FULLY INTEGRATED
READYNESS FOR
SERVICE TRAINING
(FIRST)

FIRST Program

Fully Integrated Readiness for Service Training (FIRST) is an enhanced, three-year medical school curriculum linked to a North Carolina Family Medicine Residency, followed by three years of service to North Carolina with ongoing practice support.

Our vision is to be the leading department of family medicine transforming care and growing leaders to improve health.

Our vision is to be the leading department of family medicine transforming care and growing leaders to improve health.

For more information about the FIRST Program, contact:
Catherine Coe, MD; Director
Cristy Page, MD, MPH; Founding Director
Dawn Morriston, MPH; FIRST Coordinator
Dawn_morriston@med.unc.edu

FIRST Faculty Leaders in teaching and advising:
Tommy Koonce, MD, MPH
Yee Lam, MD, PhD
Beat Steiner, MD, MPH
Program Features

- Enhanced curricular activities
- Continuity patient panel from the first day
- Family Medicine faculty and resident mentorship
- Early responsibility
- Patient relationships
- Mentoring
- Enhanced feedback
- Population health
- Service

Partnership with Office of Rural Health for links to service in North Carolina (opportunity for loan repayment)

Program Components

3 Year Medical School Curriculum

- Nationally ranked #1 in Primary Care
- Curricular Time: 130 weeks (similar to other students)
- Vacation: 1st year winter break: 2 weeks; 2nd year winter break: 2 weeks; other vacation: 4 weeks
- Shelf study time: 6 weeks
- Campus: Application Phase options at Chapel Hill, Asheville, or Wilmington

3 Years of Family Medicine Residency

- UNC Family Medicine is leading the nation in innovations in medical education, research, and new models of clinical care
- Options for Underserved Track and Statewide Family Medicine Residencies
- Curriculum in Point-of-Care Ultrasound
- Curriculum in procedural training
- Comprehensive outpatient training
- Family Medicine Inpatient and Maternal Child Health services
- Leadership, quality improvement, and population health training

3 Years of Service to North Carolina

- Matched with loan repayment programs linked to service in rural/underserved setting
- Continued support from UNC Family Medicine and key statewide leaders
- Mentorship opportunities for continuing medical education

Criteria for Selection

- Applicants must be in their first year of medical school at UNC and possess a sincere commitment to rural or underserved populations in North Carolina.
- Preference is given to students who have connections to North Carolina.

Application Components

- Application form
- Letter of Recommendation
- Character Reference
- Curriculum Vitae

Application Deadline

Due in January of MS1 year

Applications can be found on our website: FIRST.unc.edu