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Fourth Year Community Medicine Selective & Electives

The fourth year community medicine selective and electives are designed to immerse interested medical students into community health through a variety of experiences including patient contact, legislative opportunities, working with care teams, and learning about the economic parameters of a community medicine clinic.



“There are many wonderful things about the Keck School of Medicine Primary Care Initiative, but best of all are the people. Being a part of the program has allowed me to train alongside passionate and committed students and to receive excellent mentorship from preceptors. I would highly recommend the program to anyone interested in primary care medicine.”

-Past Student Participant

Keck School of Medicine of USC



Keck School of Medicine Primary Care Initiative

<http://primarycare.usc.edu>



Mission Statement

The Keck School of Medicine of USC Primary Care Initiative is designed to increase the number of Keck medical students who enter community-based primary care (family medicine, geriatrics, internal medicine and pediatrics) by providing them with multiple community and primary care experiences, in addition to faculty mentoring across the four years of medical school.



Keck School of Medicine Primary Care Initiative

The Keck School of Medicine Primary Care Initiative is a curriculum set to train primary care-focused medical students in community health settings. Students are chosen from an annual application process. They are then provided with opportunities to build longitudinal relationships with patients and primary care faculty throughout their four years of medical school. Under the supervision of faculty mentors, students become a part of a community-based care team, and learn about continuity of care, the patient-center medical home, primary care and community medicine.



The first-year Keck School of Medicine Primary Care Initiative includes nutrition and diabetes education training at the LAC+USC Wellness Center. During the second year, the Initiative prepares students for team-based primary care during the Interprofessional Geriatrics Curriculum (IPGC) experience. The objective of the IPGC is to provide an interdisciplinary geriatric experience for teams of USC interprofessional students from medicine, dentistry, occupational therapy, physical therapy, pharmacy, social work, and physician assistant.

Student Interest Groups in Primary Care

Family Medicine Interest Group, Geriatric Interest Group, Internal Medicine Interest Group, John Snow Public Health Society, Med-Peds Student Interest Group, OB/GYN Interest Group, Pediatric Student Interest Group, Primary Care Progress Chapter, Student Physicians for Social Responsibility, USC Student Run Clinic

Community-Based Research

Primary care students have the opportunity to work on community-based education and research projects, quality improvement and health education research projects. A primary care research and travel grant is available for students.

Community Medicine & Public Health Lecture Series

A monthly lecture series exposes students interested in primary care careers to a myriad of primary care practice models, leadership and legislative presentations.

Primary Care Student Website

Our website provides students with valuable information related to exploring careers in primary care. Resources include research opportunities, community resources, professional organizations, summer volunteer opportunities, fellowships, and scholarships and loan information.

Keck School of Medicine Primary Care Initiative applications available starting late May and are due in early July.

Visit <http://primarycare.usc.edu> to learn more.