

**Program Overview**

The 3-year program has been a relatively unique mainstay of McMaster's MD Program since our inaugural class matriculated in 1969. Other core pedagogies include problem-based and other self-directed learning philosophies, early clinical exposure, and interprofessionalism.

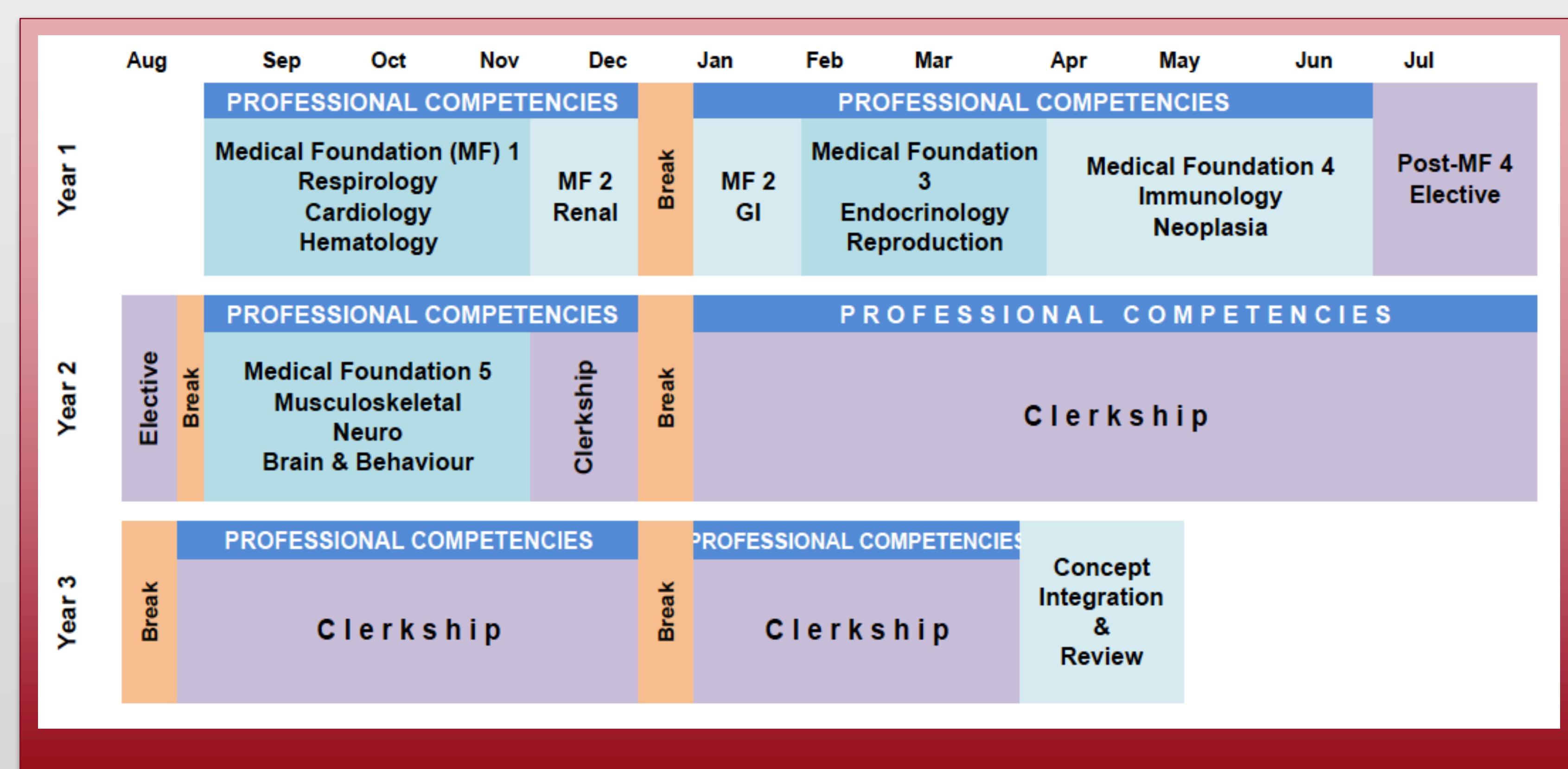
McMaster matriculates all 203 MD students and 3 MD/PhD students every year into the three year program in one of three campuses: Hamilton Campus (150 students); Niagara Regional Campus in St. Catharines (28); and, Waterloo Regional Campus in Kitchener (28). All graduating students enter the common, Canadian residency matching process. It is one of two three-year MD programs in Canada (University of Calgary is the other).

The program has a dedicated admissions stream for self-identified Indigenous Peoples of the territories occupied by Canada. We have a large number of applicants and the class is often over-represented compared to local population distributions.

All students participate in an early Family Medicine horizontal clinical elective. In addition to PBL tutorials, anatomy and clinical skills sessions, students participate in a longitudinal Professional Competencies development program which is facilitated by interprofessional dyads.

Through tuition restraint, McMaster offers the most affordable MD degree in the province of Ontario. Bursaries and grants further offset student costs.

**Program Curriculum**



**Curriculum Detail**

- Program begins in late August with a brief orientation period; pre-clerkship lasts until late November of 2<sup>nd</sup> year and includes 7 weeks of summer clinical elective and 2 weeks winter break (60 weeks); clerkship begins with a one-week orientation and lasts until end of March in 3<sup>rd</sup> year (64 weeks); the program concludes with a 6 week period of integration and preparation for residency
- Medical Foundations are organ-based and offered in a PBL format with a tutor and small group (6-8 students) format, including formal anatomy, pathology, and clinical skills instruction
- Professional Competencies runs concurrently throughout the program and covers: Medical Decision-Making; Professionalism & Self-Awareness; Social, Cultural, & Humanistic Dimensions of Health; Communication Skills; Public Health & Preventive Medicine; Interprofessional Practice; and, Ethical Decision-Making
- Clerkship is currently offered in a block format and includes 17 weeks of electives. Blocks (weeks): Surgery (6), Orthopedic Surgery (2), Anesthesia (2), Medicine (6), Medical Subspecialties (2), Emergency Medicine (4), Family Medicine (6), Pediatrics (6), Obstetrics & Gynecology (6), and Psychiatry (6). A Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship is being designed and will be offered to some students in distributed sites.

**Program Status & Accomplishments**

- Accreditation from LCME & Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS)
- Longest running, modern 3-year MD program internationally
- Problem-based learning in medical education developed at McMaster and remains the mainstay pedagogy of the program
- Program Changes: Class size doubled between 2004 to 2010; Launched integrated MD/PhD Program in 2008; Expanded to 2 distributed campuses in 2007 & 2008
- Admissions Innovations: School has never had course pre-requisites; Computer-based Assessment Sampling Personal characteristics (CASPer) & Multi-mini Interview (MMI)
- Most affordable MD degree in province of Ontario
- Fully integrated, in-house learning management system & curriculum database

**Future Plans**

- Integrated clerkship for some students
- Roll out of new program competencies and Canadian EPA's
- More education regarding Indigenous Peoples of Canada

**Reflections from Canada**

- Two out of 17 programs are 3-year programs, creating significant critical mass, normalizing 3-year degrees; fewer schools makes collaboration easier (everyone knows everyone, often on a personal level)
- More flexible residency match entry point enables some variation in timing of student progression through program (e.g. illness, maternity leave, slowed progression)



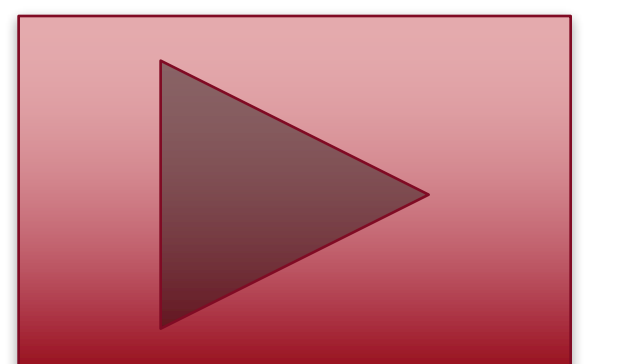
**Program Contact**

<http://mdprogram.mcmaster.ca>  
Program Contact: Rob Whyte, MD, Assistant Dean UME  
[rwhyte@mcmaster.ca](mailto:rwhyte@mcmaster.ca)



# Program Curriculum Map

	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Year 1		PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES				Break	PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES					
		Medical Foundation (MF) 1 Respirology Cardiology Hematology			MF 2 Renal	Break	MF 2 GI	Medical Foundation 3 Endocrinology Reproduction		Medical Foundation 4 Immunology Neoplasia		Post-MF 4 Elective
Year 2		PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES				Break	PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES					
	Elective	Break	Medical Foundation 5 Musculoskeletal Neuro Brain & Behaviour			Clerkship	Break	Clerkship				
Year 3		PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES				Break	PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES					
	Break	Clerkship				Break	Clerkship				Concept Integration & Review	





# Distributed Medical Education Program



## Hamilton Campus

- Main McMaster Campus located in Hamilton, Ontario approximately 40 minutes from Toronto
- All 206 matriculants attend Hamilton Campus in first Medical Foundation; 150 assigned here for remainder of program
- Academic Health Science Centre includes two affiliated teaching hospital systems: Hamilton Health Sciences & St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton
- Campus includes children's hospital, high risk obstetrics, cancer centre, trauma centre, and internationally renowned thrombosis, asthma, clinical trials and infectious disease expertise



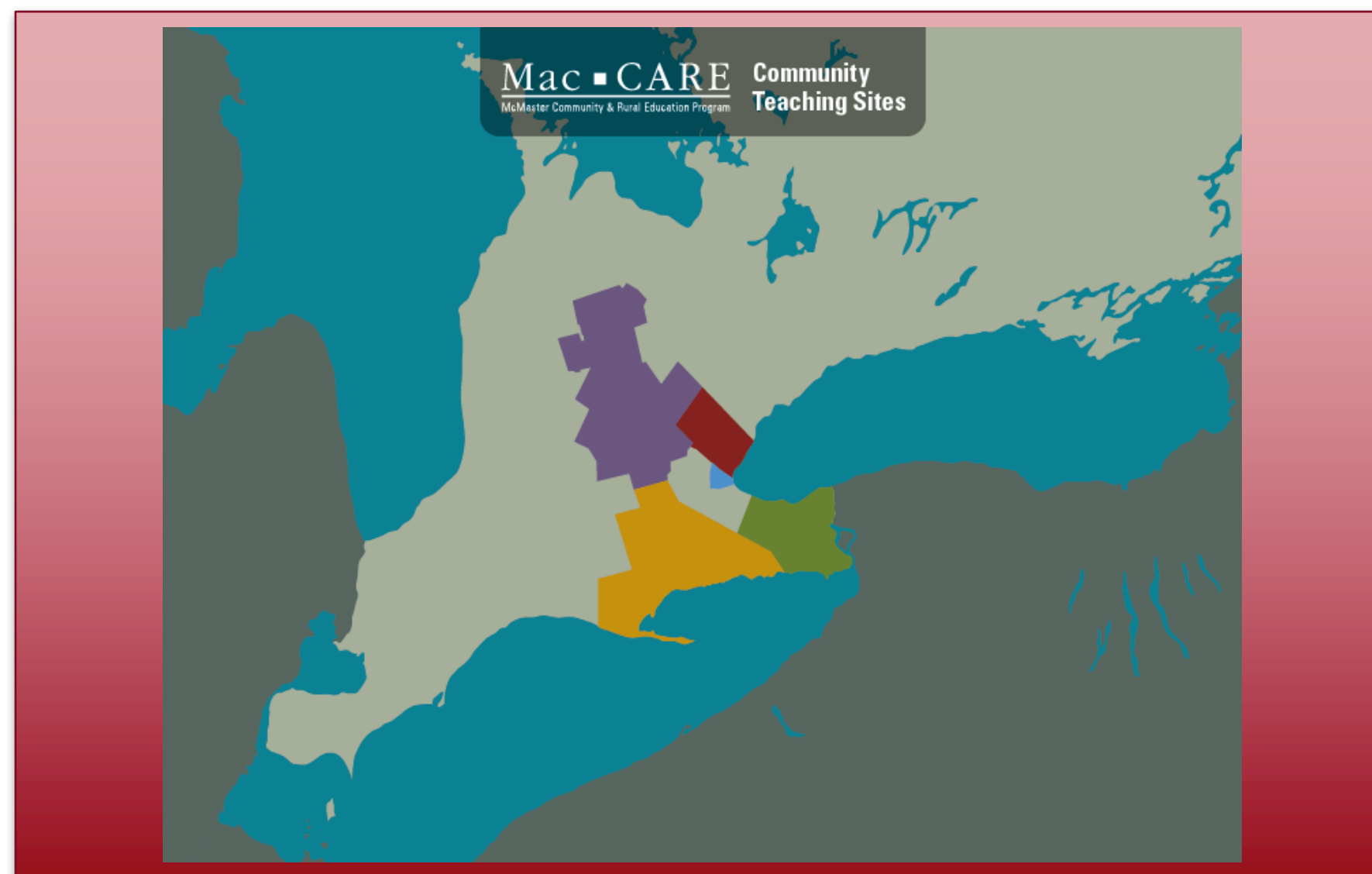
## Waterloo Regional Campus

- First distributed campus to open in 2007; located in Kitchener, Ontario approximately 45 minutes northwest of Hamilton; co-located with University of Waterloo School of Pharmacy
- 28 students per year (84 total) beginning as of Medical Foundation 2 in December of Year 1
- Includes 9 separate hospitals and private inpatient psychiatry facility; longstanding Family Medicine residency program with 28 residents per year; new Psychiatry & Medicine residencies
- Special foci: geriatric care (Shlegel), psychiatry (Homewood)



## Niagara Regional Campus

- Second distributed campus to open in 2008; located in St. Catharines, Ontario approximately 45 minutes south of Hamilton and 20 minutes north of Niagara Falls & Canada-US border; co-located with Brock University Health Sciences program
- 28 students per year (84 total) beginning as of Medical Foundation 2 in December of Year 1
- Includes two hospital systems; new Family Medicine residency; core residency rotations in Surgery and Anesthesia
- Collaboration with Brock University re: Quality Improvement



## McMaster Community & Rural Education (Mac-CARE) Program

- Developed in 2005 to enable Hamilton Campus students and residents to experience training in community and rural clinical sites
- Social accountability to increase number of students choosing to practice in these communities
- Includes Waterloo & Niagara Regional Campuses but also 4 additional Clinical Education Campuses (e.g. clinical component of program only) from border with Western University (London, ON) to Toronto (in Etobicoke & Brampton)
- Clinical Education Campuses can deliver all clerkship rotations in community setting
- Students are funded for travel; local accommodations within community also provided





# More About Our Students



## Who are our students?

Age	
<19	10
20-22	128
23-25	46
26-28	8
29-31	10
32-34	3
35-37	1
>37	0

Sex	
Female	114
Male	92

Grade Point Average	
3.00-3.49	6
3.50-3.59	11
3.60-3.69	15
3.70-3.79	25
3.80-3.89	56
3.90-4.00	93
<b>MEAN GPA</b>	<b>3.84</b>

MCAT Verbal Reasoning		MCAT CARS	
6-8	2	123-125	3
9	8	126	2
10	31	127	7
11	41	128	20
12	14	129	30
13	4	130	21
14	2	131	16
15	0	132	5
<b>MEAN MCAT VR</b>	<b>10.75</b>		<b>129.1</b>

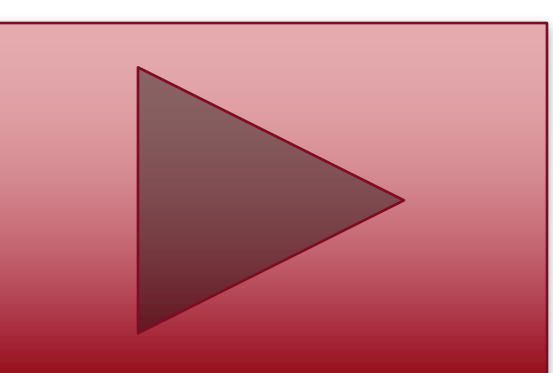
Degree	
Bachelors in Progress	112
Bachelors Complete	53
Masters in Progress	18
Masters Complete	20
PhD in Progress	2
PhD Complete	1

Educational Background	
Arts	14
Arts & Science	6
Business	3
Education	2
Engineering	3
Global Health	2
Health Science	53
Kinesiology	1
Law	1
Medical Science	8
Nursing	3
Physical & Health Education	1
Political Science	1
Psychology	5
Public Health	3
Science	100

## Where do they go after their MD?

School of Graduation (Province of School)	Total Residency Positions Allocated	Proportion of McMaster Graduating Class	Proportion from Home School
Memorial (NL)	77	3.5	64
Dalhousie (NS)	103	2.5	59
Laval (QC)	222	0	70
Sherbrooke (QC)	183	0	60
Montreal (QC)	274	0	59
McGill (QC)	163	1	40
Ottawa (ON)	152	3.5	30
Queen's (ON)	101	7.5	18
NOSM (ON)	60	2	45
Toronto (ON)	237	20	50
<b>McMaster (ON)</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>
Western (ON)	154	6	38
Manitoba (MB)	106	1	63
Saskatchewan (SK)	100	1.5	55
Alberta (AB)	166	3.5	52
Calgary (AB)	157	3.5	38
UBC (BC)	265	6.5	59
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2704</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>50</b>

Discipline	McMaster		Canada	
	N	%	N	%
Anesthesiology	9	4	138	5
Diagnostic Radiology	2	1	89	3
Emergency Medicine	11	5	118	4
Family Medicine	69	34	983	34
Internal Medicine	34	17	464	16
Laboratory Medicine	3	1	37	1
Neurology	6	3	61	2
Neurology - Pediatric	2	1	9	0
Neuropathology	0	0	2	0
Obstetrics and Gynecology	6	3	113	4
Pediatrics	12	6	171	6
Psychiatry	15	7	180	6
Surgery	27	13	398	14
Other	9	4	130	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2893</b>	<b>100</b>





# Program Team

## Faculty of Health Sciences Leadership (McMaster University)

- Paul O'Byrne, MD, Dean & Vice-President
- Susan Denburg, PhD, Associate Vice-President (Academic)
- Alan Neville, MD, Associate Dean (Health Professions Education)
- J Mark Walton, MD, Associate Dean (Faculty Affairs)
- Cathy Hayward, MD, Associate Dean (Graduate Studies)
- Bill Orovan, MD, Associate Dean (Clinical Services)

## Undergraduate Medical Education Leadership

- Rob Whyte, MD, Assistant Dean (UGME Program)
- Cathy Oudshoorn, UGME Program Manager
- Cathy Morris, MD, Regional Assistant Dean (Waterloo Campus)
- Tami Everding, Waterloo Regional Campus Administrator
- Amanda Bell, MD, Regional Assistant Dean (Niagara Campus)
- Chris Henderson, Niagara Regional Campus Administrator

## MD Program Leadership

- Tom Alexander, MSc, Chair Professional Competencies
- Amanda Bell, MD, Chair Student Affairs
- John Lee, MD, Chair Electives
- Karen McAssey, MD, Chair Pre-clerkship
- Margo Mountjoy, MD, Chair Admissions
- Jason Profetto, MD, Chair Clinical Skills
- Jill Rudkowski, MD, Chair Clerkship and Integration
- Debbie Wilkes-Whitehall, Chair Professional Competencies
- Rob Whyte, MD, Chair Accreditation
- Jane Bennett, Curriculum Coordinator
- Wendy Edge, Admissions Officer
- Mike Weir, Accreditation Coordinator



This 'Thank You!' card is given out by students to patients. It was created by Lynn Johnston, creator of the 'For Better or For Worse' comic strip.

