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.

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

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.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

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

mdphd.med.uky.edu
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
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 addition. Mechanistic training programs focus on oxidative stress, pharmacology, nutritional science, biochemistry, nanotechnology, risk behaviors and other areas.

**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.
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

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.

60% of our students receive extramurally funded fellowships for their doctoral studies.
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.
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.
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.

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.
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.