PhD students  
you instantly become part of a  
"family" comprised of research and  
clinical faculty and staff who make  
up our mentoring community.

Upon graduating, students typically move on to  
residencies at prestigious institutions such as:

Emory University

Johns Hopkins University

Mayo Clinic

The Ohio State University

UCLA

University of California–San Francisco

University of Texas–Southwestern

University of Washington

Washington University

Vanderbilt University

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**60%**

of our  
students  
receive  
extramurally  
funded  
fellowships  
for their  
doctoral  
studies

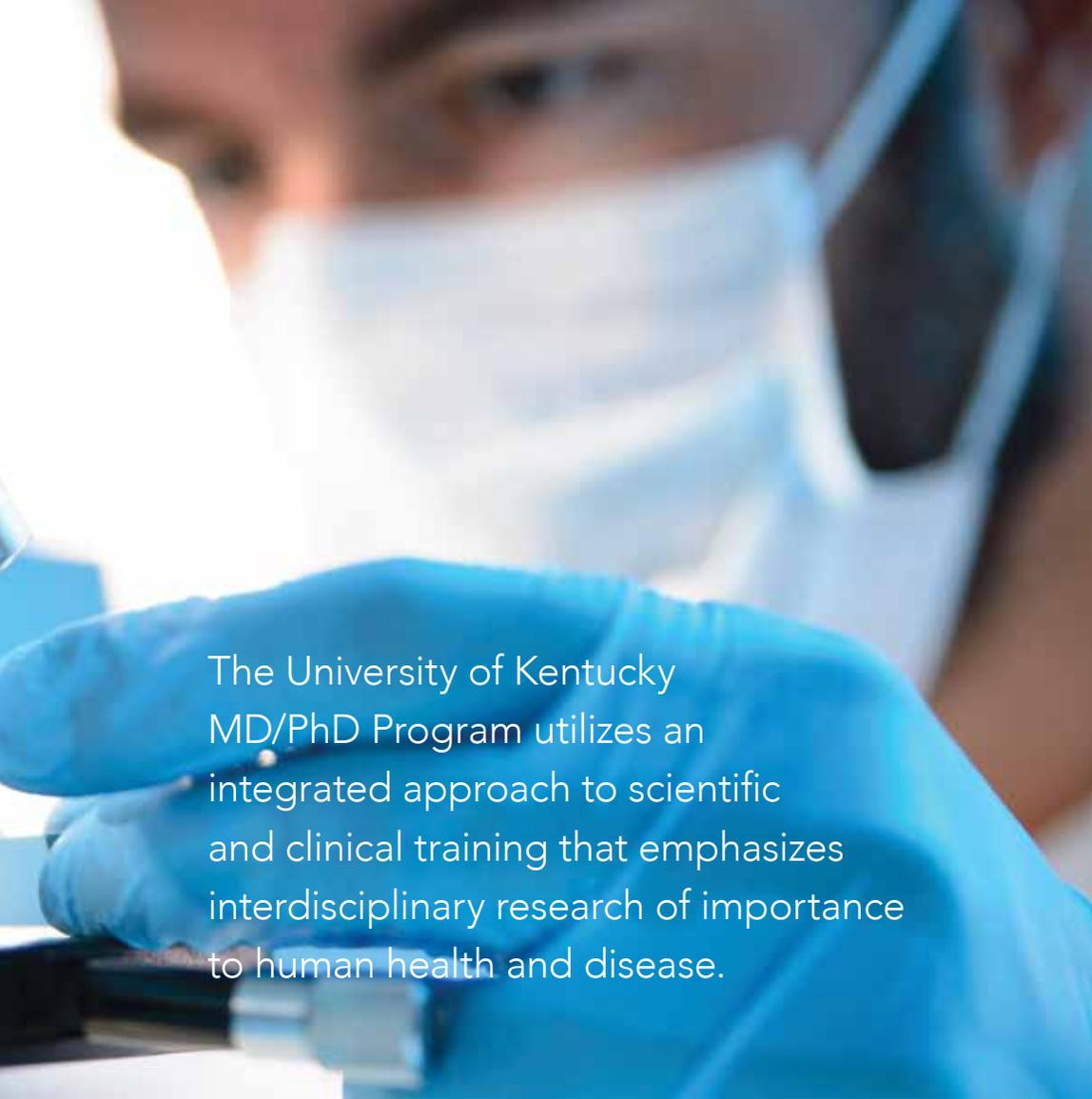
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# UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

The University of Kentucky College of Medicine, which was founded in 1960, provides innovative, high-quality education through its nationally recognized curriculum.

The college's mission is to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes that promote professionalism, teamwork, life-long learning, empathy, scholarship, cultural sensitivity, and leadership, with the goal of providing excellence in education, health care and research within the Commonwealth of Kentucky and beyond. Students can tailor their educational experience by selecting from doctoral programs from departments across campus.



The University of Kentucky MD/PhD Program utilizes an integrated approach to scientific and clinical training that emphasizes interdisciplinary research of importance to human health and disease.

*PhD programs (select):*

Anatomy & Neurobiology

Biochemistry

Biomedical Engineering

Clinical & Translational Science

Public Health: Epidemiology & Biostatistics

Microbiology, Immunology & Molecular Genetics

Pharmacology & Nutritional Sciences

Pharmaceutical Science: Medicinal, Bioorganic & Computational Chemistry

Pharmaceutical Science: Clinic & Experimental Therapeutics

Physiology

Toxicology & Cancer Biology

**Did You Know:** UK is one of only a few universities in the nation to have all six health science colleges – Medicine, Dentistry, Health Sciences, Nursing, Pharmacy and Public Health – on one campus, making the university well-positioned to pursue inter-professional health care education and collaborative research.



## RESEARCH

UK is one of only 62 medical academic centers to receive a Clinical Translational Science Award from the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences. As part of this consortium, UK shares the common vision of improving human health by transforming the research and training environment to enhance the efficiency and quality of clinical and translational research.



The University of Kentucky MD/PhD Program is for well-rounded and accomplished individuals who are committed to pursuing a rigorous dual degree program and who have qualities necessary to be successful physician-scientists.

*University of Kentucky research facilities include:*

**Barnstable Brown Kentucky Diabetes and Obesity Center**

**Center for Clinical Translational Science**  
*Part of the national NIH-funded CTSA programs.*

**Center for Drug and Alcohol Research**

**Gill Heart Institute and the Saha Cardiovascular Research Center**

**Graduate Center for Biomedical Engineering**

**Kentucky Neuroscience Institute**

**Markey Cancer Center**

*The only NCI designated center in Kentucky and one of only a handful in the country.*

**Sanders-Brown Center on Aging**

*An original & continuously funded NIH aging center.*

**Spinal Cord & Brain Injury Research Center**

**Did You Know:** UK is one of the institutions designated a Research I University by the Carnegie Foundation. Only 108 universities in the country share this distinction as high research institutions.



## CONTACT US

*For more information or  
to apply, contact:*

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University of Kentucky MD/PhD Program

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*We are committed to diversity and encourage applications from women and members of racial, ethnic, and/or demographic groups currently underrepresented in biomedical science.*