Is this program right for you?

The MD-PhD Program seeks students who:

• Participated in research as undergraduates or post-graduates and want biomedical research to be a major focus of their future career
• Are committed to becoming a physician who translates patient-based observations into clinical practice
• Are adaptable and passionate about their career choice
• Work well with teams of scientists and physicians with varied backgrounds

Program Highlights

⇒ Moderate size with classes of 6 to 9 students and overall size no greater than 55 students provides the opportunity to know all of the students in the Program and yet have a large enough matriculating class to share common goals.
⇒ The New Medical School Curriculum provides the flexibility to complete 16 weeks of a clinical clerkship before entering the graduate phase and provides multiple possible dates of re-entry back into the M3 year after completing the PhD.
⇒ Multiple classes, seminars, retreats and group activities unique to MD-PhD students take place throughout all phases of the Program.
⇒ Two PhD programs in Translational Medicine have been created in which MD-PhD students are the predominant enrollees.
⇒ Students attend one of two MD-PhD specific national conferences each year.

Virginia Commonwealth University
School of Medicine
MD-PhD Program
Sanger Hall, Room 1-055D
1101 East Marshall Street
P.O. Box 980158
Richmond, Virginia 23298-0158
Phone: (804) 828-0673
Fax: (804) 828-5022
www.mdphd.vcu.edu
Clinical training at one of the largest medical centers in the country, caring for a broad spectrum of acute and chronic diseases with a full-time geographic faculty.

A new medical school curriculum that emphasizes flexibility and offers MD-PhD students the opportunity to complete some clinical clerkships before beginning the PhD phase, to re-enter the M3 year at one of three different times during the year and to omit a portion of the M4 year if all required competencies have been successfully completed.

An NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award to VCU integrated into the MD-PhD Program with new PhD tracks and coursework that emphasize translational medicine.

Research program tracks that emphasize interdisciplinary and team science.

An active attempt to integrate all students into the Program and to emphasize that they are part of something special with frequent meetings and advising groups that include one student from each year of the Program.

Complete financial support for all years of the Program: full tuition, health insurance and a competitive stipend ($25,000 base with +$1000 for passing PhD qualifying exams and +$1000 for receiving any form of grant providing financial assistance).

120 funded faculty who can provide labs and mentoring for students and 6 research buildings with new or newly renovated space.

**VCU MD-PhD Achievements**

Our students place in the top research-intensive residency programs. Recent alumni matched at their first or second residency choice in the discipline of their choice.

Our students earn grant funding. 45% of the students who applied received competitive grants funding predoctoral training through the NIH or a foundation.

Our students win awards. Honors received include the Fogarty International Clinical research Scholar award, Fulbright fellowship and travel grants to national and international meetings.

Our students publish research in top journals. A complete list can be found in our website under “Current students”.

**How to apply?**

In addition to complying with the medical school entrance requirements, MD–PhD applicants must:

- Show a strong commitment to biomedical research
- Have substantial biomedical research experience
- Have a combined MCAT scores of 30 or better and minimum GPAs of 3.5 (Exceptions to the MCAT and GPA cutoffs have been made for students with extensive research experience)

The VCU MD-PhD Program encourages students with disabilities, underrepresented minorities and students who are disadvantaged to apply. We are committed to student diversity and make every effort to attract and recruit applicants of all kinds with diverse backgrounds.