



“It’s nice to know there are people rooting for your success.”

Patricia Green, MD ‘15

From day one, Dr. Patricia Green, Class of 2015, felt welcome and supported at the Katz School of Medicine. “The scholarship I received made a tremendous difference,” she says. “It shows that the school and alumni support us and our decision to become physicians.” The financial support, combined with LKSOM’s collaborative culture, has made Patricia’s experience better than she ever expected. “Nobody is learning on their own here,” she says. “We’re all in this together.”

Find out how the Office of Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion can support you as you pursue a career in medicine.

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Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

*Continuing the legacy
of inclusive excellence*



Lewis Katz School of Medicine

A career in medicine may be closer than you think.

The Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University stands out from the crowd. Our dedication to diversity has always been an essential part of our identity, mission and legacy. That's why we've been ranked for many years as one of the top 10 U.S. medical schools for enrolling and graduating physicians from groups underrepresented in medicine.

Our commitment to inclusive excellence is reflected in over 40 years of supporting students underrepresented in medicine through our Recruitment, Admissions and Retention Program (RAR). Our current student body represents a wide range of cultural backgrounds. As the fabric of society becomes more diverse, it is critical that we continue to build on our success. In that regard, we are excited that the RAR Program has grown and transitioned into the newly created Office of Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

With this renewed commitment, the Lewis Katz School of Medicine is uniquely positioned to continue our leadership in building a more diverse workforce and in preparing students to meet society's ever-changing healthcare needs.

Opportunities for Excellence

The Office of Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion sponsors ongoing programs, events and activities designed to support and enrich the educational journey of all students as they navigate their career paths. These include:

- Pipeline programs and high school mentorships that prepare students before they enter medical school. The Step-Up Program, an eight-week, research-based training initiative, supports college students interested in biomedical research—helping to meet the nationwide need for diversity in the physician workforce.

Since 1971, LKSOM has enrolled over **1,000 medical students** from groups underrepresented in medicine—with 93% graduating within four years

- A summer Pre-matriculation Readiness & Enrichment Program (PREP), open to all incoming first-year students. The program supports participants' smooth transition to medical school and ultimate academic success by: providing early exposure to the medical curriculum; introducing students to the rigor of medical school; and assisting with the development of learning and study-skill strategies.
- Support of students who participate in organizations such as the Student National Medical Association (SNMA), the Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) and the LGBT Interest Group.
- Curricula dedicated to preparing students to meet diverse patient needs through integrated educational components that promote cultural humility and responsiveness. They do so by addressing professional identity, unconscious bias and social determinants of health.
- An elective in Medical Spanish with the opportunity to become a certified interpreter.
- A unique MD/MA in Urban Bioethics provides students and faculty the training and opportunity to partner with community members, healthcare providers and policymakers to create model programs and practices aimed at fostering health equity and eliminating health disparities.



“Temple helped me feel comfortable expressing my culture and staying true to who I am.”

Laura Ramirez-Caban, MD '15

Dr. Laura Ramirez-Caban, Class of 2015, a native of Puerto Rico, applied her bilingual skills to coordinating the Advanced Medical Spanish Elective, which teaches Spanish medical terminology to Lewis Katz School of Medicine students. She understands the value of these skills, thanks to her volunteer work at a Spanish-language clinic in Philadelphia. “I can communicate better with my patients when I have to explain medical procedures to them or to their families,” she explains. She also appreciates the networking opportunities the Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) provided. “LMSA has helped me make a lot of connections with people like me, and meet other Hispanic women in the medical field who can be mentors.”

LKSOM ranks **9th in the country** for graduating African American physicians

Approximately **20%** of the total enrollment consists of students from groups underrepresented in medicine