

Article 13 Combined and Joint Degree Programs

13.01 Joint and Combined Degree Programs Generally

- (1) The Associate Dean for Student Affairs oversees all joint and combined degree programs.
- (2) Combined degree program. A combined degree program is one in which a student applies to both programs with a single application process.
- (3) Joint degree program. A joint degree program is one that requires two separate application processes.
- (4) Most joint and combined degree programs will require a leave of absence for graduate studies. (See Article 10) The leave structure of all combined and joint degree programs is governed by the Office of Student Affairs.

13.02 The MD/PhD Combined Program

- (1) The program allows the clinical study of medicine combined with graduate education and doctoral research in any of a wide variety of disciplines.
- (2) The program is structured so that:
 - (a) The first two years of the medical school curriculum are done in the first and second year of the program.
 - (b) The summers before and after the first year of the program are used to expose students to potential research areas.
 - (c) Starting in the third year, students work toward completing graduate school requirements and the PhD dissertation. (See Article 10)
 - (d) The final two years of the program are devoted to clinical medicine.

13.03 Joint Degree Programs

- (1) Medical students may work toward joint degrees in medicine and another graduate or professional school, including programs at other universities.
- (2) Students must obtain approval in advance from the Office of Student Affairs to enroll in a joint degree program.
- (3) Students in joint degree programs, with advanced written approval from the Office of Student Affairs, may receive up to fifteen hours of elective credit towards the MD degree for medically relevant graduate school courses.
- (4) The School of Medicine allows medical students to seek approval to complete a graduate program in any area that is relevant to medicine, including MD/PhD, MD/MPH, MD/MSPH, or MD/JD degree combinations.

Approved by CMPC February 10, 2005

Approved by Dean Golden March 8, 2005