

Campus Community

Excellence

The Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, the first four-year medical school on the US/Mexico border, is located in El Paso, Texas. Our unique setting provides exposure not only to traditional medicine, but also to international, bi-cultural and border health care issues. El Paso is a vibrant city where the mild climate provides year round cultural, intellectual, social and recreational opportunities.

Once on campus, students will enjoy our **state-of-the-art** educational, research and clinical facilities. The new Medical Education Building is 125,000 square feet of auditoriums, classrooms, laboratories, group meeting rooms, a clinical skills/simulation center, fitness room, lounge areas and a library. The Medical Sciences Building houses leading

research currently conducted in chronic kidney disease, breast carcinogenesis, and infectious disease. Future plans for research will focus on health disparities and diseases that affect the region; including diabetes, obesity and depression.

Clinical training affiliations include R.E. Thomason General Hospital (Level I Trauma Center and recognized as a Top 100 Hospital for 2007 by Thomson Healthcare), El Paso Psychiatric Center, William Beaumont Army Medical Center, and TTUHSC ambulatory clinics in addition to off-campus community sites.



Our Faculty

The Paul L. Foster School of Medicine faculty combines quality in research, teaching and patient care. We have a proud history prior to becoming a four year medical school. Since 1973 TTUHSC-El Paso has been a primary location for educating third and fourth year Texas Tech medical students. Teaching has been and remains the focus of the faculty. They include over 170 physicians in our hospitals and clinics; and Medical Education Department members (Basic Science-PhD & Clinical-MD educators). All combine many years of teaching experience and numerous awards for teaching excellence. Our internationally recognized researchers, educators and clinicians stress interdisciplinary collaboration and are dedicated to creating outstanding diagnosticians and compassionate physicians.



Principles



Medical Curriculum

The Paul L. Foster School of Medicine is committed to **excellence** in medical education founded on modern scientific principles, strong **ethical** values and sensitivity to our **community** needs.

Our **integrated curriculum**, which received a commendation from the LCME for its clinical orientation, teaches the **basic sciences** with relevance to clinical presentations assigned to **organ-system based** units. **Clinical presentations** are the ways in which a patient presents to a physician. Students learn the anatomy, biochemistry, physiology and other basic sciences concepts and content needed to understand specific clinical presentations. Guided instruction by discipline experts through lecture, small group and laboratory exercises is utilized to establish this relevance. This approach has been shown to enhance knowledge comprehension, improve retention and promote the development of diagnostic reasoning skills like those used by experienced physicians.

The first two years of the curriculum consists of four major **courses**; Scientific Principles of Medicine (organ-system units), Medical Skills, Masters' Colloquium, and Society, Community and the Individual (SCI). The **grading** system is pass/fail. Preparation for the USMLE exams include cumulative unit exams and periodic use of the Comprehensive Basic Sciences Exam. In an effort to support our medical students along the way, each class is divided into learning communities called **colleges**, where two College Masters monitor student performance on a weekly basis. All students engage in a language immersion course in conversational and medical **Spanish**. Application of skills and knowledge learned is applied early, as students are exposed to **patient care** within a month of arriving on campus. The third and fourth year of the curriculum provide richly diverse and varied patient care experiences in major specialties and subspecialties.

Admission Requirements

Complete a **minimum of 90 semester hours** at an accredited US or Canadian college or university

Prerequisite Courses (a grade of C or better required/AP credit accepted)

Biology w/laboratory	14 semester hours (12 lecture, 2 lab)
General chemistry w/laboratory	8 semester hours
Organic chemistry w/laboratory	8 semester hours
Physics w/laboratory	8 semester hours (6 lecture, 2 lab)
Calculus or statistics	3 semester hours
English	6 semester hours
<i>Cellular biology</i>	<i>recommended course – not required</i>

Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)

The applicant's best score from the last five years is considered.

Application

Complete an online application through the Texas Medical & Dental Schools Application Service (TMDSAS) at <http://www.utsystem.edu/tmdsas/>. The Paul L. Foster School of Medicine does not require a secondary application.

Interview

Qualified applicants are invited to an on-campus interview. In addition to cognitive merits; letters of recommendations, personal statements, life experience, extracurricular activities, volunteerism and employment history are considered. No single factor is used to admit or eliminate an applicant to the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine. Each applicant is examined for overall suitability to ensure a class possessing a variety of backgrounds and interests that contribute to a stimulating learning environment.

Community

Applicant Timeline

May 1	First date to file TMDSAS application
August	Interview period begins
October 1	Last date to file TMDSAS application
November 15	Pre-match open acceptance period begins
December	Interview period ends
December 31	Pre-match open acceptance period ends
January 15	Deadline to declare/decline pre-match offer Deadline to submit Ranking of School Preference for TMDSAS admissions match
February 1	Applicant Match Day
May 15	Deadline to submit deposit to hold seat in class

Projected Expenses as of Spring 2009

	Resident	Non-Resident
Tuition & Institutional Fees	\$12,736	\$25,836
Estimated Expenses including Tuition & Fees (1st year)	\$33,736	\$46,836

Fees subject to change yearly based on Texas State Statute & Texas Tech University Health Science Center Board of Regents.



Other Policies

Criminal Background Check

In order to provide a safe environment for patients, visitors, faculty, employees and students at TTUHSC, criminal background checks were instituted as of September 1, 2006. Compliance with this policy is required of all entering students. Criminal background checks allow the university to evaluate whether TTUHSC students are qualified, eligible and possess the character and fitness to participate in clinical care and/or clinical rotation sites at TTUHSC or affiliated institutions.

Admissions of Students with a Disability

A copy of the Standards for Curricular Completion is provided to all applicants at interview and to all matriculants prior to orientation. A copy is also posted on our institutional website. If a student is offered and accepts admissions to the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, the student must sign an acknowledgement that he or she read and understands that the Standards for Curricular Completion must be met, with or without accommodation.



For more information about the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine please visit our website:

<http://www.ttuhsoc.edu/fostersom>

If you have additional questions, contact us!

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El Paso TX 79905
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