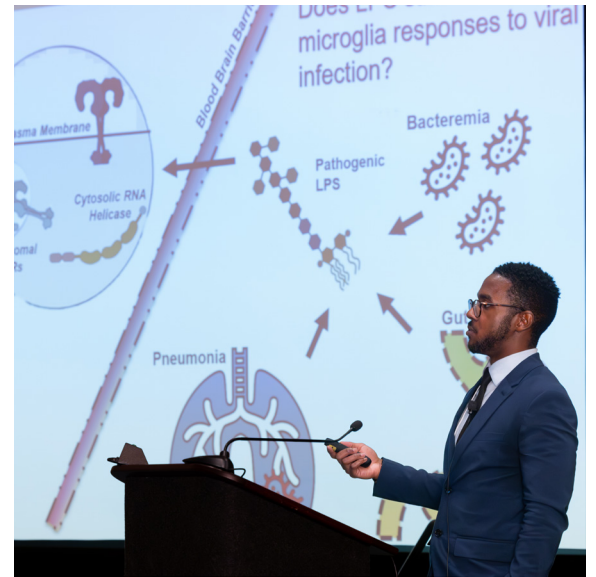
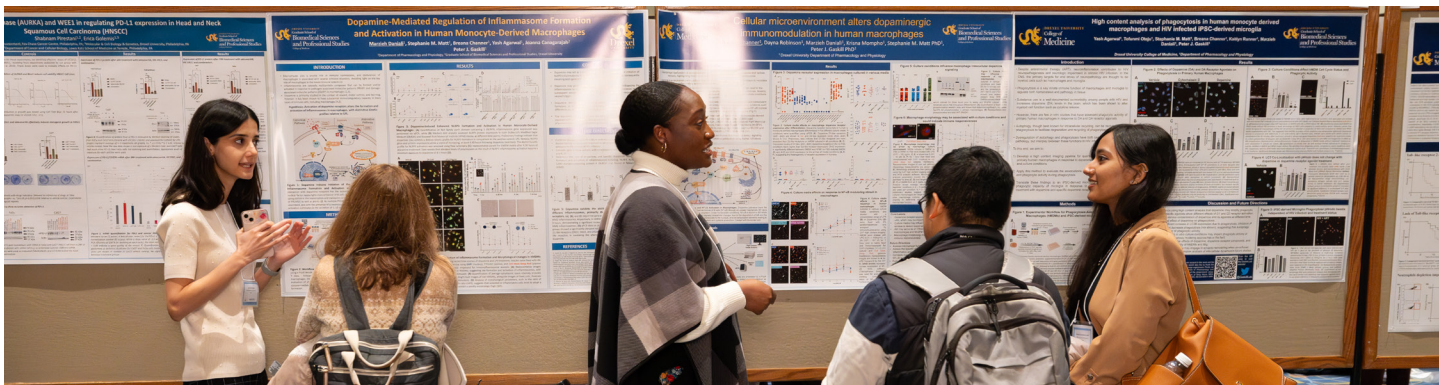




DREXEL UNIVERSITY  
College of  
Medicine



Strategic Plan  
2025 – 2030  
College Forward



➤ Drexel University College of Medicine is one of the largest private medical schools in the U.S. It has some of the most highly innovative and rigorous academic programs available today, incorporating Drexel University's expertise in engineering and technology into patient-centered medical training. We are educating 1 in 78 medical students in the nation and more than 730 future biomedical scientists and health professionals. We are known for our rich and long history in medical education, commitment to health equity, innovative research and engagement with the communities that we serve.



Drexel University College of Medicine is driven by its commitment to our students, faculty and professional staff, who are integral to elevating the College's reputation. We strive to advance the Drexel community as a larger collective for positive change, ensuring that our organization continues its path to a successful future for those who learn, teach and work at the College of Medicine.

## Mission

Drexel University College of Medicine excels and innovates in education, research and delivery of compassionate care in our culture of belonging, spirited inquiry, collaboration and opportunity.



## Vision

Drexel University College of Medicine's strengths are synergy and integration in the areas of biomedical research and education, technology and clinical care. We will continue to build on our strong foundation of outstanding medical research, education, community engagement and compassionate care of our patients, bolstered by an exceptional, dedicated and culturally responsive student body, faculty and professional staff.



Our emphasis on translational research, integrating the clinical and basic sciences, significantly strengthens the College's and University's collective contribution to meeting the health care needs of society. Continued excellence in these areas will expand our national and international reputation as a medical school committed to the creation of new scientific knowledge and innovative education for the benefit of our patients, students and humanity.

## Guiding Principles

Dedication to providing the highest quality biomedical education	Promotion of basic and translational research for the benefit of humanity	Devotion to our patients in providing quality, compassionate care	Acknowledgement that a culture of belonging among our faculty, professional staff, students and trainees enables our missions	Growth and success of all who teach, learn and work here
Commitment to our local and global communities	Collaboration with colleagues across the University and beyond	Attention to responsible stewardship of health care resources	Focus on our tradition of providing educational opportunity to those who might not otherwise have it	Excellence in all that we do

**F  
Y  
2  
4**

### MD Students

**299** MD Degrees Granted

**15,654** MD Applicants

**303** MD Matriculants

**1278** MD Total Enrolled

### Graduate Students

**551** Master's Degree

**156** Doctorate

**25** Certificate Programs

**733** Total Enrolled

### Personnel

**2100** Faculty **291** Staff

### Research

**\$34.18M**  
Total Awards

**\$221.47M**  
Proposals

**\$36.86M**  
Expenditures

**\$19.58M**  
NIH Awards

### Locations

**3** Campuses

*University City, West Reading and Elkins Park*

**7** Regional Medical Campuses

**15** Academic Campus Affiliates



## Framework

The College Forward initiative, which began in January 2025, outlined strategic goals and a phased approach to institutional transformation across four mission areas: graduate and medical education, research and innovation, faculty affairs and development, and Drexel medicine and clinical operations.

From late May through June 2025, more than 220 faculty and professional staff participated in phased work that led to eight distinct implementation planning teams. Participants were included from Drexel University nursing, public health and interprofessional colleges and schools, as well as College of Medicine affiliates and regional medical campuses. These teams were charged with prioritizing objectives, defining tactics, setting timelines and establishing metrics to track progress. A series of 14 faculty focus groups were led by Dean Cairns to ensure that input from all ranks of teaching, training and research faculty were included in the initiative.



## Strategic Goals by Mission Area



### Education

- Centralize and integrate the graduate and undergraduate medical education programs
- Expand enrollment
- Launch innovative, AI-enhanced educational pathways



### Research

- Optimize core facilities
- Define research focus areas
- Build interdisciplinary collaborations to elevate translational research



### Faculty Development

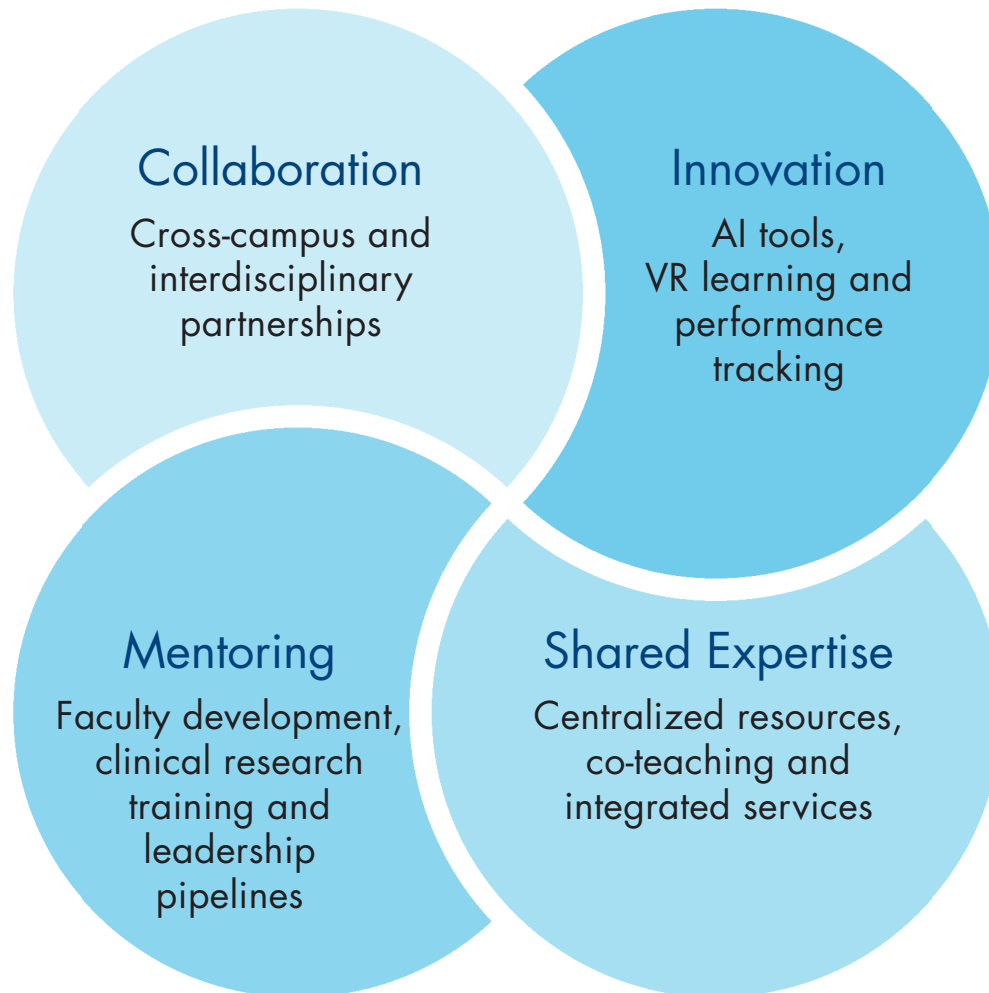
- Build a connected, scholarly faculty community
- Create transparent advancement systems, mentorship networks and leadership development



### Clinical

- Transition Drexel Medicine into Drexel Health – a network that bridges all health sciences education, research and patient care at Drexel University’s medical, nursing, public health and interprofessional health education colleges and schools
- Integrate services with the College of Nursing and Health Professions and Salus at Drexel University offerings
- Ensure clinical excellence through partnerships and infrastructure upgrades

## Key Synergies Across Mission Areas – Unifying Themes



## Outcomes and Impact

- Modernized, student-centered education
- Launch of an innovative medical and graduate curriculum that enhances learner engagement and success
- Streamlined, impact-driven academic programs
- Reduction of redundant offerings and reinvestment in high-demand, high-impact academic pathways aligned with workforce needs
- Integrated, high-performing research enterprise
- Consolidation of research space and resources to foster interdisciplinary collaboration and increase translational research outputs
- Strengthened clinical partnerships and quality
- Alignment of clinical mission and strategy across partners and within Drexel Health, with measurable improvements in quality and academic and research integration
- Empowered and retained faculty talent
- Clear, transparent policies and professional development pathways that enhance faculty advancement, innovation and retention.
- Operational readiness and change leadership
- A structured, phased implementation plan that ensures accountability, risk mitigation, resource stewardship and visible early wins within 12 months



## 1 Year



**Ignite Transformation** – Complete program review; design and pilot innovations in teaching and curriculum delivery.



**Empower the Faculty Journey** – Review and update development programs, promotion processes and core policies; launch new initiatives.



**Strengthen the Foundation** – Finalize research space assessments; launch collaborative research teams; develop strategic internal and external partnerships aligned with the Drexel Health framework.



**Unify Vision** – Identify synergies across clinical entities; launch shared governance efforts; define quality benchmarks for Drexel Health.



## 3 Years



**Modernize Education** – Implement redesigned curriculum and expand high-demand programs; leverage novel technologies to strengthen the Drexel Health education ecosystem.



**Invest in Growth** – Implement lifecycle tools; build on national recognition of ELAM program and support faculty educational innovation; strengthen infrastructure across Drexel Health.



**Accelerate Discovery** – Streamline research infrastructure; secure new interdisciplinary grants; expand the research workforce.



**Advance Collaboration** – Implement enterprise-wide quality improvement initiatives; expand faculty and partnerships; align clinical care with academic and research missions.



## 5 Years



**Lead Nationally** – Achieve top-tier student outcomes and recognition for educational excellence and innovation.



**Elevate Talent** – Achieve national recognition for faculty development and integration across campuses; improve recruitment, retention and faculty satisfaction.



**Establish a Research Powerhouse** – Position the College as a premier hub for clinical, translational and basic science research with expanded capacity and impact.



**Deliver Excellence** – Establish Drexel Health as a nationally recognized model for integrated care, education, research and community health.



## Next Steps

Each initiative must be informed by a thorough and continuous analysis of internal performance data, market trends and external factors. The work continues with leads collaborating within departments, programs and affiliate campuses that are identified as integral to achieving alignment and implementing strategic initiatives, as well as determining the tracking and measuring of progress.

Continuous quality improvement activities, through the Accreditation Oversight and Quality Assurance Committee (AOQAC) and/or the appropriate CoM bylaws committee, are initiated based on these regular reviews. This strategic plan will be revisited annually, and updates made as needed, prompting reconsideration of individual goals when warranted.

For more information, please visit [drexel.edu/medicine/about/college-forward-and-strategic-planning](https://drexel.edu/medicine/about/college-forward-and-strategic-planning).

Date Published: 8/25/2025

