

FSU med school among toughest to gain admission

Med school

Byron Dobson Tallahassee Democrat USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Don't hate members of Florida State University College of Medicine's Class of 2022 if they show a little swagger.

They are a select bunch. The 120 students who landed in Tallahassee were chosen from nearly 7,200 seeking admission. The College of Medicine's acceptance rate of 2.4 percent of those starting classes this summer puts it in a league with the Mayo Clinic School of Medicine and Stanford University.

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Fogarty

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The distinction places the FSU college on U.S. News & World Report's list of its "10 Medical Schools with the Lowest Acceptance Rate," the university announced this week.

Acceptance rates have held steady for the last four years — 2.4 percent in 2015 and 2018; and 2.6 percent in 2016 and 2017, according to the college.

"Our reputation for providing an excellent medical education is making us a school of choice for candidates," said Dean Dr. John P. Fogarty. "If we make an offer, they readily accept."

In 2017, the average acceptance rate for U.S. medical schools overall was 7 percent, according to a review of the 120 medical schools ranked.

According to the ranking for 2017 and 2018, the Mayo Clinic School of Medicine accepted 168 of 8,068 who applied, followed by Stanford University, where only 167 of 7,258 applicants were admitted.

FSU ranks third in acceptance rates for 2017-2018 with 151 out of 5,866 applications.

In addition, the Association of American Medical Colleges says FSU is the only one of more than 140 member medical schools among the Top 10 for enrollment of both black and Hispanic students.

Of the Class of 2022, there are 69 women and 51 men. Of those, 15 are black, with an equal number of Spanish, Hispanic or Latino students.

Ten in the Class of 2022 are graduates of the college's Bridge to Clinical Medicine, where they earn a master's degree in biomedical sciences.

The 12-month degree program is designed to increase the number of medical students coming from rural and inner-city backgrounds. Students also can opt to seek health-care related jobs in the biosciences.

The college was created by the Legislature nearly 20 years ago with a goal of training more doctors focusing on community health and serving the elderly, minorities and rural residents.

"We're obviously pleased to see so much interest in this medical school and our unique, community-based and patient-centered approach, but we are even more excited about what a quality pool of applicants means in terms of helping us achieve our mission," Fogarty said.

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