KUSM education
Mission of our Medical School - Education, Research and Patient Care

Kitasato University

Kitasato University School of Medicine was established with the goal of educating individuals who are trained to conduct effective and compassionate practice of medicine.

Academic Units

Basic Medical Sciences
- Molecular Medicine / Biochemistry
- Molecular Medicine / Molecular Genetics
- Anatomy, Cell Biology and Tissue Sciences
- Physiology
- Infectious Diseases
- Microbiology
- Parasitology
- Immunology
- Pharmacology
- Pathology
- Legal Medicine
- Preventive Medicine and Public Health

Clinical Medical Sciences
- Gastroenterology
- Endocrinology and Metabolism
- Cardiology and Vascular Medicine
- Respiratory Medicine
- Rheumatology
- Hematology
- Nephrology
- Neurology
- General Surgery
- Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery
- Neurosurgery
- Otorhinolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery
- Orthopedic Surgery
- Plastic Surgery
- Urology
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Pediatrics
- Dermatology
- Ophthalmology
- Psychiatry
- Radiology
- Anesthesiology
- Emergency and Critical Care Medicine
- Laboratory Medicine

Innovative Educational System

In 1972, a new organ-system in general medical education (or ‘Keibetsu-Sougou’) was developed and launched. This educational system was a radical restructuring of the traditional medical school curriculum that was aimed at giving students not only a core of biomedical and clinical knowledge but also a general perspective that would enable them to become life-long learners, being able to cope with and use new information.
Curriculum

The primary goal of the first-year curriculum is to provide a general foundation in basic science as well as in general college-level liberal arts and language education. Most of our freshmen are high school graduates. Some of the university graduates re-entering our medical school are exempt from these first year requirements. Extra courses are available to supplement the shortcomings in the education of each student in basic sciences including physics, chemistry and biology.

The second-year program lays the groundwork for an in-depth understanding of human biology, to prepare a strong foundation for pre-clinical education. Hands-on laboratory work provides students variety of practical experiences in basic sciences. Gross anatomy course occupies substantial portion of the second year.

The major part of the third-year curriculum is occupied by general organ-system education.

Under this unique and innovative educational program, the traditional basic science courses have been reorganized into organ-system units. The fourth-year students continue with the program which facilitates the shift to diagnostics of various medical disciplines.

The fifth- and sixth-year students are required to participate in clinical clerkship and internship in internal medicine (16 weeks), surgery (16 weeks), pediatrics (4 weeks) and obstetrics and gynecology (4 weeks). They are also required to spend 2 weeks each in dermatology, ophthalmology, psychiatry, radiology, anesthesiology, clinical diagnostic, emergency and critical care. Altogether, 56 weeks of clerkship provide students with rich and ample experiences on the ward at our teaching hospitals.

Our research laboratories are open for medical students to work on research projects with basic biomedical scientists and clinicians. We encourage our students to take advantage of such exceptional opportunities. Research is usually carried out during the pre-clinical years.
The August 1998 issue of “The 21” magazine issued by PHP Institute, Tokyo, ranked KUSM 2nd best in the nation, following Keio University School of Medicine. The ranking was based on scores reflecting various criteria, including the proportion of graduates passing the Japanese National Medical Licensing Examination, the ratio of applicants to admitted students, average score of the admitted students, the ratio of teaching staffs to students, etc. Out of 80 medical schools in Japan, 77 schools were compared.