



# Start Your Career Path as a Physician

Physicians, or medical doctors, are trained to diagnose, treat and manage medical conditions, while promoting overall wellness through preventative care. Physicians act as leaders of healthcare teams, collaborating with nurses, pharmacists, therapists and specialists to care for patients. *Remember, no career path is the same. For the most up-to-date information, contact the school or business.*



**Virginia Partnership**  
for Health Science Careers

- Standardized admissions test
- Taken typically junior or senior year of undergrad

\*Submit via American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS for MD programs) or American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Application Service (for DO programs)

**High School**

**Pre-Medical Education (4 - 5 Years)**

- Undergraduate degree required (any major)
- Pre-requisite courses in science required for medical school and MCAT preparation
- Build GPA to demonstrate acumen in graduate level courses
- Gain experience:
  - Clinical exposure
  - Volunteering (medical and community)
  - Research

**\$ Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)**

**\$ \*Apply to Medical School**

**\$ Medical School (4 years)**

- Preclinical**
- Foundational basic and clinical science including discipline-based and case-based learning
  - Classroom and experiential learning
- Clinical**
- Core hospital rotations: internal medicine, family medicine, surgery, pediatrics, psychiatry, OB/GYN

**Physician (MD)**

**Physician (DO)**

**\$ United States Medical Licensing Exam**

**\$ Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Exam**

- Specific to field chosen
- Apply through National Resident Matching Program
- Train full-time in chosen field

**Licensed Physician in Residency Training (3 - 5 Years)**

- Subspecialty training (1-3+ years)
- Complete training and enter independent subspecialty practice

**Fellowship (Optional)**

**\$ Board Certification**

**Board-Certified Physician**



= Certification Required



= Education Required



= Fee Payment Required

Reach out to a counselor at your high school, local community college, or four-year college or university. For more information, visit: [virginiahealthcareers.org](http://virginiahealthcareers.org)

# Starting your physician career journey in high school?

Visit [virginiahealthcareers.org](http://virginiahealthcareers.org) to learn more.

## MD (Doctor of Medicine) Programs\*\*

Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine

University of Virginia School of Medicine

Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine

Eastern Virginia Medical School

## DO (Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine) Programs\*\*

Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine

Liberty University College of Osteopathic Medicine

## Physician Careers\*\*\*

Internal Medicine Average Salary: \$239,200

Family Medicine Average Salary: \$224,940

General Surgeon Average Salary: \$321,470

Pediatrician Average Salary: \$216,177

Psychiatrist Average Salary: \$251,070

Obstetrician/Gynecologist Average Salary: \$239,200

\*\*\*Average BLS salaries in Virginia - highly variable based on experience, location and practice type.

\*Admissions process required. \*\*For the most up-to-date information, contact the school or business.



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## Degrees & Certificates Guide

**AS** - An Associate of Science degree is a two-year degree that combines general coursework with major-specific classes.

**AAS** - An Associate of Applied Science degree is a two-year college degree that focuses on a specific technical skill of applied science.

**Certificate** - A certificate of study is a postsecondary credential that shows completed practical training and gained skills in a specific field and carries credit.

**Career Studies Certificate** - A careers studies program is a short-term program that improves job skills (12-18 academic credits, 15-18 months to complete).

**FastForward** - FastForward is a short-term workforce training program that offers industry credentials and certifications in a shorter time period (non-credit).