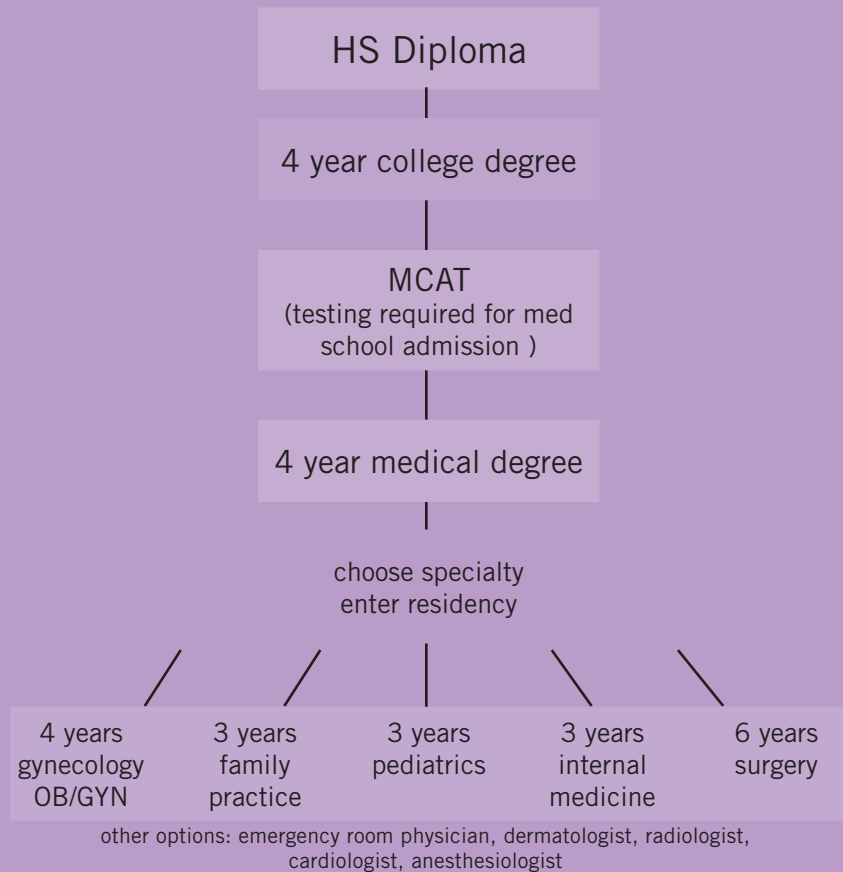
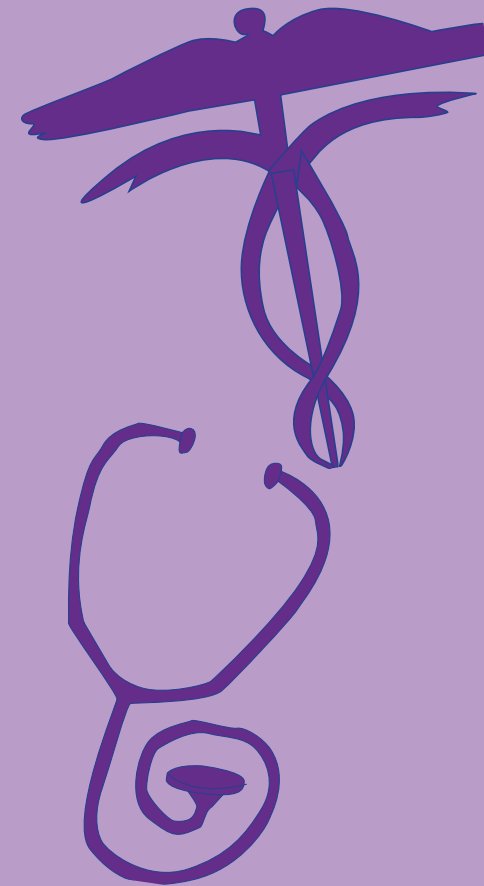


# Becoming a Doctor



# Careers in Medicine



This publication is not inclusive of all options that are available in medicine. This brochure was created in collaboration with Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista, Scripps Family Practice Residency Program and the San Diego Border Area Health Education Center.

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## What it Takes

If you are the kind of person that deeply cares about other people and their well being, feel compelled to help them overcome their pain and suffering and you are interested in the way that the human body functions you might be a candidate to become a doctor. Medical schools are challenging, but once students are accepted more than 97% get their degrees. In order to apply for Medical School, you must possess a Bachelor of Arts or Science degree.

## How long does it take?

Once you have a college degree it will take you four years to earn an M.D. degree. After that you must choose a specialty and spend three to seven years as a resident in a teaching hospital and clinic. This trains you for certification in your specialty which lets you apply for jobs in a chosen field. Such as: family practice area and emergency medicine.

## Preparing for your future

In selecting the right school for your premedical education you should consult a local physician guidebook, and your counselor:

- Consider how college prepares you for medical school.
- You should have a good base of classes in biology, general chemistry, organic chemistry and physics.
- You will need to do well on the MCAT exam in order to increase your chance for acceptance to medical school.
- During the first two years you will study basic sciences and begin learning about patient care. After this you will go into a hospital and clinic to observe and practice. It is towards the end of medical school that you will need to choose your specialty. There are many grants, scholarships and loans that can help you achieve your goal.



## Getting into Medical School in California

A Bachelors Degree from an accredited college is what you will need to take the MCAT test. Your Bachelors program should be rich with biology and science coursework to be well prepared for medical school.

You can complete the Associate or Bachelors part of your education at Grossmont College, Palomar College, San Diego City College, Southwestern Community College, Point Loma Nazarene, San Diego State University, National University or any other accredited college.

The enclosed are some medical schools in California:

University of Southern California  
Keck School of Medicine  
E-mail: medadmit@hsc.usc.edu  
(323) 442-2552

Stanford University  
School of Medicine  
(650) 723-6861

Loma Linda University  
School of Medicine  
(909) 824-4467

UC - Davis  
School of Medicine  
(530) 752-2717

UC - Irvine  
College of Medicine  
(800) 824-5388

UC - Los Angeles  
School of Medicine  
(310) 825-6081



Drew/UCLA Joint Medical Program  
Drew University of  
Medicine and Science  
(323) 563-4952

UC - San Diego  
School of Medicine  
(858) 534-3880

UC - San Francisco  
School of Medicine  
(415) 476-4044

Western University of Health Sciences  
College of Osteopathic Medicine  
(909) 623-6116

Touro University International  
(714) 816-0366

## What can I do now?

Steps toward pursuing a career in medicine/health science -

- Volunteer at local hospital, nursing home and clinic.
- Participate in Camp Scripps and Scripps mentoring programs.
- Talk to health professionals - nurses, doctors, PAs or Physical Therapist.