RESEARCH AND IMPACT
in the Medical Student Curriculum

Research opportunities in the UMMS curriculum span all four years of medical school, beginning with the M0 Summer Impact Accelerator Program (SIAP) for pre-matriculants, to the M1 SIAP for M1s in the summer between their M1 and M2 year, the National Institutes of Health-supported Summer Biomedical Research Program, as well as through the Capstone for Impact (CFI) requirement which all students are to meet prior to graduation.

We aim to empower students to build on their intrinsic motivations/passions to lead change, as well as to encourage curiosity, risk taking, and new endeavors. As such, we prioritize flexibility and provide ample support for research activities/student-driven initiatives through all four years of medical school – through merit-based grants available to all UMMS students, and opportunities in the Branches phase (M3-M4), after students have completed their clinical clerkships, for dedicated time towards pursuing research.

Michigan students are on the highest end of the spectrum for participating in research activities and research productivity compared to schools across the country.

Many students continue to participate in formal research programs for additional years, or pursue a dual degree (e.g. master’s degree in clinical research) or a 1 to 2-year fellowship. While research is not mandatory, a capstone project is, and many students choose to participate in research to fulfill this requirement.

Examples of some Capstone for Impact (CFI) projects from last year include:

- **Courtney Kein, Jourdin Batchelor**
  Improving the First-Generation and Low-Income Medical Student Experience at UMMS

- **Rachel Gioscia-Ryan**
  Feasibility of "Couch to 5K" run training program for cardiac rehabilitation patients

- **Christina Ceci, Anne Kalinowski**
  Assessing Health Literacy in the Recent Middle Eastern Refugee Population of Southeast Michigan

- **Paige VonAchen, Matt Carey**
  Medical Educational Consulting Group: Teaching leadership skills while positively impacting the community
Matthew McMillan
Targeting the DNA Damage Response to Sensitize Pancreatic Cancer to Immunotherapy

Casimir Klim, Jessica Winkels
Wolverine Street Medicine: Making Street Medicine Sustainable at UMMS
This project was selected for the 2020 Krishnaswami Award for Excellence in Public Health, Health Equity, and Disease Prevention