

Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



The Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ODEI) seeks to develop, implement and evaluate creative solutions to eliminate health disparities through collaborative research, innovative university- and community-based educational opportunities, and establishment of trusted community partnerships.

Founded in 2015 and with the ongoing support of Drexel University College of Medicine Dean Charles Cairns, MD, the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ODEI) serves as a hub and catalyst for

promoting diversity and inclusion within the College of Medicine community through events, programs, educational training and health equity scholarship and research.



Student groups we oversee and collaborate with:

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| The American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) | Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association (APAMSA) |
| Black Women in Medicine | The Maimonides Society |
| Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) | South Asian Medical Student Association (SAMSA) |
| Military Medicine | First Generations |
| Student National Medical Association (SNMA) | Black Doctor's Network (BDN) |
| LGBTQ+ | Other interested parties |

ODEI gives academic support by easing the transition to medical school, supporting competitive applications to prestigious institutions for summer scholarship experiences and guiding students in residency preparation. We encourage leadership through Diversity Ambassadors and attendance at national conferences, participation in Diversity Week, and the Senior Diversity Dinner. ODEI individualizes our students' medical school experience through focused mentorship leading to research and clinical scholarships. We also foster personal growth via networking opportunities and leadership training workshops.

Scholar Tracks

ODEI offers two scholar tracks—the Health Equity Scholars' Track and Women's Health and Sex & Gender Medicine Track. These programs are independent, mentored educational opportunities that target first- and second-year medical students and are completed over the course of three to four years. The curriculum includes a rich complement of academic and experiential activities that prepare students to develop the knowledge and skills needed to become high-quality academicians and health professionals committed to increasing awareness as well as reducing health disparities and promoting health equity.

Students also have an opportunity to link with faculty mentors as they work through their projects and can explore various disciplines while working on their projects. During the scholars program, students received one-to-one mentorship and project management support from faculty in the ODEI in order to promote their success. Students present their work at Discovery Day, national and regional meetings and Seminar Series. Some students have also published abstracts or articles based upon their work.

Opportunities in Health Equity

In addition to the existing Women's Health Seminar Series in sex/gender health disparities, new courses and workshop sessions in Health Equities are being developed for medical students.

Additional dive-in and pop-up workshops and sessions that are driven by student interest and experiences are constantly being developed and presented.

We strive to have our students engaged in community programs and health events in Philadelphia. Dr. Gadegbeku leads the charge in providing and coordinating inter-professional opportunities for students to develop and participate in activities, programs and events to address the health inequities prevalent in the communities they serve.

Dr. Guevara is a certified proficient bilingual provider for Spanish and works with students, trainees and faculty to ensure they have the needed information and resources to provide culturally and linguistically effective patient care. She serves as the clinical faculty advisor for the Health Advocacy Practicum students volunteering as Spanish medical interpreters at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children.

ODEI serves as a resource for capacity-building. Areas of expertise include:

| **Cultural Humility**

| **Health Service Research**

| **Community-Based Participatory Research**

| **Gender-Informed Approaches**

| **Theoretical Frameworks**

| **Quantitative/Qualitative Approaches**

| **Girls'/Women's Health**

| **Infectious Diseases**

| **Effective Minority Outreach Strategies**

| **Health Literacy**

| **Patient Engagement Techniques**

| **Micro Aggression and Climate Improvement Workshops**

| **Restorative Justice**

Get in touch!

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