

RUTGERS

THE STATE UNIVERSITY
OF NEW JERSEY

School of Graduate Studies Biomedical Health Sciences

at

New Brunswick/Piscataway Campus

Welcomes You

To the

Fall 2021 New Student Orientation

August 6

RUTGERS

THE STATE UNIVERSITY
OF NEW JERSEY

Program Leadership:

Directors of the Master of Biomedical Science Program

Smita Thakker-Varia, PhD and Joe Kramer, PhD



General Outline

- **About Rutgers**
- **Administration**
- **Class of 2022 demographics**
- **Overview of the MBS Graduate Program**
- **Extracurricular Services**
- **University services and policies**

Where are we?



History of Rutgers

- 1766 Chartered as Queen's College
- 1825 Named after Colonel Henry Rutgers (Revolutionary War veteran)
- 1864 Appointed NJ's land-grant college
- 1956 Designated a public university
- 1989 Invited to join the Association of American Universities
- 2014 Rutgers joined the Big10
- 2016 Rutgers Celebrated 250 years!



Rutgers has

- 33 Schools and colleges with more than 200 graduate and professional degree programs

Rutgers University

Three major Campuses

- **New Brunswick**
- **Newark**
- **Camden**

➤ 51,200 Undergraduate Students

➤ 19,800 Graduate Students

(all 50 states and 115 countries)

➤ **71,000+ total students**

➤ Rutgers U–New Brunswick+RBHS: 50,200 students

➤ Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences: 6,800 students

➤ Rutgers U–Newark: 13,600 students

➤ Rutgers U–Camden: 7,200 students



COVID VACCINE-NEW

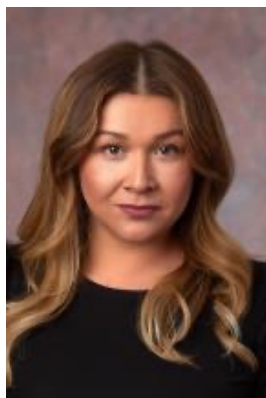
- **All students are needed to get one of the FDA approved COVID vaccines**
- **Due Date: August 1, 2021**
- **Upload Covid vaccine dates in appropriate forms on the student portal**
- **All immunization exemptions (medical/religious or others) are evaluated on a case-by-case basis(links available on the student portal)**
- **Decision will be made by Waiver Committee**

School of Graduate Studies Biomedical Health Sciences Team (NB/Piscataway)



Tina Marotoli
Management Assistant

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Johanna Sierra
Admission Coordinator

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Program Leadership

Smita Thakker-Varia, PhD
Program Director
Asst. Dean for Academic Affairs

Joe Kramer, PhD
Program Director

Tracy Scott, PhD
Special Projects Coordinator

James Millonig, PhD
Senior Associate Dean

<https://grad.rutgers.edu/academics/graduate-programs/biomedical-and-health-sciences-all-degree-programs>

Student Demographics of the MBS class of 2021-2022

- **80 have matriculated**
- **30% are from out of state**
- **70% Women**
- **Average GPA is 3.26**
- **Average MCAT is 501**
- **Average GRE Score is V:57%;Q:51%;W:62%**

Your Undergraduate Majors

- **Biology (36), Biochemistry, Biomedical Engineering, Bio. Sciences, Biotechnology, Business and IT**
- **Cell Bio Neuroscience,**
- **Dental Surgery**
- **Genetics**
- **Medicine, Microbiology, Molecular and Cell Biol, Molecular Biol, Music**
- **Neuroscience, Neurobiology,**
- **Peace and Justice, Philosophy, Psychology, Public Health**
- **Spanish**
- **Women and Gender Studies**

Your Undergraduate Colleges or Universities

- **Balamand U, Brandeis U, Brown U**
- **College of Wooster, CUNY Brooklyn, CUNY Hunter College, CUNY The City College**
- **Emory University**
- **Franklin and Marshall**
- **George Washington, Georgetown,**
- **Kean University,**
- **Loyolla U,**
- **Monmouth U,**
- **New York U,**
- **Princeton U**
- **Rensselaer Polytechnic, Roanoke College, Rowan U (**
- **Rutgers U (41)**
- **St. Peters College**
- **Touro College**
- **U. Maryland College Park, U Penn, U. North Carolina, U Wisconsin, Madison, U. Albany, U Georgia**
- **Villanova U,**
- **Winston-Salem State U**

This Academic Year-Fall 2021

- **All Core Classes will be in-person**
- **Synchronous, online lectures**
- **Lectures will be podcasted**
- **Regular office hours with course directors**
- **Weekly zoom meetings available with Program Directors**
- **Student Engagement Platform**
- **In class Exams for core courses**

MBS/MSBS: Program Outline

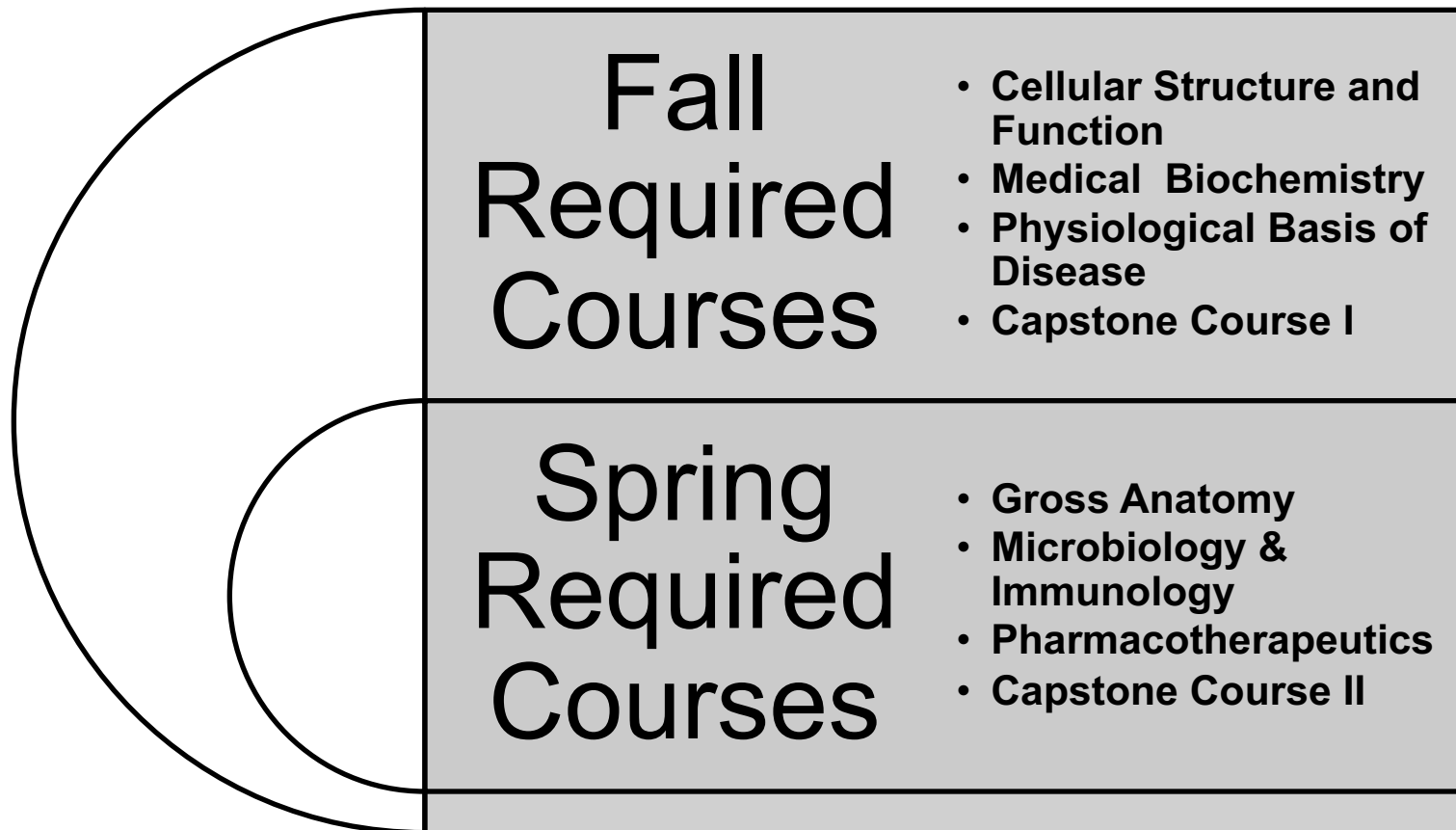
<http://rwjms.rutgers.edu/education/gsbs/msbio.html>

- **Rigorous curriculum**
- **Taught by Medical School Faculty-personal interaction with RWJMS faculty**
- **Need 30 credits to graduate**
- **24 credits didactic courses**
- **6 credits Capstone course**
- **One elective each semester**
- **Grade Point Average of “3.0” (B)**
- **For MSBS-completion of a lab based research thesis (2-3 years)**

Satisfactory Academic Progress

- **SGS Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA in order graduate and maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress**
- **Students who fall below the 3.0 GPA will receive a letter from the Student Affairs Office.**
- **Please visit the policy located at:**
- **<https://academicaffairs.rutgers.edu/rutgers-biomedical-and-health-sciences-policies>**

MBS/MSBS Curriculum



MBS/MSBS Curriculum

Fall Electives 2 Credits

Clinical Drug Development

Humanism in Medicine

Personalized Medicine

Primer on Global Health

Neurobiology of Addiction

Regenerative Medicine

Neurons and Neighbors

***Embryology-3 credit**

Spring Electives 3 Credits

Behavioral Science

Embryology

Environmental Health

Neuroscience

Clinical Pharmacology Small group

Human Physiology in Medicine

Biomedical Aspects of Aging

***Embryology-3 credit**

Master of Biomedical Science (MBS)

VS

Master of Science in Biomedical Science (MSBS)

Masters of Biomedical Sciences (MBS)

- 6-Capstone Course Credits
- Can complete in 2 semesters or more

Masters of Science in Biomedical Sciences (MSBS)

- 6- Research Credits
- Thesis based research
- CANNOT complete in 2 semesters
- Will take 2-3 years
- Research credits-do not contribute to GPA

What is the Capstone Course?

- **Required course**
- **Involves an independent mentored project**
- **Defined project with reasonable scope**
- **Mentor helps defining the hypothesis and research methods**
- **Can be literature based or lab based project**
- **Expect to spend at least 9 hours per week or ~100 hours per semester on the project**

**Capstone Course Meeting will be in
September**

Capstone research leverages the Centers of Excellence and Institutes at Rutgers RBHS

- **Brain Health Institute**
- **Cancer Institute of New Jersey**
- **Cardiovascular Institute of New Jersey**
- **Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine**
- **Center for COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness**
- **Center for Tobacco Studies**
- **Child Health Institute of New Jersey**
- **Environmental and Occupational Health Science Institute**
- **Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research**
- **Institute for Infectious and Inflammatory Diseases**
- **Institute for Neurological Therapeutics**
- **Institute for the Study of Child Development**
- **Protein Data Base**
- **Rutgers Global Health Institute**
- **Rutgers Institute for Translational Medicine and Science**
- **University Behavioral Health Care**

Online Registration from August 9 – August 31

- Following registration, you will receive a bill for tuition and related fees.
- Please review carefully and contact the administration if you have questions. You may also view your bill online via my.rutgers.edu portal.
- Your bills are due *immediately*. You will be at high risk for *Non-Payment Holds and de-registration* if your balances are not paid immediately following registration.
- Tuition Installment Payment Plan (available to matriculated students only)

Online Registration from August 9 – August 31

- Students with completed and approved Financial Aid applications awaiting disbursement of funds will ***not be flagged for non-payment and will not be de-registered*** as they should be identifiable in the system ***as Pending Aid*** by the Business Office

Reasons you may have a HOLD on your account

- **Missing documentation as part of your acceptance**
- **Missing health and immunization forms**
- **Satisfactory Academic Progress**
- **Billing issues**
- **Not completed RU HERE Attendance Confirmation**

Register for RU Here Campaign and Financial Responsibility Statement (FRS) for Fall 2021

<https://financialaid.rutgers.edu/ruhere-confirmation-of-attendance-process/>

The RU Here pop-up message will be pop up for SGS students when you log on to my.Rutgers.edu, responses should be submitted as soon as you have registered.

Because the entire campaign is designed to confirm students' registration and attendance, students will not see the pop up message until after they have registered for at least one class. The message will start to appear in the CAS login pages the following day after registration has been processed.

Importantly, if you register for classes and do not respond to the RU Here message, your financial aid will not be released if they have aid pending.

Important Logistics

- Health Insurance (waive by **September 30th**)
- Immunization records-online
- Rutgers ID Cards (online)
- **Rutgers students should submit their old student IDs to receive their new IDs**
- Picture slide to Johanna
- Course Registration
- PINS will be sent to your @gsbs email

Rutgers Connect 365 Email

- Email can be accessed using connect.rutgers.edu and login with your entire email address NetID@gsbs.rutgers.edu and then your NetID password
- RWJ OIT only supports the Rutgers Connect 365 Web Access which can be accessed directly at <https://connect.rutgers.edu>
- RWJ OIT does not support setting up any email clients such as Outlook or MacMail for email and does not support setting up email on any mobile devices

Important Information

- Once activated your Rutgers email
 - Check Rutgers SGS email @gsbs.Rutgers.edu regularly
 - Check Rutgers email regularly
 - <https://my.rutgers.edu>: the portal
 - This is the single point of sign-on to many web based resources
 - A primary means of communicating with you. Emails regarding your academic status will come via the Rutgers email account. Email forwarding to a third party vendor is prohibited by the university.
 - Register for the university alert system and enter your emergency contact information on the my.rutgers.edu portal. You may enter the information using your “My Dashboard” located in the <https://my.rutgers.edu> portal.

Important Information

- <https://my.rutgers.edu>: the portal

This is the single point of sign-on to many web based resources

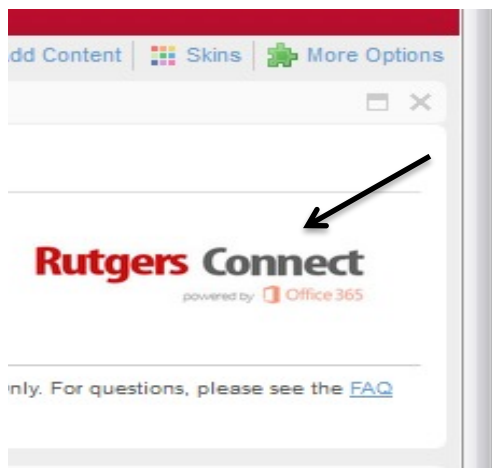
- <https://canvas.rutgers.edu/documentation/general/log-into-canvas-with-netid/> *all course related materials will be posted*

MSBS/MBS: Program Outline

<http://rwjms.rutgers.edu/education/gsbms/msbio.html>

Important Links for current MBS Students

Student E-mail



MBS Google Calendar

MSBS at GSBMS-RWJMS Calendar

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 New Radiology & Immunology 3 New Behavioral Science 3 New Behavioral Health	28 New Radiology & Immunology New Pharmacotherapeutics New Neuroscience	29 New Radiology & Immunology 3 New Behavioral Science 3 New Behavioral Health	30 New Radiology & Immunology New Pharmacotherapeutics	31 New Radiology & Immunology 3 New Behavioral Science of PG Students	
1 New Radiology & Immunology 3 New Behavioral Science 3 New Behavioral Health	2 New Radiology & Immunology New Pharmacotherapeutics New Neuroscience	3 New Radiology & Immunology 3 New Behavioral Science 3 New Behavioral Health	4 New Radiology & Immunology New Pharmacotherapeutics	5 New Radiology & Immunology 3 New Behavioral Science of PG Students	
6 New Radiology & Immunology 3 New Behavioral Science 3 New Behavioral Health	7 New Radiology & Immunology New DSM Pharmacotherapeutics New Neuroscience	8 New Radiology & Immunology 3 New Behavioral Science 3 New Behavioral Health	9 New Radiology & Immunology New DSM Pharmacotherapeutics New Neuroscience New Behavioral Science Exam	10 New Radiology & Immunology 3 New Behavioral Science of PG Students	
11 New Radiology & Immunology 3 New Behavioral Science 3 New Behavioral Health	12 New Radiology & Immunology 3 New Behavioral Science	13 New Radiology & Immunology 3 New Behavioral Science	14 New Radiology & Immunology 3 New Behavioral Science	15 New Radiology & Immunology 3 New Behavioral Science	

Connect.rutgers.edu

ADD/DROP POLICY

- drop period is defined as **1-10 *academic days** from the beginning of a course
- withdrawal period begins immediately following the drop period and continues through the first **2/3 of the course**.
- Students withdrawing from a course between **11 and 15 academic days** after the course begins will receive an **80% tuition refund**.
- **No tuition** will be refunded beyond **15 academic days** after the course has begun.



COURSE WITHDRAWAL POLICY


- Withdrawals will be noted as “W” on the transcript. Withdrawals will **NOT** be granted during the **final third of a course**.
- withdrawing beyond 10 academic days of the beginning of the course need submission of an “Add/Drop/Withdraw” form. Completed and approved “Add/Drop/Withdraw” forms must be received by the Registrar’s office within the time periods set forth above in order for a course withdrawal to be processed.
- ***An academic day is defined as a day that the Rutgers campus at which the student is enrolled is open for business.**



**Withdrawal from 15-46 days-
W on transcript**

**No Withdrawals
in the final third
of the course**

ADD/DROP/WITHDRAW Course Form



ADD / DROP / WITHDRAW COURSE FORM

FALL 20 _____ SPRING 20 _____

Student's Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ ID: _____

Status: Matriculated Non-Matriculated

Important Notes:

DROP: With appropriate approval, students may drop a course without penalty during 1 academic days 1-10 after the course has begun. Students dropping courses during this 10 academic day grace period will receive a full tuition refund and the dropped course will not appear on their transcript.

WITHDRAW: After the 10 academic day Drop period, students are withdrawing from a course if they choose to leave the course. Students withdrawing from a course between 11 and 15 academic days after the course begins will receive an 80% tuition refund. No tuition will be refunded beyond 15 academic days after the course has begun. Withdrawals beyond 10 academic days after the course begins will be noted "W" on the transcript. Withdrawals will not be granted during the final third of a course.

*An academic day is defined as a day that the Rutgers campus at which the student is enrolled is open for business.

Add **Drop** **Withdraw**

Course Name: _____

Course Number: _____ Credits: _____ Starting Date: _____

Ending Date: _____

Instructor Approval: _____ Date: _____

Program Director: _____ Date: _____

SSG Senior Associate Dean: _____ Date: _____

Please send approved form to:
 SSG Office of the Registrar
 85 Bergen Street, SSB/Room 517
 Newark, NJ 07102
 Fax: 973-972-7088

Miscellaneous Items

- **Handbook & Rutgers Academic Integrity Policy**
http://rwjms.rutgers.edu/gsbs/current/student_handbook.html
- Academic Forms: all on the website
 - <http://rwjms.rutgers.edu/education/gsbs/current/forms.html>
 - Graduation documents and dates
 - Excused absences, approval required (Johanna has forms)
- **Code of Responsible Conduct and Professionalism in Graduate Education**
<https://gsnb.rutgers.edu/code-responsible-conduct-and-professionalism-graduate-education>
- **Mentoring Program**

ExamSoft and iPads

- **Exams will be administered on the iPad using a third-party software called ExamSoft/Examplify.**
- **ExamSoft Training Session-September TBD**

Minimum system requirements for iPad:

iPadOS 13 is supported on version 3.8 of Exemplify for iPad

- **Hardware Requirements = iPad 5+, iPad Air, iPad Mini 2+, iPad Pro**
- **Operating System = iOS 11, iOS 12, and iPadOS 13 (Only genuine versions of iOS are supported)**
- **500 MB of free space required to commence an exam**
- **iPad must not be Jailbroken**
- **Internet connection for Download, Registration, Exam Download and Upload**

Some Important Points

- **Class attendance IMPORTANT**
- **Course Evaluations**
- **All the course materials are “Property of MBS course directors and should NOT be publicly posted or distributed, unauthorized upload of an instructor’s and/or students created documents could violate the University Integrity Policy and subject the student to disciplinary action.**

Look Out For:

- **Email regarding post matriculation individual meetings**
- **MCAT prep course**
- **Monthly Career panels**
- **Cognitive Skills Seminars**

MCAT Preparation Course

We offer access to a 12-session course of MCAT preparation in partnership with Kaplan Test Preparation Services.

Course is optional depending upon your needs.

Course is offered at a substantial discount relative to retail offerings

Graduate School Committee Letter

- **The Program Directors will write the Graduate Committee Letter.**
- **Graduate School reserves the right to refuse committee letters for the students for whom we would recommend with reservations due to poor performance.**

MBS Committee Letter Checklist

ALL OF THESE ITEMS ARE RECOMMENDED IN ORDER FOR US TO WRITE A COMMITTEE LETTER

1. 1 letter of recommendation from MBS faculty or associates
2. 1 letter of recommendation from your capstone mentor
3. Your updated CV
4. AMCAS ID and Letter ID
5. List of faculty writing your letters
6. A detailed autobiographical statement (**written in 3rd person, word file**)
with the following items:
 - A brief synopsis of your education and performance thus far including your recent MCAT score
 - A description of your background
 - A description of the journey you have taken to get you to this point
 - Address AAMC Core Competencies
 - Your personal statement (optional but preferred)
 - AMCAS ID and Letter ID

Graduate Student Associations at Rutgers University

- Molecular Biosciences Graduate Student Organization (MBGSO)
- NeuroConnections Club (NCC)
- Rutgers Association of Toxicology Students (RATS)
- Biomedical Engineering Student Society (BESS)
- NJ Seeding Labs-collect equipment to help with research in 3rd world countries

Volunteering Opportunities

- RWJMS Faculty Websites
- Contact area physicians
- The Homeless and Indigent Population Health Outreach Project (HIPHOP) RWJMS
- <http://community.rutgers.edu>
- **RWJMS RIOT: Rutgers Interdisciplinary Opioid Trainers program**

Mental Health Resources

Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

“Let’s Talk” drop-in every Thursday from 11am-1pm

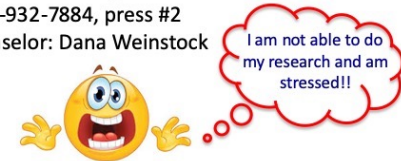
Graduate Student Specific Workshops:

- Time Management and Life Balance
- Stress and Anxiety Reduction
- Building Resilience and Managing Expectations
- Health Communication and Assertiveness
- Mindfulness Meditation
- Yoga
- Cultivating Calm



**Let’s Talk
Counseling**
School of Graduate Studies

Every Thursdays 11am-1pm
Additional hours available on Thur and Fri
Private, Confidential, & Free
call 848-932-7884, press #2
CAPS Counselor: Dana Weinstock



Let’s Talk is a **FREE CAPS counseling service**. Conversations with experienced CAPS counselors are **private and confidential**.

To speak to a counselor by phone please call 848-932-7884, press #2 and ask for a time with Dana Weinstock.



No problem or stress is too small to share at a Let’s Talk Session

Transportation Services

1) Shuttle service between the Research Tower/CABM (Lot C) in Piscataway to Clinical Academic Building (CAB) in New Brunswick (Monday through Friday, 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM).

- rwjms.rutgers.edu/gsbs/student_affairs/Transportation.html
- Real-time tracking of the shuttle location can be found online by clicking
<http://www.catabus.com/Announcements/Mobileapps.html>
- or download the mobile app.

1) Campus Bus System

- The Rutgers-New Brunswick/Piscataway inter-campus bus and shuttle system is a service provided for all five campuses. Transportation to, from, and on campus includes campus bus, shuttle and public transportation services.
- <http://gobble.rutgers.edu>



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College of
Medicine



NEW YORK
MEDICAL COLLEGE
A MEMBER OF THE Touro College
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PENNSSTATE HERSHEY



Kansas City
University
OF MEDICINE
AND BIOSCIENCES



1867
HOWARD
UNIVERSITY



NYU
School of Dentistry



Edward Via College of
Osteopathic Medicine
CAROLINAS CAMPUS

UIC COLLEGE OF
MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT CHICAGO

College of Medicine

College of Medicine

EVMS
Eastern Virginia Medical School



ALABAMA COLLEGE
OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

LSU Health
NEW ORLEANS

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

College of
Osteopathic Medicine

Duke University
School of Medicine

School of Medicine

RUTGERS

New Jersey Medical School



St. George's University
THINK BEYOND
Grenada, West Indies



ROSS UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY
School of Medicine

LECOM
LAKE ERIE COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE



Philadelphia College of
Osteopathic Medicine



ROWAN UNIVERSITY

School of
Osteopathic Medicine

RUTGERS

Robert Wood Johnson
Medical School



TEMPLE
UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY



Tulane
University
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

UK

UNIVERSITY OF
KENTUCKY
College of Medicine

UAMS
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences



Cooper Medical School
of Rowan University

TOURO COLLEGE
OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

School of Medicine



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA



Washington
University in St. Louis
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



MUSC
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY
of SOUTH CAROLINA

ATSU

ARIZONA SCHOOL
OF DENTISTRY
& ORAL HEALTH



UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY
of the Health Sciences

*We wish you the very BEST
and
remember we are here to help!!*

*Just stay connected with
MBS
Program directors!!!*

