Alpert Medical School is vigorously committed to recruiting and retaining a diverse student body. Promoting a culture of diversity and acceptance prepares our graduates to move forward in their careers as outstanding doctors with open-mindedness and compassion. Diversity at Brown does not only refer to racial and ethnic groups that are underrepresented in medicine.

In keeping with Brown University’s mission, the Division of Biology and Medicine recognizes, supports, develops, and maintains a diverse faculty, workforce, and student population. Dimensions of diversity include, but are by no means limited to, race, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran status, age, socioeconomic and geographic background. Our commitment ensures respect for diversity, broad representation at all levels, and consistency and compliance with Brown’s policies on non-discrimination.

Multicultural perspectives are critical to the success of Alpert Medical School by enriching educational understanding, fostering outreach in clinical care settings, and enhancing trust in research. Diversity among administration, faculty, and students creates a greater number of role models, broadens perspectives, and combats negative and inappropriate stereotyping. It also improves outreach to the community, enhances trust and communication, and facilitates development of culturally appropriate clinical and research programs.

The bottom line? Alpert Medical School believes our community—and the field of medicine—is strengthened by individuals with diverse perspectives, experiences, and backgrounds.

“Alpert Medical School is in an area that is home to a significant number of Latinos. With this in mind, a group of medical students gathered during the summer of 2010 to bring a Latino Medical Student Association chapter to Brown. With the support of the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs and the mentorship of Dr. Carla Martin, LMSA has been able to make an impact in its short existence. LMSA promotes the Latino culture in the field of medicine and in the Brown community by educating medical students on Latino health issues, providing a bridge between the Latino community and other cultures that populate this area, and encouraging outreach in underserved areas. Through our work, we hope to continue to inspire students to become culturally competent physicians who are determined to serve all sectors of society.”
– LINDA PANIAGUA ’07 MD’12
OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

At Alpert Medical School we want you to succeed, and we stand ready to give you the tools to do so. To serve the interests and aspirations of its students, the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs (ODMA) was established in 1981 as a dynamic resource center offering academic, professional, and personal support programs.

ODMA's main objectives:

- to assist in the recruitment, selection, education, successful academic progression, and graduation of minority students from Alpert Medical School
- to raise awareness about cultural competency and diversity
- to serve as a venue for advocacy.

In collaboration with the Office of Student Affairs, ODMA provides academic support programs for medical students, and works with the Office of the Program in Liberal Medical Education to provide support for undergraduate PLME students.

ODMA supports a formal mentoring program that matches physicians' and students' interests. The program aims to provide academic and professional support from people in the field of medicine.

The office also provides academic support programs:

- academic advising
- test anxiety workshops
- US Medical Licensing Exam Step 1 preparation
- life coach services
- referral to other resources.

In addition to providing highly personalized advising, ODMA is a source of information on fellowship and scholarship awards, grants, meetings, and calls for papers. The office advises and assists the Student National Medical Association (SNMA), Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA), the Interpreter’s Aide Program (IAP), and Gays, Lesbians, and Allies Advancing Medicine (GLAAM), all of which serve as a venue for advocacy and provide programming that raises awareness about health care disparities. ODMA also organizes and produces a host of events—from lectures to workshops to dinners—that promote cultural competency, awareness, and tolerance throughout the Alpert medical community.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Check out these facts from the 2010-2011 Alpert Medical School student body:

- 28% are students of color
- 19% are from underrepresented minority groups
- 56% are women
- 20% are age 25 or older at matriculation

“It’s easy to say that Alpert Medical School supports student diversity. In fact, I’m sure many medical schools boast about their diversity. But I feel the support we receive from Brown is beyond comparison. Not only do the faculty and staff work closely with student groups to enhance personal and professional dialogue, but you also receive support from your fellow students. For example, after the tragic suicides of GLBTQ teens, we hosted an open dialogue on how we as physicians can help GLBTQ patients. Nearly every second-year medical student attended the talk, and even though there were scheduling conflicts, many first-, third-, and fourth-year students attended as well. It is amazing to have support from everyone—from the Dean to the student sitting beside you in class.”

– CAT CHAMBERLAIN MD’14
“I have been a medical student at Brown for more than two years now, and have been fortunate to benefit from Brown’s commitment to the diversification of its student body. The Early Identification Program has offered me a unique opportunity to learn in a diverse and empowering academic environment. During my relatively short time here, I have both embraced and adopted new beliefs, and gained invaluable insight in regard to the current problems facing our health care system. Alpert Medical School has been, and remains focused on, improving health care disparities among under-represented minorities in the US. And for this initiative, I am thankful.”

– JERRY L. WALTERS II MD’13

THE TOUGALOO CONNECTION

Brown University will soon celebrate 50 years of partnership with Tougaloo College, a Historically Black College in Jackson, Mississippi. This relationship led to the establishment in 1976 of the Medical School’s Early Identification Program, which aims to place two Tougaloo College graduates in the first-year class annually. These students, in addition to being outstanding scholars, add to an already rich milieu.

POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

Rhode Island
0.6% American Indian and Alaska Native
0.1% Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander
5.7% Black or African American
12.4% Hispanic or Latino
3.3% People reporting two or more races

Providence
1.4% American Indian and Alaska Native
0.1% Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander
16% Black or African American
38.1% Hispanic or Latino
6.5% People reporting two or more races
Footing the Bill

Alpert Medical School is proud to uphold a need-blind financial aid policy, because it makes the School accessible to any qualified student regardless of his or her financial means. The Office of Financial Aid has favorable scholarship and loan policies and is a valuable source of ingenuity in keeping the cost of a medical education as low as it can be, in order to limit students’ indebtedness.

The Office of Financial Aid also recognizes the need for sound financial management during and after your medical education. Each year students attend Financial Planning Workshops that offer information on organizing financial records, personal budgeting issues, basic money management, tax planning strategies, maintaining a positive credit history, and insurance considerations and estate planning.

Graduating students attend an extensive exit program that covers the repayment process.

**Federal Scholarship and Loan Repayment Programs**

- National Health Service Corp (NHSC) Scholarship Program
- Practice-Related Loan Repayment Programs
- Military Financial Assistance Programs

**Fast Stats: Financial Aid 2010-2011**

- 79% of Alpert Medical School students receive financial aid
- Average annual need-based scholarship: $25,198
- Average financial aid award: $48,812

[med.brown.edu/financialaid/](http://med.brown.edu/financialaid/)

Questions? Contact the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs at ODMA@brown.edu.

[med.brown.edu/odma](http://med.brown.edu/odma)