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# Insights From a Dual Admission Family Medicine Scholars' Track

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# VCU

## Insights from a dual admission family medicine scholars' track

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### Rationale



# 50,000

ADDITIONAL PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIANS NEEDED BY

2025

- Strong evidence exists for the need for primary care. There is a projected shortage of family physicians in the next decade in the tens of thousands.
- VCU Department of Family Medicine was established in 1970 by the governor and General Assembly of the commonwealth and charged with the **mission** of preparing competent family physicians for the people of Virginia.
- Family Medicine interested students receive little support and sometimes direct challenge regarding career choice. **fmSTAT is VCU's initiative to promote a supportive culture to attract and produce family physician graduates**



### Intervention

#### Family Medicine Scholars' Training and Admissions Track

#### Goals

- Identify, support, and nurture fmScholars' commitment to Family Medicine
- Provide specialized relevant curriculum and experiences

#### Dual admissions process to VCU and fmSTAT

- Strong family physician participation on SOM Admissions
- Personalized outreach to applicants throughout process
- Collaboration with Admissions Office and Academic Information Systems
- Supplemental fmSTAT application and interview
- Collaboration with Financial Aid Office for student scholarship potential

#### Social Support

- 1:1 faculty mentorship
- Max of 10 student per class with deli mixing of classes
- Team building
- Intentional grouping for HEART
- Optional peer socials

#### Curricular Methods

- Longitudinal curriculum organized by themes
- 2 seminars, 2 retreats per academic year
- Intentional preceptorships /clerkship placements
- Emphasis on experiential learning
- Fourth year electives
- Scholars project
- Optional summer experience
- Continuous program evaluation (content, mentorship, etc.)

#### Professional Development Methods

- Leveraging family medicine opportunities beyond VCU
- Support for leadership opportunities

### Future directions



SECURE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING TO ATTRACT AND RETAIN

- Study impact of fmSTAT on increasing overall VCU FM match
- Maintain quality programming and relationships with all Family Medicine interested students
- Further recruit and develop community faculty participation
- Continued focus on program evaluation and outcomes
- Disseminate experiences

### Experience

Application and Retention 2011-2016

Class	Applied	Interviewed	Offered	Matric'ed	fmSTAT Match	VCU FM Match
2016	56	34	21	6	4	24
2017	71	47	19	9	5	33
2018	70	48	24	8		
2019	70	49	19	10		
2020	53	38	17	10		

2006-2015 VCU avg matching in FM = 20.7

#### Notes:

2016 – 1 withdrew; 1 matched other specialty  
 2017 – 3 withdrew; 1 matched other specialty  
 2018 – 1 withdrew; 1 transferred  
 All years – 3 on leave, 2 re-joined /re-classed, 1 pending

### Selected literature

Petterson SM, Liaw WR, Phillips RL, Jr, Rabin DL, Meyers DS, Bazemore AW. **Projecting US primary care physician workforce needs: 2010-2025.** Ann Fam Med. 2012; 10:503-509.

Fryer GE, Green LA, Dovey SM, Phillips RI, Jr. **The United States relies on family physicians unlike any other specialty.** Am Fam Physician. 2001; 63:1669.

Rohan-Minjares F, Alfero C, Kaufman A. **How medical schools can encourage students' interest in family medicine.** Acad Med. 2015; 90:553-555.

“fmSTAT has been a total game changer and re-centering program for me over the past 4 years and for sure one of the reasons I'm pumped for a FM career. – Suzanne '16

[go.vcu.edu/fmstat](http://go.vcu.edu/fmstat)

