This program, sponsored by UT College of Medicine Chattanooga and Erlanger Health System, provides high school and college students opportunities to learn about the life and career of a physician.

Students work with physicians either as clinical observers or as a research assistant.

Youth Leadership Forum:
- A one-week informational and observer program each summer

Medical Explorations Program
- A 2-week program of didactics and clinical observation during June of each summer

Sponsored Clinical Observer
- Allows students to observe a specific physician or department for a limited time.

Requirements:
- 18 years or older
- GPA of 3.5 or higher and grade level of a high school senior or college student

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Visit the C.H.I.P.S. Facebook page for question forums and more information
www.osteopathic.org

Becoming a D.O.
High School Academics
High school academics should focus on adequately preparing your student for the rigors of a science-driven undergraduate degree.

High school curriculum should expose students to physics, chemistry, biology, and higher order math such as pre-calculus or calculus. These courses, along with the normal complement of English, foreign language and other social studies should provide a solid foundation for the pre-medical work completed in college. Students should take the ACT and SAT standardized assessments for college admission.

Undergraduate Academics
All medical schools require a bachelor’s degree, which includes the fulfillment of certain prerequisite courses. These courses include:

- General Chemistry I & II
- Biology I & II
- Physics I & II
- Organic Chemistry I & II
- English I & II

These courses should be completed prior to the senior year of college for application purposes. While most pre-med students receive a science-centered degree, some choose to pursue a degree in other areas such as music, art, history, etc. Regardless of major, the scientific prerequisite courses must be completed prior to applying to medical school.

The MCAT is a standardized test required for entrance into medical school and covers multiple disciplines.

Extracurricular Activities
We all depict a unique story defined by our passions and pursuits. Medical school admission committees search for well-rounded students with personal interests cultivated outside of the school environment. We admonish students to seek out their own personal interests and, if possible, take on a leadership role in that area.

- Hospital Volunteering
- Physician Shadowing
  - Must include at least 1 D.O.
- Medical Missions
- Pre-med Interest Groups
- Undergraduate Research
- Medical Research

Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

The field of Osteopathy was founded in 1892 by A.T. Stills, M.D., D.O. Only two professional degrees provide an unrestricted medical license. D.O., and M.D. As a D.O. you function as a physician in the same capacity as a M.D. as primary care providers or as specialists.

Where we differ?

D.O.’s are rooted in the foundation of addressing the body as a single functioning unit and are trained in manipulative medicine to use their hands to diagnose injury and illness, and encourage the body’s natural ability to heal itself.

Why should I become a physician?

Pursuing a career in medicine requires considerable sacrifice and commitment to education. Depending on which specialty is chosen, it can take from 11-16 years of post-high school education to become a board-certified physician. This includes 4 years of college, 4 years of medical school, and 3-8 years of residency training. Why do students strive so hard to become physicians? At some point in their lives, all men and women seek to make a difference in the world around them. A career in medicine allows for a lifetime of fulfillment through service to others. A physician must be inquisitive, passionate and have genuine empathy for his fellow man. If you bear these traits, a career in medicine might just be the path for you!

We look at the body in health as meaning perfection and harmony, not in one part, but in the whole.—Philosophy and Mechanical Principles of Osteopathy