A.T. Still University’s School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona partners with Community Health Centers

A.T. Still University is the only University with an established doctoral-level partnership with the National Association of Community Health Centers. Community health centers are not-for-profit primary healthcare providers to America’s medically underserved communities. This unique affiliation puts our student doctors where they are needed most.

Second-, third-, and fourth-year students at ATSU’s School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona (ATSU-SOMA) are based at a select community health center (CHC) campus across the United States. Second-year students at community campuses receive instruction from ATSU-SOMA faculty via live and podcasted presentations. Students interact with ATSU on-site faculty to participate in small group settings, learn about patient clinical presentations, and observe and assist with patient care. They gain an understanding of the local health system and community health practices. Third- and fourth-year students complete clinical rotations at their CHC, in associated hospitals, and with affiliated healthcare providers at select healthcare institutions.

Our CHC partners

ATSU partners with the following CHCs and community organizations:

- Beaufort-Jasper-Hampton Comprehensive Health Services – Ridgeland, S.C.
- Family Healthcare Network – Porterville, Calif.
- HealthPoint – Renton, Wash.
- HealthSource – Mt. Oreb, Ohio
- Northwest Regional Primary Care Association – Portland, Ore.
- Sunset Park Family Health Center – Brooklyn, N.Y.
- Unity Health Centers – Washington, D.C.
- Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center – Waianae, Hawaii

SOMA students have a unique opportunity for contextual learning in the CHC environment by working alongside physicians and other healthcare providers. Students are able to immediately apply what they are learning in the classroom to real patients. A large component of the CHC experience is service and the students are an important part of the team by assisting in education, diagnosis, and treatment to those in need.

A. Kay Kalousek, DO, MS, AAHIVE, FACOFP
Dean
School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona
Earn your DO and MPH at the same time

With ATSU’s dual DO/MPH program, you can earn your master of public health through ATSU’s School of Health Management (ATSU-SHM) while completing your doctor of osteopathic medicine degree at ATSU-SOMA. Students trained in ATSU-SOMA’s innovative community campus model will be well prepared for a medical career in public health venues. The MPH requires additional courses completed online via ATSU-SHM. Applications to the MPH program are accepted toward the end of students’ first year at ATSU-SOMA.

After earning your DO and MPH degrees you will be able to do the following and more:

- Analyze issues of access, quality, and cost for populations, communities, and individuals
- Evaluate social determinants of health and health disparities at your community health center and beyond
- Hypothesize reasons for observed disparities
- Create interventions to address health disparities
- Design research studies to address health disparities
- Compare and contrast research methodologies
- Critically appraise public health and medical literature
- Define health literacy and apply its concepts to health promotion and disease prevention programs
- Apply knowledge and skills acquired from the curriculum and complete an academic paper suitable for publication
- Present research findings at national meetings
- Evaluate health promotion and disease prevention programs from a variety of perspectives
A.T. Still University’s
School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona

More than an osteopathic medical school, ATSU-SOMA is a team of clinicians, educators, and students who share a passion and commitment for whole person healthcare. Devoted to excellence, ATSU-SOMA strongly values and encourages scholarship, professionalism, learning centeredness, compassion, teamwork, and innovation. Established in 2006, its unique curriculum integrates clinical presentation and extensive clinical experience into a relevant and applicable program of study.

ATSU-SOMA graduated its first class of 92 DOs on June 3, 2011, and received its initial full accreditation status from the American Osteopathic Association’s Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation.

Learn more at www.atsu.edu/soma or call 480.219.6000