

CHECKLIST primary care

Do you know the qualities and characteristics of a school that promotes primary care? Use this checklist to help answer your questions when researching or interviewing.

✓ MISSION

- Medical school has a stated mission for Primary Care or Care of the Underserved.
- Medical school knows how many of their graduates go into family medicine, general internal medicine, and pediatrics.

✓ INFRASTRUCTURE

Medical school has a structured department of:

- Family and Community Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- Pediatrics
- Preventive Medicine – may be associated with another department

✓ ADMISSIONS/PROGRAMS

Medical school includes:

- Pre-admissions programs in Primary Care/Family Medicine
- Pre-admissions programs in Rural Medicine/Urban Medicine/Underserved Medicine
- A Regional Campus dedicated to primary care
- Family medicine faculty within the Admissions Committee

✓ ELECTIVES

- Family Medicine Interest Group (FMIG) is active on campus.
- Faculty Advisor for FMIG can be easily identified.
- Medical school has a student-run free health clinic (usually outpatient primary care).
- Medical school provides a global health experience.
- Medical school provides a faculty mentor in a primary care field.

✓ CURRICULUM

Medical school has a:

- Required family medicine clerkship (at least 4 weeks)
- Required rural clerkship (at least 4 weeks)
- Required longitudinal family medicine experience
- Structured (selective) summer experience in primary care between the first and second year
- Family medicine “scholars” program, or dedicated primary care track for students interested in family medicine as a career choice, that includes faculty support, meeting times, scholarships, or honors associated with it
- Family medicine faculty present in the teaching of core first- and second-year classes
- Formal curriculum that addresses and teaches about the patient-centered medical home (PCMH)

✓ FINANCIAL

- Financial Aid office promotes primary care scholarships
- State has a primary care loan/tuition reimbursement or scholarship program.
- What is the cost of tuition? _____
- What is the debt level of students as they graduate from this medical school? _____

✓ COMMUNITY PHYSICIANS HAVE A ROLE IN THE MEDICAL SCHOOL

- Teaching/Preceptors/Admissions
- Community health project is required for all students