KU School of Medicine–Wichita

A powerful community partnership to train doctors for all of Kansas

The University of Kansas School of Medicine is the only medical school in Kansas and a premier institution for training primary care and rural physicians. KU opened the Wichita Campus in 1971 to provide hands-on clinical training to medical students in their third and fourth years. In 2011, the Wichita campus expanded to a full, four-year campus in an effort to help alleviate Kansas’ physician shortage.

Providing doctors for Kansas

Of our graduates, 49 percent are likely to practice in Kansas. This is above the national average. When they complete their residency within Kansas, 65 percent of them are likely to remain and practice in the state.

Community-based medical education

The KU School of Medicine–Wichita is unique in its community-based approach. Unlike the typical medical school model that is tied to a single university hospital, we partner with health care facilities across the state to provide clinical education for our students and residents.

Our hospital affiliations for resident education are with Wesley Medical Center, Via Christi Health, and the Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center. Rural training is provided by physicians throughout Kansas. Along with our employed faculty, more than 900 volunteer faculty members provide education and training for students.

What’s next?

The Kansas physician shortage is expected to worsen in coming years:

- 89 counties have been designated by the Kansas Department of Health & Environment as health care provider shortage areas.
- Kansas ranks 39th in the nation in doctors per capita.
- 30% of the current physician workforce will be lost to retirement and other attrition over the next 10 years.
- 285 new doctors are needed each year for Kansas to rise to the national average of doctors per capita by 2030.

As the only medical school in the state, KU is the only entity capable of addressing Kansas’ crucial physician shortage. Your support will enable further growth in the KU School of Medicine–Wichita’s capacity to meet the state’s physician workforce needs.

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