



**MEDICAL
UNIVERSITY**
of the AMERICAS



MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF THE AMERICAS

2023-2025 Catalog



MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF THE AMERICAS

“INTEGRITY IN EDUCATION”

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Disclaimer

The information in this catalog is subject to change. Such changes may be without notice. Potential students should not consider this catalog to represent a contract between Medical University of the Americas (MUA) and an entering student.

MUA disclaims any misrepresentation that may have occurred as a result of errors in preparation or typesetting of the catalog.



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Some of the illustrations used in this catalog may be of facilities other than MUA's so as to dramatize the experience.

HIPPOCRATIC OATH

I swear to fulfill, to the best of my ability and judgment, this covenant:

I will respect the hard-won scientific gains of those physicians in whose steps I walk, and gladly share such knowledge as is mine with those who are to follow.

I will apply, for the benefit of the sick, all measures [that] are required, avoiding those twin traps of overtreatment and therapeutic nihilism.

I will remember that there is art to medicine as well as science, and that warmth, sympathy, and understanding may outweigh the surgeon's knife or the chemist's drug.

I will not be ashamed to say "I know not," nor will I fail to call in my colleagues when the skills of another are needed for a patient's recovery.

*I will respect the privacy of my patients, for their problems are not disclosed to me that the world may know.
Most especially must I tread with care in matters of life and death.
If it is given to me to save a life, all thanks.*

But it may also be within my power to take a life; this awesome responsibility must be faced with great humbleness and awareness of my own frailty. Above all, I must not play at God.

I will remember that I do not treat a fever chart, a cancerous growth, but a sick human being, whose illness may affect the person's family and economic stability. My responsibility includes these related problems, if I am to care adequately for the sick.

I will prevent disease whenever I can, for prevention is preferable to cure.

I will remember that I remain a member of society, with special obligations to all my fellow human beings, those sound of mind and body as well as the infirm.

If I do not violate this oath, may I enjoy life and art, respected while I live and remembered with affection thereafter. May I always act so as to preserve the finest traditions of my calling and may I long experience the joy of healing those who seek my help.

WELCOME

By focusing on key fundamentals—excellent faculty, small class sizes, a modern campus, and a wide range of clinical affiliations, Medical University of the Americas (MUA) has enjoyed more than a decade of rapid growth and achievement.

MUA was founded in 1998 by a group of educators who were active in international medical education. Since the seating of the first class, more than 900 physicians have earned their MD at MUA.

Medical University of the Americas is proud of its track record:

- Post-Graduate Residency Placement
- USMLE licensing exam performance
- Recognition by key medical licensing authorities of the quality of an MUA education

Medical education, globally, now emphasizes greater integration between the basic and clinical sciences portions of the medical school curriculum. At MUA, case-based learning and clinical skills development are a prominent part of the Basic Sciences curriculum.

Learning objectives are fully integrated across all courses. This gives students the opportunity to maintain perspective on critical learning objectives and enables faculty to evaluate students based on patient-centered competencies rather than just their medical knowledge.

In addition to integrating more clinical experience into the first five semesters, MUA is also focused on extending its wide range of affiliations with teaching hospitals in the U.S. and Canada where our students complete their clinical rotations.

MUA continually invests in its campus and is committed to implementing the latest instructional technologies and information systems. Recent years have seen significant campus expansion including new buildings and the addition of faculty and administrative resources.

The Board of Trustees for the Medical University of the Americas wishes to express its profound gratitude to the Government of St. Christopher (St. Kitts)-Nevis, as well as the Nevis Island Administration for their overwhelming support and assistance in the continued development of the university.





MISSION STATEMENT

MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF THE AMERICAS

To provide students of diverse backgrounds with the opportunity to acquire the medical and clinical expertise needed for a successful career as a practicing clinician, along with the skills and confidence needed to critically evaluate and apply new information.

In order to fulfill its mission, the university’s program is structured around certain ideals which embody its view of the essential qualities of today’s practicing physician. These ideals are defined in the six competencies adopted by the university and summarized below:

Patient Care

Students must be able to provide patient care that is compassionate appropriate, and effective for the treatment of illness and the promotion of health.

Professionalism

Students must demonstrate a commitment to the highest standards of professional responsibility, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity in all interactions with patients, families, colleagues, and others with whom physicians must interact in their professional lives.

Scientific & Medical Knowledge

Students must demonstrate knowledge about established and evolving biomedical, clinical, and associated sciences and application of this knowledge to the practice of medicine throughout the life cycle.

Communication & Interpersonal Skills

Students must display interpersonal and communication skills that foster effective information exchange and build rapport with patients, their families, and professional associates.

Lifelong Learning, Scholarship & Collaboration

Students must be able to examine and evaluate their patient care practices, appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and use this information to improve their abilities.

Social & Community Context of Healthcare

Students must demonstrate knowledge of and responsiveness to the larger context of health care and the ability to effectively call on system resources to provide care that is of optimal value to the health of the individual and of the community.

HISTORY

After extensive research and collaboration with medical educators from the United States and abroad, MUA was established to provide a comprehensive program leading to the Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree. MUA is approved and chartered by the Government of St. Christopher (St. Kitts)-Nevis.

Since its inception in 1998, MUA, in close collaboration with the Government of Nevis, has continued to develop into a dynamic, successful medical school that stresses quality and integrity. The cooperative relationship with the local government and health authorities, and the rapid expansion of the physical campus, has produced an excellent learning environment for completion of the MD degree.

MUA’s 10-acre campus is located on what was once a sugar plantation and enjoys a constant breeze along with breathtaking views of the ocean and surrounding mountains. The physical structure has expanded step by step with the completion of a laboratory building (containing the anatomy, histology and microbiology labs) and a two-story library with extensive learning resources.

A multipurpose complex with on-site health care clinics, a computer testing center, as well as additional classrooms and faculty office space, was added in 2009. The campus also boasts on-site recreation for students with tennis courts, a basketball court and a fitness center. MUA maintains its focus on faculty accessibility and small class sizes. This strong academic environment has helped students achieve high USMLE passing rates and excellent residency placement.

RECOGNITION, APPROVALS AND ACCREDITATION

MUA is accredited by the St. Kitts and Nevis Accreditation Board and graduates are eligible for licensure within the federation. MUA is also accredited by the Accreditation Commission on Colleges of Medicine (ACCM). The ACCM, Nevis’ accrediting body, undertook its accreditation process for MUA in 2009. The ACCM initially granted MUA accreditation on June 30, 2010 for a period of six years (the longest period available under the ACCM protocols). Contact details for the ACCM are: ACCM Secretariat 131 Belmont, Southern Cross Road, Bray, Co Wicklow Ireland, Phone: +353 872388502, www.accredmed.org.

In 2012, the United States Department of Education determined that Nevis’ accreditation standards are comparable to those set by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) to accredit medical schools in the United States and Canada.

The Doctor of Medicine (MD) program at the Medical University of the Americas is listed in the latest International Medical Education Directory (IMED) ¹. The Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) has declared that students from MUA are eligible to take the United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE), which is required for residency and medical licensure in the United States.

The New York State Education Department/State Board for Medicine approved MUA in 2006 for clerkships and residencies in the State of New York.

Medical University of the Americas is licensed by the Commission for Independent Education, Florida Department of Education. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Commission at 325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1414, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400, toll-free telephone number (888) 224-6684.

Medical University of the Americas is recognized by the Medical Board of California.

¹Published by the Foundation for Advancement in International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER) in partnership with the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG).



THE ISLAND OF NEVIS

Nevis is located in the eastern Caribbean, 2 miles from St. Kitts and easily reached by air via connecting flights from San Juan, Antigua, St. Maarten or St. Kitts. Nevis, also called the "Paradise Island," is 36 square miles in area with a population of approximately 12,000.

It is a safe island, conducive to study, family life and recreation. Much of Nevis slopes gently down from a 3,000-foot mountain peak to the palm fringed, silver sand beaches, coconut groves and turquoise sea. Nevis has a pleasant year-round climate with an average temperature of 79 degrees.

Humidity is low and constant northeast trade winds keep the island cool. Although there is no defined rainy season, the average annual rainfall is 55 inches.

The capital of Nevis is Charlestown. The twin-island federation of St. Christopher (St. Kitts)-Nevis gained its independence from the United Kingdom in 1983, but still remains a member of the British Commonwealth.



ACADEMIC CALENDAR FOR 2023-2025

SPRING 2023

Orientation & Registration	January 2, 2023
Classes Begin	January 3, 2023
MD Graduation	January 6, 2023
MD Graduation	March 17, 2023
Tuition Due for Next Semester	April 1, 2023
Last Day of Classes	April 12, 2023
Basic Science Awards Ceremony	April 13, 2023
Reading Day and Final Exams	April 12-14, 2023

SPRING 2024

Orientation & Registration	January 8, 2024
Classes Begin	January 9, 2024
MD Graduation	January 5, 2024
MD Graduation	March 15, 2024
Tuition Due for Next Semester	April 1, 2024
Last Day of Classes	April 17, 2024
Basic Science Awards Ceremony	April 18, 2024
Reading Day and Final Exams	April 17-19, 2024

SUMMER 2023

Orientation & Registration	May 1, 2023
Classes Begin	May 2, 2023
MD Graduation	May 19, 2023
MD Commencement Ceremony	TBD
Tuition Due for Next Semester	August 1, 2023
Last Day of Classes	August 9, 2023
Basic Science Awards Ceremony	August 10, 2023
Reading Day & Final Exams	August 9-11, 2023

SUMMER 2024

Orientation & Registration	May 6, 2024
Classes Begin	May 7, 2024
MD Graduation	May 17, 2024
MD Commencement Ceremony	TBD
Tuition Due for Next Semester	August 1, 2024
Last Day of Classes	August 14, 2024
Basic Science Awards Ceremony	August 15, 2024
Reading Day & Final Exams	August 14-16, 2024

FALL 2023

Orientation & Registration	September 4, 2023
Classes Begin	September 5, 2023
MD Graduation	September 8, 2023
Tuition Due for Next Semester	December 1, 2023
Last Day of Classes	December 13, 2023
Basic Science Awards Ceremony	December 14, 2023
Reading Day and Final Exams	December 13-15, 2023

FALL 2024

Orientation & Registration	September 2, 2024
Classes Begin	September 3, 2024
MD Graduation	September 6, 2024
Tuition Due for Next Semester	December 1, 2024
Last Day of Classes	December 11, 2024
Basic Science Awards Ceremony	December 12, 2024
Reading Day and Final Exams	December 11-13, 2024

SPRING 2025

Orientation & Registration	January 6, 2025
Classes Begin	January 7, 2025
MD Graduation	January 10, 2025
MD Graduation	March 14, 2025
Tuition Due for Next Semester	April 1, 2025
Last Day of Classes	April 16, 2025
Basic Science Awards Ceremony	April 17, 2025
Reading Day and Final Exams	April 16-18, 2025

SUMMER 2025

Orientation & Registration	May 5, 2025
Classes Begin	May 6, 2025
MD Graduation	May 23, 2025
MD Commencement Ceremony	TBD
Tuition Due for Next Semester	August 1, 2025
Last Day of Classes	August 13, 2025
Basic Science Awards Ceremony	August 14, 2025
Reading Day & Final Exams	August 13-15, 2025

FALL 2025

Orientation & Registration	September 1, 2025
Classes Begin	September 2, 2025
MD Graduation	September 5, 2025
Tuition Due for Next Semester	December 1, 2025
Last Day of Classes	December 10, 2025
Basic Science Awards Ceremony	December 11, 2025
Reading Day and Final Exams	December 10-12, 2025





ADMISSION

Medical University of the Americas encourages applications from students who are dedicated, enthusiastic, and well suited for the rigorous study of medicine. Prospective students must have a solid pre-medical undergraduate education incorporating appropriate science courses. Students are also expected to have a mature sense of values and sound goals for pursuing a career in medicine. Once enrolled at MUA, each student must be able to integrate all information received, demonstrate the ability to learn, analyze and synthesize data, and perform in a reasonably independent manner.

NOTE: MUA's program of study is principally designed to meet the guidelines for medical education set forth by the LCME. Students whose anticipated or preferred career path is subject to other guidelines or requirements should carefully consider whether MUA's program would satisfy those other requirements.

MUA accepts students from wide educational and geographic backgrounds, with the belief that such a diverse student body can only enrich the overall educational experience.

Applicants are accepted based upon the presumption that all of their statements, both oral and written, are true and that all documents are authentic. If it is later discovered that false or inaccurate information was submitted, MUA may nullify acceptance into the program, or if the student is registered, dismiss the student.

Students or graduates of any accredited college or university in the world are invited to apply to MUA. Applicants from the United States (who are U.S. citizens or have permanent visas) or Canada are expected to have a minimum of three years of undergraduate studies or the equivalent of 90 semester hours or 135 quarter hours, including pre-medical requirements from an accredited college or university.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO NON-U.S. AND NON-CANADIAN STUDENTS: In order to complete the program in medicine, students from outside the U.S. and Canada may need to obtain certain visas in order to undertake all or a portion of the requisite clinical training in affiliated hospitals in the U.S. and Canada. Additionally, all students from outside the U.S. and Canada will need certain visas to take one or more segments of the USMLE exams in the U.S. These visas are solely the student's responsibility to obtain. Medical University of the Americas understands that as a result of policies or practices adopted by the U.S. State Department, a number of medical students from outside the U.S. and Canada have been unable to obtain the required visas. Students from outside the U.S. and Canada who are unable to obtain the necessary visas will not be able to complete the school's degree program. In such a case, no refund of tuition or other expenses incurred in connection with his or her attendance at MUA will be made.



EDUCATION
REQUIREMENTS

The following courses are considered standard pre-medical requirements for admission. Exceptions will be considered on an individual basis.

- Biology:**
A one-year general biology or zoology course with a laboratory component. Students who elect to pursue additional coursework in the biological sciences should consider genetics, embryology, cell and molecular biology, or comparative anatomy.

Chemistry:
One year of inorganic chemistry and one year of organic chemistry with laboratory component. Biochemistry can be considered an option for Organic Chemistry.

English:
One year of college-level English literature or composition. Applicants must demonstrate proficiency in writing, reading and oral communication.

Course	Length of Study	Credits
General Biology or Zoology	One academic year	6+ Credits
Inorganic Chemistry (with lab)	One academic year	6+ Credits
Organic Chemistry (with lab)	One academic year	6+ Credits
English (recommended)	One academic year	6+ Credits
Physics (recommended)	One academic year	6+ Credits
Mathematics (recommended)	One academic year	6+ Credits
Other	A broad background in humanities, social or physical sciences and computer skills	

ADMISSION PROCESS

- MUA operates on a trimester system and admits a limited number of students for the January, May, and September semesters. Prospective students may apply for admission to MUA at any time throughout the year. Applicants are encouraged to submit their application and supporting documents early (generally six to eight months in advance). Since the number of students in each class is limited, early applicants have a better chance of securing a place in the semester of choice.
- Completed applications are reviewed and evaluated within two weeks by the Pre-Screening Committee. Qualified applicants will be scheduled for a telephone or an in-person interview.
- The Admissions Committee will evaluate the candidate's potential based upon the following criteria:

1. Intellectual and academic ability.
2. Communication skills, both oral and written.
3. Goals for entering the medical field.
4. Letters of recommendation and personal statement.
5. Knowledge of international medical education.
6. Special talents, hobbies, interests and international travel.
7. Personal qualities such as spontaneity, enthusiasm, motivation, perseverance and sound judgment.
8. Willingness to work as a team member, function effectively under stress and display flexibility.
9. Community service and leadership skills.
10. Volunteer experience, work or research in the medical field.

Decisions regarding admission are made within ten business days. All interviewed applicants will receive a final decision in writing.

Upon receiving a letter of acceptance, students will be required to acknowledge their candidacy within 30 days by submitting a signed registration form along with a non-refundable tuition deposit of US\$500.

The tuition deposit will be credited toward tuition once the student matriculates.



REQUIRED
DOCUMENTS
FOR APPLYING

- The following documents are required to complete the application process:
- Completed application form along with a personal statement.
 - Official transcript(s) sent directly from each college/university attended.
 - MCAT official report (MCAT scores are required for all U.S. citizens, nationals or permanent residents).

- Two letters of recommendation (at least one should be from an individual capable of assessing the applicant's academic ability), or a Pre-medical advisor's committee report.
- TOEFL scores, official report if applicable.
- Two passport-size (2" x 2"), color photographs.

MCAT
REQUIREMENT

Taking the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) is required for all applicants who are U.S. citizens, nationals, or permanent residents.

Admitted students are to submit their test results prior to enrolling into MUA. The Admissions Committee at MUA will use MCAT scores to assist in the admissions decision, but does not base decisions solely on MCAT scores.

The MCAT is offered online multiple times per year. Information on the MCAT testing dates is available at www.aamc.org.

Application for the test must be made approximately one month prior to the designated testing date. If using the MCAT (THx) system, please use the school name. MCAT scores must be submitted to the Admissions Office in Devens, Massachusetts.

PROVISIONAL
ACCEPTANCE

The admission requirements may be provisionally accepted. However, if the requirements stipulated in the provisional letter of acceptance have not been successfully fulfilled, the applicant will not be permitted to register for classes.

RE-APPLICATION

Application materials are maintained on file for one year, after which students must re-apply for admission. Unsuccessful candidates may re-apply by submitting a new application form, an updated personal statement and updated transcripts when applicable.

INTERNATIONAL
APPLICANTS

The Admissions Committee actively seeks to enhance the international representation of its student body and therefore takes into account the variety of academic and scholastic differences that exist throughout other countries of the world. Students from all countries can be assured equal consideration for admission to MUA.

Applicants from countries with educational standards similar to the U.S. will be evaluated by the Admissions Committee. Each applicant, in general, should meet the educational requirements for admission to a medical school in their country of origin. Students who have attended institutions outside the U.S. and Canada and whose transcripts are not in English must obtain an interpretation in U.S. equivalency from a translation service.

Students who have attended a college or university outside the U.S. or Canada are required to obtain a course-by-course evaluation of their transcript through the World Education Services (www.wes.org) or from other accredited agencies that are members of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (www.naces.org).

Since English is the language of instruction at MUA, it is important that applicants be prepared academically to pursue the curriculum and be able to communicate effectively. Applicants whose principal language is not English may be required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

APPLICANTS WITH
ADVANCED DEGREES

Medical University of the Americas encourages applications from individuals who hold advanced, graduate, or doctoral degrees in the basic science areas. Each applicant will be evaluated on an individual basis.

DEFERRED
ENROLLMENT

Students who have already secured placement by paying their tuition deposit may request to defer their enrollment to a future semester.

Deferment requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Deferments will be granted only if space is available in the requested semester. Students requesting to defer their date of enrollment must submit a Deferment Application along with a US\$500 nonrefundable deferment fee to the Admissions Department.

If approved, the tuition deposit and the deferment fee will be credited toward the first semester's tuition. Only one deferment request will be honored. In the event the student is still unable to attend the deferred semester, s/he will forfeit their tuition deposit and deferment fee and be required to reapply for admission.

TRANSFER
APPLICANTS AND
ADVANCED STANDING

MUA does not support MD programs that do not reflect a solid foundation of traditional medical education. Therefore, MUA will not accept any transfer credits earned through distance learning. Programs of this nature may seriously jeopardize a student's potential for medical licensure in the U.S., Canada, and other countries. MUA does not offer advanced standing to students for courses taken in Doctor of Chiropractic, Physician Assistant, Podiatry, or Doctor of Dentistry degree programs.

Students with unsatisfactory records or dismissal for any reason from another medical school will not be considered for advanced standing. Acceptance is contingent upon the recommendation of the Admissions Committee on the basis of space availability within the class. Basic Sciences transfer applicants may be accepted to the second, third or fourth semester.

Transfer students are admitted on a space-available basis into the Basic Sciences portion of the program. Transfer credits are only accepted from schools listed by the World Health Organization (or successor).

- Transfer applicants must submit the following documents:
1. Official transcript(s) sent directly from the current institution, and all colleges universities attended.
 2. Verification that the student was a registered medical student and coursework was taken while the student was "in residence."
 3. Students who wish to transfer directly into the Clinical Medicine program will be required to:
 - a) Provide documentation that they have successfully passed the USMLE Step 1 with a score of 200 or better.
 - b) Schedule a personal interview with the Associate Dean of Clinical Medicine.



STUDENT ORIENTATION

Attendance at the student orientation is required for all new incoming students. The orientation session is conducted on the day before the first day of class. During orientation, incoming students will officially register for classes, submit documents required for temporary residence, tour the campus, meet the deans and faculty, and learn about MUA policies and procedures.

VISITING THE CAMPUS

MUA maintains an open-door policy and encourages students and their families to visit the campus on Nevis. Visiting the campus will allow students to meet current students and faculty, tour the campus facilities, sit in on classes and visit the dormitories. To avoid arriving during semester breaks and exam periods, please contact the campus Administration Office (869-469-9177) for assistance in scheduling your visit.

CAMPUS

Located on 10 acres of land generously provided by the Government of St. Christopher-Nevis, the Medical University of the Americas Basic Sciences campus is situated on the eastern side of Nevis, overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, three miles from Newcastle airport and one mile from Nisbet Plantation Beach.

Currently, the MUA campus consists of an administration building, classroom buildings, a student cafeteria a multipurpose building with gross anatomy, microbiology, histology and pathology laboratories, as well as a medical reference library with free wireless Internet access.

The teaching microbiology lab includes a wet lab and facilities for incubating and evaluating microbiological cultures.

A 38,500 square foot building was completed in 2009 and houses additional classrooms, administrative and faculty offices, laboratories meeting rooms, a clinic, a general function room and a fitness center.

All classrooms are air-conditioned and contain a wide variety of teaching resources such as classroom monitors, slide and overhead projectors, microscopes with video capability, LCD projectors and computers.

The gross anatomy laboratory utilizes human cadavers that have been specially prepared for medical dissection. In addition, there is a dry anatomy laboratory with many teaching aids, as well as, tutorials in x-ray, CT and MRI imaging technologies. The histology and pathology laboratories provide each student with a medical-quality binocular microscope and prepared slides. Faculty have access to dual-binocular and trinocular microscopes to facilitate student learning.

The cafeteria on campus is open to all students, faculty, and staff from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Services include breakfast, lunch, and snacks, with food prices subsidized by MUA.

Recreational facilities on campus include two tennis courts, a basketball court, a volleyball court, a children's play area and a fitness center.

LORRAINE HANLEY BROWNE MEDICAL LIBRARY

The Lorraine Hanley Browne Medical Library is a two-story 10,000 square foot facility that houses computer terminals, individual-study carrels with monitors and videotape recorders.

In addition, students have access to an extensive selection of journals and textbooks, as well as extensive access to online medical journals and resources. The Learning Resource Center (LRC) also contains printed USMLE reference material so that students can start preparing for their board exams throughout their Basic Sciences program.

GATEWAY MEDICAL PROGRAM

MUA offers a highly structured, one-semester Gateway Medical Program designed to allow students a smooth transition into the Doctor of Medicine Basic Sciences program.

The Gateway Medical program consists of one semester of science coursework. Students may enter the Gateway Medical Program during any of the academic semesters (January, May or September).

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GATEWAY MEDICAL PROGRAM:

1. Applicants must demonstrate proficiency in writing, reading and oral communications
2. A completed application form
3. A personal statement
4. Official transcripts from each college/university attended
5. Two letters of recommendation
6. Two passport-size (2" x 2") color photographs

Coursework in general biology, zoology, genetics, immunology, physics psychology, and human growth and development are highly recommended, but not required.

CURRICULUM

Course	Credit Hours
GMP 400 - Clinical Anatomy	6
GMP 401 - Medical Physiology	6
GMP 402 - Cell and Molecular Biology	6
GMP 403 - Principles of Medicine	6

MATRICULATION TO THE MD PROGRAM

Students enrolled in the Gateway Medical program must meet the following criteria, as well as all MD Program admissions requirements, in order to qualify for matriculation to the Doctor of Medicine program:

1. Complete the entire Gateway Medical Program
2. Achieve an overall GPA of 3.0 (B) and be in good standing
3. Satisfactory MCAT score (for all U.S. citizens, permanent residents and nationals)

BASIC SCIENCES CURRICULUM

The Medical University of the Americas curriculum in the Doctor of Medicine (MD) program parallels the courses and training offered by medical schools in the United States and Canada and is principally designed to meet the guidelines set forth by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education.

The Basic Sciences program is five semesters in length. The Clinical Medicine program consists of 72 weeks of clinical rotations at hospitals in the United States and abroad, and eight weeks of the Research: Literature Review and Analysis module. The first five semesters comprising the Basic Sciences program are taught on Nevis by qualified MD and PhD medical school faculty who are dedicated to providing the highest quality instruction.

The low student-professor ratio provides ample opportunity for students to interact with the teaching faculty.

The Basic Sciences program consists of five 15-week semesters of coursework with two-week breaks between each semester.



BASIC SCIENCES CURRICULUM

COURSE	COURSE NAME	CREDITS	CONTACT HOURS
Semester 1			
MED 502	Human Body Structure & Function	15	231
MED 504	Human Histology & Physiology	13	180
MED 506	Clinical Skills I	2	30
Semester One Total:		30	441

COURSE	COURSE NAME	CREDITS	CONTACT HOURS
Semester 2			
MED 601	Metabolism & Nutrition	9	133
MED 602	Genetics & Development	4	65
MED 603	Infection / Defense / Response	12	186
MED 604	Medical Ethics	2	37
MED 606	Clinical Skills II	3	44
MED 609	Research Curriculum - Evidence Based Medicine	1	19
Semester Two Total:		31	484

COURSE	COURSE NAME	CREDITS	CONTACT HOURS
Semester 3			
MED 704	Neuroscience and Neurology	10	143
MED 705	Systems & Disease I (Introduction/Endocrine)	11	158
MED 706	Clinical Skills III	3	40
MED 709	Behavioral Medicine	8	127
Semester Three Total:		32	468

COURSE	COURSE NAME	CREDITS	CONTACT HOURS
Semester 4			
MED 801	Systems & Disease II (Repro/GI/Peds)	13	196
MED 802	Systems & Disease III (CV/Resp/Renal)	13	199
MED 806	Clinical Skills IV	6	96
Semester Four Total:		32	491

COURSE	COURSE NAME	CREDITS	CONTACT HOURS
Semester 5			
MED 901	Systems & Disease IV (MSK/Heme/Immuno/Integ/Multi)	12	189
MED 908	Foundations of Clinical Medicine	16	241
MED 906	Clinical Skills V	3	45
MED 909	Research Curriculum - Critical Appraisal	1	14
Semester Five Total:		32	489

BASIC SCIENCES

COURSES DESCRIPTION

FIRST SEMESTER

MED 502
HUMAN BODY STRUCTURE & FUNCTION

This course explores basic gross human anatomy, allowing students to understand anatomical relationships development, structure and function. Through lectures regional dissections of cadavers and evaluation of radiographs (including CT and MRI), students acquire a basic knowledge of the normal gross structure, embryologic development, functional and clinical anatomy of organs and systems of the adult human body, including the brain and spinal cord. Computer-based tutorial programs and structured reviews are used to supplement the lectures and labs. **(15 credits; 231 hrs.)**

MED 504
HUMAN HISTOLOGY & PHYSIOLOGY

This course examines the microanatomy of cells, tissues and organs as well as the basic components of human physiology. Lectures illustrate the microstructure of major tissues and organs in relation to their function. This program presents the molecular biology and histology of normal cells, tissues and organ systems at various developmental functional stages. Students learn how individual cell functions interact with one another and how such interactions are accomplished from the tissue levels to the organ levels. The course prepares students for an understanding of normal (homeostasis) structure of the systems and furnishes the background for appreciating pathological conditions. In addition, students learn how molecular building blocks are utilized for growth and differentiation, wound healing and tissue repair, defense mechanisms and transfer of hereditary characters. Physiology topics include the basic components of all organ systems. **(13 credits; 180 hrs.)**

MED 506
CLINICAL SKILLS I

This is the first course in a five-part series that focuses on communication skills, eliciting the patient's history, performing a physical exam, and communicating their findings to healthcare professionals through oral presentations and written notes. In this course, students will learn and practice the foundations of patient-physician communication skills, including initiating the session, building the relationship, exploration of problems, understanding the patient agenda and structuring the consultation. Students will also learn the first steps of eliciting the patient's story in a patient centered manner and the initial components of a physical exam. In addition, students will begin to develop their skills documenting their findings in a patient note. **(2 credits; 30 hrs.)**



SECOND SEMESTER

MED 601 METABOLISM & NUTRITION

The biochemical pathways of living organisms are studied with a focus on metabolic processes. Topics include pathways linking nutritional intake and energy yielding processes as well as the application of underlying principles discussed in the first semester. Broad content includes a study of the chemistry and reactions of constituents of living matter, including carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, nucleic acids, vitamins, coenzymes, and minerals. In addition, the chemistry and regulation of the reactions and processes of whole organisms will be examined including: endocrinology, enzymology, nutrition, intermediary metabolism and biochemical mechanisms involved in select disease states.
(9 credits; 133 hrs.)

MED 602 GENETICS & DEVELOPMENT

This course provides students with an understanding of the principles and concepts upon which current clinical genetic practice (diagnosis, treatment, and genetic counselling) is based. It also incorporates human development, allowing students to understand the relationship between development and the underlying genetic mechanisms of congenital abnormalities. Legal cases posing dilemmas that relate to each case will be presented, along with abstract material to facilitate conceptual and ethical analysis.
(4 credits; 65 hrs.)

MED 603 INFECTION / DEFENSE / RESPONSE

This course considers the characteristics and properties of microorganisms, their role in the disease processes and selected aspects of diagnosis and treatment of infectious disease. Other topics include the basic principles of bacteriology, mycology, parasitology, virology, immunology and microbial genetics, including cultural characteristics and pathogenic properties of medically important species of bacteria, fungi, and viruses. This course covers the basic immunologic concepts of the cells and humoral products of the immune system. Lectures include the molecular biology and genetics of antigen recognition and immunoglobulin production plus the characteristics and detection of antigen-antibody reactions. The approach is to correlate these basic concepts with clinical manifestations of disease, the immunopathologic mechanisms of hypersensitivity, autoimmunity transplantation,

tumor immunology, hematology, reproduction, infectious diseases, immunodeficiency and pharmacotherapy.
(12 credits; 186 hrs.)

MED 604 MEDICAL ETHICS (WEEKS 9-14)

This course provides a comprehensive study of the legal and ethical issues involved in the practice of medicine. Medical ethics will consist of a series of seminars devoted to discussion of various topics such as disclosure, confidentiality, informed consent, and death and dying. The inclusion of ethics case discussions will allow students to discuss and debate ethical scenarios. Legal cases posing dilemmas that relate to each case will be presented, along with abstract material to facilitate conceptual and ethical analysis.
(2 credits; 37 hrs.)

MED 606 CLINICAL SKILLS II

After a review of the skills developed in Clinical Skills I students will learn additional components of a patient-centered history, including explaining and planning a treatment plan and communication skills in specific situations including delivering bad news, cultural and social diversity, and demonstration of empathy. Instruction on the history continues with the past medical history, family history, social history and a complete review of systems. Students will also learn to perform a complete screening physical exam, and will continue to develop documentation skills with oral presentations and the patient note.
(3 credits; 44 hrs.)

MED 609 RESEARCH CURRICULUM - EVIDENCE-BASED MEDICINE

Students will have an opportunity to develop research skills related to Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM). Students will be introduced to concepts of research analysis and critical thinking. At the end of this course, students will be able to identify and frame a clinical question based on therapy, diagnosis, prognosis or etiology; develop a focused search strategy to identify articles that best answer the clinical question; find the appropriate medical database; and critically appraise articles for validity. Students will be required to independently utilize various types of EBM resources. Students will use technological resources that are available online and in the Medical University of the Americas library. Skills acquired in this course will allow students to successfully complete the research module, Research: Literature Review and Analysis (RLRA).
(1 credit; 19 hrs.)



THIRD SEMESTER

MED 704 NEUROSCIENCE AND NEUROLOGY

This course will include an interdisciplinary investigation of the pathology, physiology and the gross and microscopic structure of the brain, spinal cord, and nervous system of humans. Aspects of brain energy metabolism, neurotransmitter synthesis and degradation, and psychopharmacology are presented. This course integrates anatomical and physiological material to assist the student in understanding common neurological disease processes. Laboratory exercises will provide slides and dissection of the human brain, spinal cord, and relevant structures. Students will be introduced to modern methods of neuroimaging, including CT scans and MRI. Weekly sessions will introduce students to the relationship between basic science and clinical medicine with emphasis on diagnostics, therapeutics and disease causation. In addition, there will be integration of concepts learned in MED 706 - Clinical Skills III, MED 705 - Systems & Disease I, and MED 709 - Behavioral Medicine. Each of these interactive sessions will include group problem-solving exercises and critical appraisal of the primary literature. Students will present different aspects of contemporary scientific and medical literature including the background, current understanding and future directions.
(10 credits; 143 hrs.)

MED 705 SYSTEMS & DISEASE I (INTRODUCTION/ENDOCRINE)

Basic principles of human physiology, pathology and pharmacology are studied followed by an investigation of the endocrine system. This course employs the endocrine system as a transition to semesters 4 and 5 where the remainder of the systems will be discussed. As with the rest of the Systems & Disease courses, each system will begin with a detailed review of pertinent human body structure and function as well as cell/tissue structure and function. This will be followed by the presentation of the individual systems in detail, including relevant pathology, physiology, pharmacology, clinical skills and clinical presentations of disease. All content will be integrated.
(11 credits; 158 hrs.)

MED 706
CLINICAL SKILLS III (WEEKS 4-12)

After a review of the skills developed in Clinical Skills I & II, students will learn to communicate in a patient-centered manner in other specific situations including patients with mental illness, obtaining information from other caregivers, providing advocacy and support and medically unexplained symptoms. Students will continue to refine their ability to obtain a complete history and conduct a complete physical exam. Students will also refine their ability to obtain a complete history and physical exam in a patient-centered manner, and will begin to learn to obtain a problem-focused history. Documentation skills will focus on the complete history and physical exam with oral presentations and the patient note.
(3 credits; 40 hrs.)

MED 709
BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

This course presents the basic principles of human behavior including biological, social, and cultural substrates. Both normal and abnormal behavior theories will be included in an overview of personality development. Workshops will cover areas such as interviewing techniques, death education, human sexuality, and psychophysiological disorders including stress management and biofeedback. Additional lectures present various classes of psychotropic drugs and their indications.

The course will also address the fundamental principles of the distribution of diseases and their causes in human populations. Students will learn how to conduct epidemiologic investigations, how to critically review medical literature and how to use this information in a clinical environment. Students will acquire a basic level of proficiency in epidemiologic principles, biostatistics and be able to apply these in clinical practice.
(8 credits; 127 hrs.)



FOURTH SEMESTER

MED 801 SYSTEMS & DISEASE II
(REPRO/GI/PEDS)

The Systems & Disease series of courses begin with a detailed review of pertinent human body structures and functions as well as cell / tissue structure and function. This will be followed by the presentation of the individual systems in detail, including relevant pathology, physiology, pharmacology, clinical skills and clinical presentations of disease. All content will be integrated. Additionally, Clinical Correlate sessions will introduce students to the relationship between individual systems, pharmacology and clinical medicine with emphasis on diagnostics, therapeutics and disease causation. These sessions will include didactic instruction, group problem-solving exercises and critical appraisal of the primary literature. This course covers the Reproductive and Gastrointestinal systems, and Pediatrics.
(13 credits; 196 hrs.)

MED 802
SYSTEMS & DISEASE III (CV/RESP/RENAL)

This course covers the cardiovascular, respiratory and renal systems, and follows the structure described in MED 801 - Systems & Disease II.
(13 credits; 199 hrs.)

MED 806
CLINICAL SKILLS IV

After a review of the skills developed in Clinical Skills I–III, students will continue to develop their communication skills and ability to perform a complete history and physical exam. Physical exam skills will be reinforced by more in-depth instruction in the physical exam skills that correspond to the systems studied in Systems & Disease, concentrating on the integumentary, cardiovascular, respiratory, renal and neurological systems. Students will further develop their ability to complete a problem-focused history and physical exam. Documentation skills will focus on the complete history and physical exam with oral presentations and the patient notes for both a complete history and physical exam and a focused patient visit.
(6 credits; 96 hrs.)

FIFTH SEMESTER – FIRST BLOCK

MED 901
SYSTEMS & DISEASE IV (MSK/HEME/
IMMUNO/INTEG/MULTI)

This course covers the hematologic, immune, integumentary and musculoskeletal systems as well as 1 multisystem disease. It follows the structure described in MED 801 - Systems & Disease II.
(12 credits; 189 hrs.)

MED 906
CLINICAL SKILLS V

After a review of the skills developed in Clinical Skills I–IV, students will continue to develop their communication skills and ability to perform a complete history and physical exam. Physical exam skills will be reinforced by more in-depth instruction in the physical exam skills that correspond to the systems studied in MED 901 -Systems & Disease V, concentrating on the gastrointestinal, endocrine, reproductive, and musculoskeletal systems. Students will further develop their ability to complete a problem-focused history and physical exam. Documentation skills will be further developed with focused patient visits, with additional instruction on medical order writing, diagnostic decision-making, and prescription writing.
(3 credits; 45 hrs.)

MED 909
RESEARCH CURRICULUM – CRITICAL APPRAISAL

Students will participate in the critical appraisal of contemporary medical literature, including publications representing various study designs as well as the incorporation of basic science principles. Selected primary literature will range from preclinical investigation through the various phases of clinical trials. Templates such as PICOT (population, intervention, comparison, outcome and time) will be introduced and utilized. This course will be integrated with the content presented in MED 901 - Systems & Disease V. Skills acquired in this course will allow students to successfully complete the research module, Research: Literature Review and Analysis (RLRA).
(1 credit; 14 hrs.)

FIFTH SEMESTER –
SECOND BLOCK

MED 908
FOUNDATIONS OF CLINICAL MEDICINE

This course utilizes daily live lectures and other materials to provide a structured, integrated review of the basic sciences. An emphasis is placed on understanding of disease processes and clinical problem solving. Students attend daily live lectures. Early in the course students are given a diagnostic pre-test to help identify problem areas and individualize learning goals. At the end of the course students are administered a full-length, simulated comprehensive exam.
(16 credits; 241 hrs.)

RESEARCH

Students and faculty are encouraged to participate in research projects. Students are able to engage in projects focused on the advancement of patient-focused care, especially as related to primary care and underserved populations.

ELEC 104
RESEARCH

Students are invited to participate in research projects at the discretion of the professor. The amount of credit and time will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

MED 515
INDEPENDENT STUDY

In this course, students learn the skills of a systematic approach to acquiring important medical data via independent study. Medical information acquisition and further review of topics of interest will be accomplished under the guidance of a faculty mentor. Students will develop their skills by working with an individual professor who agrees to monitor their experience. Students will be responsible for defining their area of interests and arranging the experience with their faculty mentor (variable hours and credits). May be taken any semester with permission of the Associate Dean of Basic Sciences and the instructor.

REQUIRED
EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

Medical apparel:
Students must purchase their own medical apparel (laboratory coats, scrubs, short white coat, etc.).

Computer:
Students should consider bringing a laptop for note taking during classes. The majority of lectures are presented using PowerPoint.

Textbooks:
Students will be given a list of required textbooks and other equipment at the time of admission. A complete listing is available on the MUA website. Faculty may make changes to the booklist up to two months prior to the first day of class. MUA reserves the right to change the book list. To prevent unnecessary expenditures, it is suggested that students purchase their textbooks one semester at a time.

CLINICAL MEDICINE
CURRICULUM

Once students have successfully completed the Basic Sciences, they are eligible to enter the Clinical Medicine portion of the MD program. The 80-week Clinical Medicine Program component consists of a required eight-week research module followed by 72 weeks of clinical clerkships in various medical specialties in selected teaching hospitals in the United States and abroad. During this time, students attain broad experience in conducting physical examinations, taking thorough histories while focusing on the fundamentals of diagnosis and gaining an introduction to the management of health care problems.

The 72 weeks of clinical clerkships include 42 weeks of required core clinical hospital rotations and 30 weeks of elective rotations. Core rotations consist of Internal Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, and Obstetrics and Gynecology. Elective rotations may be in any of the various medical specialties, depending upon the student’s future goals. Students, however, are required to complete at least four weeks of a Primary Care elective (e.g., Family Medicine, Ambulatory Internal Medicine, or Ambulatory Pediatrics).

REQUIREMENTS FOR
CLINICAL PLACEMENT

Students must meet the following criteria in order to qualify for matriculation to the Clinical Medicine program:

- Be considered in good standing at the completion of the Basic Sciences program.
- Receive a recommendation by the Promotions Committee and the Associate Dean of Basic Sciences.
- Submit a complete and updated Immunization Form.
- Participate in a Clinical Orientation Session on the MUA campus.
- Sign the MUA Clinical Medicine contract.
- Provide proof of personal health insurance.
- Submit an updated resume.
- Submit a USMLE release form.
- Pass the USMLE Step 1.
- Pay liability insurance premium.
- Research: Literature Review and Analysis final paper approved by sponsor for presentation to committee.

RESEARCH: LITERATURE
REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The Research: Literature Review and Analysis course, a required portion of the curriculum (effective September, 2012), is designed to further develop students’ abilities to evaluate and assimilate scientific evidence and to reinforce the skills required to critically appraise the ever-changing body of medical knowledge.

These skills are essential to modern practicing physicians who will have to continuously improve their medical knowledge and clinical skills over the course of their career.

Students are expected to apply the knowledge and understanding from their Basic Sciences courses to analyze a current and complex medical care question, using evidence from published medical literature. As part of this course, students are required to write a paper that is evaluated by a faculty committee.

While working independently, students will interact on a regular basis with a faculty mentor who will provide oversight throughout the project including: selection of an appropriate topic; identification of relevant literature; formulating conclusions; and the preparation of a final paper.

The sponsor will also review the written paper to ensure that it meets university standards prior to approval for submittal to the faculty committee for review.

CLINICAL PLACEMENT

Geographical mobility is required of all students in the Clinical Medicine program. Students are given an opportunity to fill out a geographical preference form prior to entering the Clinical Medicine program. Special consideration is given to engaged students, married students and students with school-age children. Scores on the USMLE Step 1 may also be taken into consideration, as some hospitals/medical centers have set cutoff scores for acceptance into a clinical rotation at their respective centers.

For students requiring visas, Medical University of the Americas will make every attempt to place a student in a clinical rotation within an approved U.S. hospital/medical center. This placement is subject to United States government regulations.

Clinical clerkships are scheduled through the MUA Office of Clinical Medicine. Students are not permitted to contact affiliated hospitals directly until official assignment to the site is received via a clerkship confirmation form. Special arrangements for electives or other clerkships should be cleared first through the Office of Clinical Medicine, which will provide proof of insurance and liaison contacts with the hospital or preceptor.

CLINICAL MEDICINE CLERKSHIPS

CORE ROTATIONS

Internal Medicine	12 weeks
Surgery	12 weeks
Obstetrics and Gynecology	6 weeks
Pediatrics	6 weeks
Psychiatry	6 weeks
TOTAL:	42 weeks

*Note: Students are required to take Core Clinical Examinations at the completion of each core rotation.

INTERNAL MEDICINE

Students build on skills acquired in Foundations of Clinical Medicine to include the completion of a thorough history and physical examination of primarily adult patients. Students will be a part of the clinical management team and given responsibilities for certain aspects of direct patient care under the close supervision of a preceptor. Students will have clerkship experiences in both in patient and ambulatory care settings. Instruction will include the management of commonly encountered disease processes as well as an introduction to the use of diagnostic procedures.

SURGERY

Students will be introduced to disease processes that require various levels of surgical intervention. Initially, students will be taught the policies and procedures of the operating room including scrubbing and the maintaining of sterile technique. They will have opportunities to do presurgical histories and physical examinations. Opportunities will be provided for direct practice of simple procedures such as suturing, debridement and wound care. Under close supervision of a preceptor, students will be able to observe and assist during various procedures in the operating room and participate in the follow-up and treatment of the postsurgical patient in the hospital and in ambulatory practice settings. (12 weeks)

OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

Students will be introduced to the normal course of pregnancy to include prenatal care, labor, delivery and the postpartum period. Students will be taught the fundamentals of a proper obstetric and gynecologic history and examination. Observation and participation in a number of live births will be provided. Students will also participate in discussions and receive direct experience with various disease processes and complications of pregnancy and delivery.

Students will learn the fundamentals of family planning and dealing with patients with sexually transmitted diseases. (6 weeks)

PEDIATRICS

This clinical rotation introduces the student to the challenging medical treatment of infants, children and adolescents. Students initially will learn to take histories and perform physical examinations on well infants and children in inpatient and outpatient clinic settings. The diagnosis and treatment of common illnesses will be emphasized, but the student will have opportunities to learn about the more rare congenital as well as acquired disorders. (6 weeks)

PSYCHIATRY

In this rotation students learn about the major psychiatric illnesses such as schizophrenia, and affective and anxiety disorders. Special emphasis will be placed on the difference between organic and functional mental illnesses through taking a proper psychiatric history and performing a mental status examination. Students will be instructed in the judicious use of major classes of psychotropic medications. (6 weeks)

ELECTIVE CLINICAL ROTATIONS

In this rotation students learn about the major psychiatric illnesses such as schizophrenia, and affective and anxiety disorders. Special emphasis will be placed on the difference between organic and functional mental illnesses through taking a proper psychiatric history and performing a mental status examination. Students will be instructed in the judicious use of major classes of psychotropic medications. (6 weeks)

HOSPITAL AFFILIATIONS

(PARTIAL LIST)

Brentwood Behavioral Health	Shreveport, LA Surgery
Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center	Brooklyn, NY
Community Health of South Florida	Miami, FL
Griffin Memorial Hospital	Derby, CT
Holy Cross Hospital	Silver Spring, MD
Interfaith Medical Center	Brooklyn, NY
Jackson Park Hospital	Chicago, IL
Larkin Community Hospital	South Miami, FL
Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center	Houma, LA
Northwest Hospital	Randallstown, MD
Ontario Shores Center for Mental Health Sciences	Canada
Sheppard Pratt Hospital	Baltimore, MD
St. Anthony Hospital	Oklahoma City, OK
St. Vincent’s Medical Center	Bridgeport, CT

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- Satisfactory completion of Basic Sciences and Clinical Medicine curriculum.
- Passing scores on the United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE) Step 1, USMLE Step 2 Clinical Knowledge and USMLE Step 2 Clinical Skills.
- Payment of all outstanding financial obligations.
- Return of all assigned institutional property and equipment in acceptable condition.
- Approval to graduate is subject to the approval from the Board of Trustees.

NATIONAL RESIDENT MATCHING PROGRAM

The faculty and staff at MUA take special pride in mentoring students for residency positions in the United States and abroad.³ Students become eligible for the National Resident Matching Program in the United States by passing Step 1, Step 2/CK, and Step 2/CS, of the USMLE.

A list of MUA graduates and their residency placements are listed at the back of this catalog and on the university website (www.mua.edu).

3. MUA's program of study is principally designed to meet the guidelines for medical education set forth by the LCME. Students whose anticipated or preferred career path is subject to other guidelines or requirements should carefully consider whether MUA's program would satisfy those other requirements.



ACADEMIC POLICIES

HONOR CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Throughout medical school training, the student is expected to develop and demonstrate qualities, attitudes, and behavioral patterns appropriate to a career in medicine. The student shall maintain high standards of personal and professional behavior in interactions with other students, patients, members of the health care team, members of the faculty and staff, and follow hospital and university policies and procedures.

MUA is committed to maintaining the highest standards of integrity, academic performance, professional behavior, and respect for each other as individuals. Students are expected to maintain these high standards of professional behavior in all aspects of their medical school training, in both the academic setting and in the community.

Students are required to sign an honor code contract prior to matriculation stating that s/he will maintain a high degree of personal honor and integrity during their medical training. Breach of this contract may result in sanctions ranging from a warning, to the student’s dismissal from school. The rights and responsibilities of students with regard to regulations pertaining to student conduct can be found in the current MUA Student Handbook.

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

The language of instruction is English.

ATTENDANCE

Regular, punctual attendance is mandatory of all students in Basic Sciences classes. Students who exceed the number of allotted absences are subject to academic review and penalty. Full attendance is required at all clerkships. Students are expected to make up days missed due to illness or other reasons.

WITHDRAWAL

Withdrawal requests must be submitted in writing to the Associate Dean of Basic Sciences or the Associate Dean of Clinical Medicine. Basic Sciences students are required to submit an island clearance to the Administrative Office. Failure to comply may result in retention of student records.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MUA recognizes that on occasion a student’s education may be interrupted for a variety of reasons. If necessary, a Leave of Absence may be granted by the appropriate Dean at their discretion, prior to the student interrupting their education. An approved Leave of Absence will guarantee that the student will be allowed to resume their education under the guidelines of the program in place at the time of resumption. A student who fails to complete a semester without being granted a Leave of Absence will be administratively withdrawn and will be required to reapply for admission. Open-ended Leaves of Absence (those without a specific date for resumption of studies) will not be allowed.

Clinical Medicine students who wish to take more than 30 days off during their clerkships must request written permission in advance from the Associate Dean of Clinical Medicine. Students must specify dates and the reason for the request. Failure to request a Leave of Absence may result in immediate administrative withdrawal. The Office of Clinical Medicine, the preceptor and the hospital’s Office of Medical Education must be notified immediately if a student has an emergency requiring absence from a rotation. All time missed during a rotation must be made up to the satisfaction of the Director of Medical Education or the preceptor.

GRIEVANCE AND APPEALS PROCESS

Every student has the right to file a grievance or appeal a decision. Students seeking to resolve problems or complaints should first contact their instructor. If a student wants to appeal a decision by the Promotions or Disciplinary Committees s/he must submit his/her appeal in writing to the University Registrar. The appropriate Dean or review committee will make a decision after receiving the appeal request whether to accept or deny. (Refer to Student Handbook.)

ACADEMIC GUIDELINES AND GRADING POLICY

EXAMINATIONS

Examinations will be given in each Basic Sciences course every month. Final exams are given at the end of each semester.

Quizzes, oral presentations, and writing assignments may be used at the discretion of the instructor. Examinations are generally given in a format compatible with that of the USMLE and will include laboratory and clinical skills assessment when appropriate. Students are required to be present at the scheduled time for every examination.

Scheduled examination policy and procedures are determined by the faculty and presented to the students at the beginning of each course, as well as outlined in the class syllabus and Student Handbook.

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Permanent records of students are maintained in the Office of the Registrar.

The Office of the Registrar is responsible for enrollment statistics, verification of attendance, management of all student records, and issuance of transcripts and grade reports.

TRANSCRIPT REQUESTS

A request for an official copy of a transcript must be made in writing and must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar along with a US\$10 transcript fee. Requests for transcripts are honored once a student’s financial obligation to MUA has been met. Transcript request forms can be downloaded from MUA’s website (www.mua.edu) under the “Academics and Registrar” tab.

Transcripts will be issued only for completed coursework, although a list of “courses in progress” can be included upon request. Grade reports for all courses completed at MUA will be sent to each student, without charge, within three weeks after the end of the semester.

STUDENT PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE

The Student Promotions Committee is responsible for reviewing the academic performance of each student during, and at the end of each semester.

Students who fail to perform to the standards of MUA will either be placed on Academic Probation, or if already on Academic Probation, may be recommended for dismissal from the program. (Refer to Student Handbook.)

COURSE GRADES WILL BE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

A	90-100% = 4.0	Superior performance.
B	80-89% = 3.0	Good - commendable performance.
C	70-79% = 2.0	Satisfactory performance.
F	Below 70%	Unsatisfactory - failing performance.
I	Incomplete	This indicates that a student was doing satisfactory work, but for nonacademic reasons (other than competencies) was unable to meet the full requirements of the course.
W	Withdrawn	This indicates that a student was permitted to withdraw without an academic grade penalty. Any student who withdraws on or before the drop date, as defined in the course syllabus, will receive a W.
WF	Withdrawn Failing	This indicates that a student was permitted to withdraw from a class after the drop date, as defined in the course syllabus, while failing the course.
WP	Withdrawn Pass	This indicates passing at the time of withdrawal without academic grade penalty.
T/C	Transfer Credit	Accepted transfer credits.

SCHEDULED

Approved clerkship - no grade awarded.

CURRENT

Clerkship in progress - indicates weeks but no grade.

PENDING

Clerkship complete - pending evaluation to enter grade.

DISMISSAL

A student may be dismissed from MUA for any of the following reasons:

- 1. Failure to maintain academic performance as determined by the Promotions Committee such as:
 - a) Withdrawn (W), Failing (F) or Withdrawn-Failure (WF) of any course while on Academic Probation.
 - b) Withdrawn (W), Failing (F) or Withdrawn-Failure (WF) in any repeated course.
 - c) Withdrawn (W), Failing (F) or Withdrawn-Failure (WF) for two or more courses while enrolled in Basic Sciences, whether or not on Academic Probation.
- 2. Violation of the laws or statutes of the island of St. Kitts-Nevis.
- 3. Demonstration of behavioral or emotional instability that impairs judgment and/or represents a potential compromise to patient care.
- 4. Violation of the substance-abuse policy of MUA, as printed in the MUA Student Handbook.
- 5. Failure to progress in the Clinical Medicine program for the following reasons:
 - a) Extensive and multiple leaves of absence.
 - b) Multiple USMLE failures.
 - c) Unethical conduct.

EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION FOR FOREIGN MEDICAL GRADUATES (ECFMG)

Medical University of the Americas prepares its students for the practice of medicine. Students should familiarize themselves with the licensure and certification requirements of the jurisdiction(s) in which they may wish to practice.

All students are required to sit for and pass the United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE) Step 1, USMLE Step 2 Clinical Knowledge and USMLE Step 2 Clinical Skills, regardless of whether they intend to practice in the United States.

In accordance with the university's regulatory and accrediting requirements, all students are further required to report their USMLE scores to MUA, provide a consent allowing ECFMG to report their scores to the university, and provide a consent allowing the university to report their scores to the university's regulatory and accrediting bodies.

The following is the four-step process for achieving medical licensure in the United States:

- 1. USMLE Step 1 (comprehensive examination covering the basic sciences)
- 2. USMLE Step 2/CK (Clinical Knowledge)
- 3. USMLE Step 2/CS (Clinical Skills practicum)
- 4. USMLE Step 3 (post-graduate)

Detailed information regarding USMLE examinations can be found at the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) website, www.ecfmg.org.

It is advantageous for the student to take the USMLE Step 1 as soon as possible after completing the Basic Sciences.

Students will not be permitted to complete any clinical rotations unless they have successfully completed the USMLE Step 1 exam. Students may be endorsed a maximum of three times for Step 1 and Step 2 examinations.

Further endorsement requires a written appeal to the Promotions Committee. In addition, Canadian students are strongly encouraged to take the Medical Council of Canada Examination (MCCE) as well as the USMLE.

CEREMONIES

WHITE COAT CEREMONY

Students fulfilling the Basic Sciences portion of the MD program will be awarded a certificate of completion at the White Coat ceremony held on Nevis during the last week of the fifth semester. All students who have met the Basic Sciences requirements are required to attend the ceremony.

Bachelor of Health Science degrees will be conferred to those students who have applied and fulfilled the requirements. Academic awards will also be presented at that time.

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE COMMENCEMENT

A commencement exercise to celebrate the conferring of the Doctor of Medicine degree is held annually in the United States. Students who have completed the graduation requirements in the preceding September, January, and May semesters are expected to attend the formal graduation ceremony, but are not required to attend in order to obtain their degree.

To be eligible to receive the Doctor of Medicine degree, students must satisfy requirements of the Basic Sciences curriculum and Clinical Medicine program and pass the United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE) Step 1, USMLE Step 2 Clinical Knowledge and USMLE Step 2 Clinical Skills. In addition, all outstanding balances must be paid in full by the graduation date.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

HEALTH INSURANCE

Students are required to carry health insurance coverage for the duration of their medical school program.

Proof of coverage is necessary upon matriculation and is required by hospitals prior to students beginning a clinical rotation. Information on individual and group policies is included in the student's acceptance packet or may be requested from the Admissions Office.

MEDICAL EVACUATION AND REPATRIATION INSURANCE

MUA provides a mandatory Emergency Medical Evacuation and Repatriation insurance policy that covers students in the event that emergency treatment is needed. This insurance will cover the cost of medical evacuation to a nearby facility for emergency care in the event it cannot be handled at the Alexandra Hospital on Nevis.

The premium amount is US\$30 per semester per student and is included in the Student Activity Fee. It is mandatory that all students and dependents carry this insurance.

CHANGE IN STATUS

It is the responsibility of the student to notify the Office of the Registrar, as soon as possible, of any changes in name, contact information (address, phone numbers, email address, etc.), financial status, etc.

CLEARANCE FROM NEVIS

It is important for the entire MUA community to be fiscally responsible. Students completing the Basic Sciences or concluding studies for any reason are required to obtain a Financial Clearance Letter from the MUA Administration Office.

Clearance signatures are required from the student's landlord, major utility company, and local telephone company where the student may have acquired debt. This is done to ensure that no student leaves Nevis with financial debt.

LIABILITY INSURANCE

Students must carry liability insurance during the 72 weeks of their Clinical Medicine program. Application forms will be provided upon admission to the Clinical Medicine program.

STUDENT HEALTH CARE ON NEVIS

Medical-surgical hospitals are available on both St. Kitts and Nevis for both inpatient and outpatient care.

Students with major illnesses should recognize the limited health care facilities available to the island of Nevis, and consider their own personal health risks prior to matriculation.





ACADEMIC RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

DEAN’S LIST

Students who achieve a 4.0 grade-point average and are full-time students qualify for the Dean’s List.

HONOR’S LIST

Students whose grade point average is 3.75–3.99 and are full-time students qualify for the Honor’s List

DEAN OF BASIC SCIENCES AWARD

In recognition of the student with the highest academic class average during the Basic Sciences program.

PREMIER OF NEVIS AWARD

In recognition of contributions to the student body, the university and the Nevis community.

MUA SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP AWARD

For providing outstanding leadership and service to fellow students.

MUA DEAN OF CLINICAL MEDICINE AWARD

In recognition of outstanding performance and academic excellence in the clinical science portion of training.

STUDENT LIFE

DRESS REQUIREMENTS

Summer cotton sportswear is appropriate for daytime activities all year round. A sweater or light jacket may be needed for the cooler winter evenings. Although formal wear is not required on Nevis, certain social activities may require men to wear trousers and women to wear skirts or dresses. As aspiring doctors, it is important to project an air of professionalism at all times.

Appropriate dress communicates to the community high standards of discipline and seriousness of purpose. The university has implemented a dress code that forbids clothing that is professionally inappropriate. Good grooming and professional appearance are required.

DORMITORIES

There are two dormitories which are privately owned. Dormitories are not owned by the university. Consistent with the university’s commitment to supporting the broader community, these dormitories are owned by Nevis residents.

One dormitory is located three miles from the main campus and is a five-minute walk to two of Nevis’s finest beaches. All dormitory rooms are fully furnished and contain a microwave, refrigerator, private bath, twin beds, desks and chairs, and a small patio with either an ocean or mountain view.

Transportation to and from campus is provided by school vans. Laundry, fitness center, restaurant and grocery facilities are adjacent to the dormitory. A second, similar dormitory is adjacent to the campus. Rent (including utilities, government tax and security deposit for the entire semester) must be paid by bank draft,traveler’s checks or certified check on arrival to Mr. Orville Liburd, landlord of the dormitory. He will welcome you at the dorm upon your arrival on Nevis. Dormitories are not owned by the university. Consistent with the university’s commitment to supporting the broader community, these dormitories are owned by Nevis residents.

A security deposit of US\$100 per person is required and will be returned to the student when s/he returns to school for the next semester. If the student will not be returning to

MUA, the security deposit will be returned once the room has been fully inspected.

To ease the transition to living on Nevis, the university feels it is important for incoming, unaccompanied students to reside in the dorm during their first semester. By residing in the dorm, students will have the opportunity to meet other classmates become oriented with the island, get settled in classes, and form study groups that may lead to future roommates in an apartment/ house on the island. It may be possible to rent a single room depending upon the number of students enrolled in your class. With the assistance of the Housing Coordinator, the university will provide incoming students with a compatible roommate.

NEVIS HOUSING

Fully furnished apartments, houses and single rooms are available for rent throughout the island. The MUA Housing Coordinator will provide assistance in locating suitable housing for those students arriving on Nevis with a spouse or family. Contact should be made approximately two months prior to matriculation.



MEAL PLAN

The campus cafeteria offers students and faculty breakfast, lunch and pre-ordered dinners during the week. The cafeteria is open Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, and offers a wide variety of foods including ethnic delights and vegetarian meals. Students may purchase an individual meal or one of several flexible meal plans. Prices are subject to change without notice.

SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT POLICY

MUA is committed to the promotion of a healthy environment for all students. Therefore, smoking within any of the medical school buildings, hospital, library, or other school facilities is not permitted. Students are expected to adhere to hospital smoking policies during rotations.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

MUA has a zero tolerance policy on drug use (including distribution and possession) and excessive alcohol use while enrolled at the university. Drug use is determined on-site by testing, random or otherwise, with a multidrug screening kit. All students prior to coming to Nevis will be expected to sign a waiver allowing random drug testing. In the event of a specific complaint about a student, the test will not be random (refer to the Student Handbook for policy details).

STUDENT ORGANIZATION

Student Government Association (SGA):

The goal of SGA is to promote self-improvement, organize recreational activities, and to arbitrate and resolve student issues.

Each semester, the student body elects a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.

Class representatives to SGA are elected from each of the five Basic Science semesters as well as from the Gateway Medical Program. SGA sponsors numerous student events and health-related projects for the island community. The officers meet regularly with the medical school administration to discuss student issues.

American Medical Student Association (AMSA):

AMSA is a student-governed national organization committed to representing the concerns of physicians in training. MUA strongly encourages membership in the American Medical Student Association.

Student National Medical Association (SNMA):

SNMA is committed to supporting current and future underrepresented minority medical students, addressing the needs of the underserved communities, and increasing the number of clinically excellent, culturally competent, and socially conscious physicians.

Spouses of Students (SOS):

SOS is a support group for the spouses and children of medical students attending MUA. This network organizes events and provides support and assistance through the initial adjustment to island life.

Christian Medical Student Association (CMSA):

CMSA meets every Sunday for an informal worship service led by fellow students. This Christian group is open to all students and is non-denominational.

Eastern Asian Medical Student Association (EAMSA):

EAMSA promotes Eastern Asian culture and heritage among students, faculty and staff. Membership is open to all students of MUA. EAMSA encourages members from various cultural and ethnic backgrounds to share their cultural experiences with the group. Celebrations of important festivals and social events are sponsored by EAMSA throughout the school year.

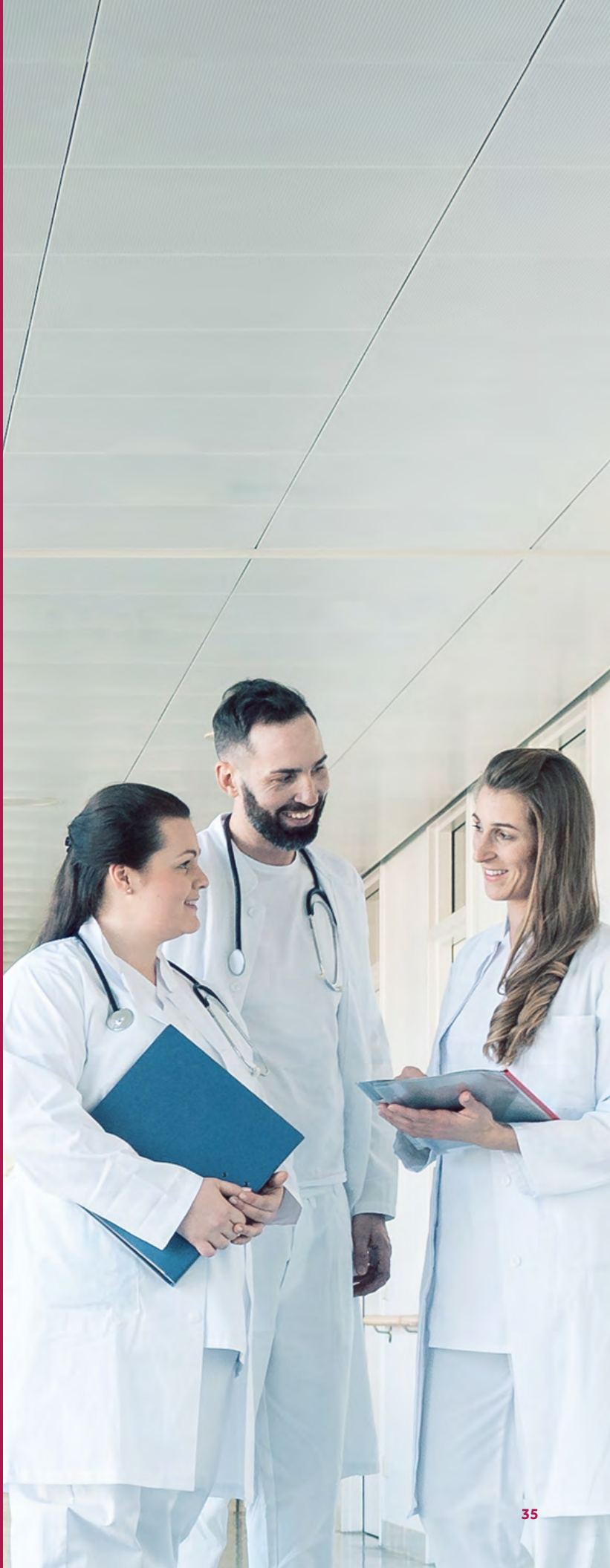
Muslim Medical Student Association (MMSA):

MMSA promotes Muslim culture and heritage among students, faculty, and staff. Membership is open to all students of MUA. MMSA encourages members from various cultural and ethnic backgrounds to share their cultural experiences with the group. Celebrations of important festivals and social events are sponsored by MMSA throughout the school year.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

It is the goal of MUA to consistently maintain tuition rates that will allow students from diverse economic backgrounds the opportunity to attend medical school and achieve their career objectives. Tuition rates at MUA compare favorably to those offered by most state or federally supported institutions in the United States and Canada.

Dormitory fees must be paid by the semester, upon arrival (not monthly). Dormitory fees are subject to change.



TUITION AND FEES

Effective for matriculants on or after the January 2023 Semester

MD Program Basic Science Tuition per Semester (Semesters 1-5)	\$14,450
Administrative Fee (Semesters 1-5)	\$5,701
MD Program Clinical Medicine Tuition per Semester (Semesters 6-10)	\$18,155
Administrative Fee (Semesters 6-10)	\$4,144
Malpractice Insurance (Semesters 6-10)	\$295
Gateway Medical Program Tuition	\$4,000
Part-Time Tuition per Credit Hour	\$565
Part-Time Administrative Fee per Credit Hour	\$185
Bachelor of Science Application Fee	\$30
Deferment Fee (non-refundable)	\$500
Graduation Fee	\$500
Non-Refundable Administrative Fee	\$100
Returned Check Fee (insufficient funds)	\$35
Transcript Request Fee	\$10
Tuition Deposit (non-refundable)	\$500
Tuition Payment Late Fee	\$200

Tuition, fees and other expenses are listed in U.S. dollars, unless otherwise noted. Dormitory rates based at time of printing and are subject to change without notice.

Medical University of the Americas Board of Trustees reserves the right to change tuition and adjust fees or to establish additional fees or charges.

TUITION PAYMENT POLICIES

Returning students attending MUA are responsible for payment of tuition and fees by U.S. personal check, certified bank check, or money order one month prior to matriculation. If payment is made by check, the cancelled check will serve as the student’s receipt. If a student remits a check that is returned due to insufficient funds, he or she must make any future payments to MUA in the form of a U.S. certified bank check, or money order. A fee of US\$35 will be imposed for a personal check returned and not honored. Payment of all tuition and fees are due in full by the date specified on the student bill.

Students will be billed approximately two months prior to the beginning of each new semester. Invoices are mailed to the permanent address on record for registered students.

New incoming students must pay a US\$250 tuition deposit within thirty days of the date of the letter of acceptance. Tuition and fees (U.S. currency) are due in full 45 days prior to registration. Subsequent semesters are due 30 days prior to matriculation. Payments for a student’s semester invoice should be directed to the Bursar’s Office.

If an invoice is not received, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the Finance Office. Students whose account has not been paid in full, or otherwise cleared by the finance office, will be subject to cancellation of class enrollment. All outstanding fees must be paid prior to graduation. MUA reserves the right to withhold all diplomas, degrees, official transcripts and any other documentation from any student with outstanding financial obligations. (Tuition and fees are subject to change without notice.) Credit card payments are not accepted. Please mail your personal check or certified bank check to:

c/o R3 Education Inc.
One Jackson Place
27 Jackson Road, Suite 302
Devens, Massachusetts 01434 United States of America

TUITION REFUND

Tuition and fees shall be refunded in full—less an administrative fee of US\$100 and, if applicable, the US\$500 seat deposit and the US\$500 deferment fee—if notice of withdrawal is received prior to the first day of the semester.

Before any refund can be initiated, a withdrawal form must be completed and submitted to the Dean of Basic Sciences.

Tuition and fees will be refunded according to the following schedule:

Prior to the first day of the semester	100%
During the first 5 class day period:	93%
During the second 5 class day period:	87%
During the third 5 class day period:	80%
After the third 5 class day period:	No refund

All refunds will be made within 30 days of the withdrawal date.

No fee or tuition paid by or owed by a student for the semester in which the student is separated from the university for disciplinary reasons shall be refunded or forgiven. If the student is readmitted before the close of the semester in which the disciplinary action is imposed, no additional tuition or fees shall be required of the student during that semester.

A refund will be granted if histology/ pathology slides are returned in good condition. Students will be charged a replacement fee for slides lost or stolen.

LATE FEES

Students will be assessed a late fee of US\$200 for tuition not paid on or before the tuition due date. Students whose tuition has not been received prior to the start of the semester will not be permitted to attend class.

DEFERMENT FEE

A US\$500 nonrefundable fee is assessed when a student requests and is granted postponement of matriculation. This fee is credited to the first semester’s tuition along with the initial tuition deposit.

FOREIGN CHECK POLICY

MUA does not accept checks that must be processed through the Foreign Draft and Check Collection Department of our financial institution. Monies submitted from foreign accounts must indicate an affiliation with a U.S. banking institution on the face of the check, and be remitted in U.S. funds. Checks received from foreign accounts that do not indicate both requirements will be returned. International money orders remitted in U.S. dollars are an acceptable form of payment.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

Medical University of the Americas has been approved by the United States Department of Education for participation in the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program. Qualified citizens and permanent residents of the United States may be eligible to receive funding from the Direct Loan programs to help pay for the cost of their education. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (“FAFSA”) must be completed to determine eligibility.

In order to be eligible for financial aid, students must be accepted to the MD program and enrolled half-time or better. Financial aid forms and loan web sites are included in the student’s acceptance packet. The Financial Aid Office will only certify a loan once the US\$250 tuition deposit has been paid.

CANADIAN STUDENT LOANS

Canadian students are eligible for federal loans through the Ministry of Education Student Support Branch in their province of residence. Students may apply for up to 52 weeks of financial assistance annually. Work directly with your individual province for information regarding requirements. The Medical University of the Americas school code for applying is ZUBX.

LIVING ON NEVIS

Name:	Nevis, West Indies
Capital	Charlestown
Size/Population:	36 square miles; 12,000 residents
Location:	Approximately 600 miles from Miami; 1,200 miles from New York City; under one hour by air from Puerto Rico, St. Maarten, Antigua, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
Weather:	Sunny all year. Temperatures average 78° Fahrenheit (25° C). No rainy season but short, heavy showers are common August to February.
Language:	English
Government:	The twin-island federation of St. Christopher (St. Kitts)-Nevis gained its independence from England in 1983 but still remains a member of the Commonwealth.
Currency:	The U.S. dollar (US\$) and Eastern Caribbean dollar (ECD) are both accepted forms of currency. The ECD is tied to the U.S. dollar at approximately EC\$2.67 to \$1.00 USD.
Electricity:	220V at 60 cycles (most hotels supply 110V).
Cars/Taxi:	Driving on the left. Those who wish to drive must obtain a temporary driving license. Taxis are readily available at The Vance W. Amory International Airport in Charlestown.
Getting to Nevis:	The Vance W. Amory International Airport on Nevis is a modern, air-conditioned facility that easily accommodates connecting flights from San Juan, Antigua, St. Maarten and St. Kitts. Airlines with connecting flights to Nevis are American Airlines, Continental, Liat, Cape Air, and US Airways. From Europe, connecting flights include Air France, BWIA, KLM, British Airways, and Lufthansa. Travelers going through St. Kitts have the option of taking a short ferry ride to Nevis.
Customs/Immigration:	Passports are required of all visitors.
Dress:	Casual dress is the norm; but no bathing suits on streets. There are strong laws against public indecency.
Post Office:	8:00 AM-3:30 PM, except Thursdays and Saturdays when they close at noon.

UTILITIES

Drinking water is pure and comes directly from mountain reservoirs. Electricity may be either 110V or 220V depending upon the facility, although most hotels and rentals have the standard North American 110V.

PETS

Nevis is considered a rabies-free island. Therefore, there are many rules and regulations pertaining to pets on Nevis. All dogs and cats brought onto Nevis from countries that have rabies, including the U.S. and Canada, are subject to a six-month detention and isolation (quarantine). An alternative 30-day home confinement maybe arranged provided that certain prearrival conditions have been met and all import permits have been acquired.

If you would like further information about the necessary means to bring a pet onto Nevis, please contact the campus Administrative Office (869-469-9177).

SCHOOLS

There are numerous schools on Nevis for children of MUA students, faculty and staff at the preschool, primary and secondary/high school levels.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Nevis has many fine restaurants and hotels, including the five-star Four Seasons Resort and Golf Course.

IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS

Passports are required of all visitors.

CHURCHES

There are churches on Nevis for a wide range of denominations including Anglican, Baptist, Catholic, Church of God, Methodist and Seventh Day Adventist.

SHIPPING

There are regular freight services to St. Kitts and Nevis from the U.S. and Europe. Most ocean freight is now fully containerized. The deep-water harbor can easily accommodate the largest vessels.

COMMUNICATIONS

Cable & Wireless, Ltd. provides Nevis with fully digitized, international direct dialing, credit card calling, Internet, beeper and fax services. Caribbean Cable provides cable television, as well as cable-based Internet access.

Telephones:

Many homes and apartments include telephones. For installation, a security deposit of EC\$1,000 is generally required for non-nationals. Installation takes a maximum of 13 working days.

Mobile phones:

Mobile phones on Nevis use the GSM system. Many mobile companies provide discounted rates to MUA students.

VoIP:

Many students choose to make international telephone calls with their computer using a VoIP service such as Vonage® or Packet-8®. These units, in general, have to be purchased abroad. In addition, Web-based calls can be made using services such as www. iconnecthere. com or www.crystalvoice.com.

These services require a "computer-style" headset, with separate plugs for microphone and speakers. This equipment is not readily available on Nevis. It is recommended that students bring this equipment from home.

BANKING

Bank of Nova Scotia
Main Street, Charlestown
869-469-5411

Bank of Nevis
Main Street, Charlestown
869-469-5564/5796

Banking hours are Monday-Thursday 8 AM-2 PM, Friday 8 AM-4 PM. There are ATM machines located in the town of Charlestown and one at the Newcastle Airport. Money is dispensed in EC dollars.

The Eastern Caribbean dollar (ECD) is the official currency. It is tied to the U.S. dollar at approximately EC\$2.67 per \$1 USD, though the exchange rates may vary 1%-2%.

The U.S. dollar, travelers checks, bank drafts (cashier's checks), VISA, MasterCard, and American Express are accepted everywhere on Nevis. Students may have funds wire transferred directly to the banks on Nevis. Note: it takes approximately 30 days for checks to clear.

Students planning to open a checking or savings account generally should have:

- 1. Two photo IDs.
- 2. Minimum of EC\$100.
- 3. Letter from MUA stating that they are current students.
- 4. Reference letter from their current or previous bank might be required for some banks.



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American Board – Psychiatry & Neurology

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Course Director (Genetics and Development)
- Anshu Kacker**
BSc (Botany, Zoology, & Chemistry), MBBS
Clinical Instructor of Histology, Anatomy & Physiology
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- Ravi Shankar**
MBBS
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- Robert Mankoff**
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(Behavioral Medicine & Medical Ethics), Chair (Behavioral Sciences)
- Sambasivarao Yaragalla**
PhD
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