

# ABOUT DES MOINES UNIVERSITY

## One University – Since 1898

We share a singular mission to develop distinctive health professionals committed to health promotion, the discovery of knowledge and service to the community.

Founded in 1898, Des Moines University Medicine and Health Sciences is a premier medical and health sciences institution comprising three colleges offering 10 graduate degrees. The programs share a collective strength — a collaborative campus community where students and faculty come together in the pursuit of knowledge and innovation.

DMU creates opportunities by building on its long legacy of providing outstanding education to the nation's future health professionals and excellent patient care in the [DMU Clinic](#).

Our strong reputation in medicine and health sciences fields is built on the commitment of our faculty who are passionate about training tomorrow's leaders with unmatched dedication and uncompromised intention. Our graduates enter the profession with confidence, compassion and the determination to improve the lives of others on a daily basis.

## Mission

To improve lives in our global community by educating diverse groups of highly competent and compassionate health professionals.

## Vision

Des Moines University Medicine and Health Sciences will:

- Serve as a national leader in health professions education with a vision and focus on training the health care leaders and workforce of the future.
- Shape forward-thinking scholars who collaboratively discover, develop and implement new insights, driving groundbreaking research and transformative education.
- Advocate for high-quality patient care and innovative educational experiences that improve the health and well-being of the populations we serve.
- Champion community service and collaborate with key stakeholders on policy issues to support the well-being of our community.
- Expand its role as a national leader in supporting and educating students, faculty and staff to build competencies in diversity, equity and inclusion.
- Be an innovation hub, providing a vibrant environment for learning, working and discovery.

## Values

- **Accountability:** Taking responsibility for our actions and outcomes.
- **Collaboration:** Establishing cooperative relationships and innovative practices to enhance health education and care.
- **Honesty:** Demonstrating the highest standard of truthful and ethical behavior.

- **Inclusiveness:** Embracing a culture of diversity that accepts and respects the unique characteristics of each individual.
- **Wellness:** Committing to the well-being of the mind, body and spirit.

See more information about DMU's [Mission, Vision and Values](#).

## History

The [history of Des Moines University](#) reflects a continuing commitment to teach, to learn and to serve. The institution was founded in 1898 as the Dr. S.S. Still College of Osteopathy by Dr. Summerfield Saunders Still and his wife, Dr. Ella Still.

## Governance

The DMU Board of Trustees is the governing body of the university. The board oversees the affairs of the university and works closely with the president to monitor strategic initiatives. Board members are community, civic, business and professional leaders committed to DMU's mission and vision. The university has been a member of the Association of Governing Boards of Colleges and Universities since January 1971.

See more information about DMU's [Administration and Board of Trustees](#).