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## Xavier University of Louisiana maintains its high-ranking status in sending African American graduates to Medical School

**New Orleans LA** - Xavier University of Louisiana (XULA) is still a leader among the nation's colleges and universities in the number of African American graduates who go on to complete medical school, according to data compiled by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC).

According to the special report, "Xavier University of Louisiana Graduates Matriculating to and Graduating from U.S. MD-Granting Medical Schools," 95.8% of Xavier graduates and 95.5% of Black or African American Xavier graduates who entered medical school in academic year 2013-2014 have graduated from US MD-granting medical schools so far. The report for 2013-2014 entries into medical school, which is the most recent complete graduation data available with regard to med school academic year of entry, was obtained by Xavier directly from the AAMC .

Data obtained directly from the AAMC revealed that Xavier continues to rank in the top 10 for colleges and universities whose Black/AA alumni matriculate into and graduate from U.S. medical schools in academic years 2019-2020 (matriculants) and 2018-2019 (graduates). The AAMC reports also ranked Xavier against other colleges and universities throughout the U.S as one of the top 10 institutions in the country for sending Black or African American Students to Medical School, and as one of only two HBCUs that placed in the top 10 for graduates and matriculants into medical school.

"We're living in a time that requires culturally competent medical professionals. We are pleased to note this reaffirmation of Xavier's prominent role in educating African American doctors," said Xavier President Dr. Reynold Verret. "It is the ongoing purpose for which Xavier was founded, to find and cultivate talent, especially from traditionally underrepresented communities, and send them forth equipped with the diverse tools and training they'll need to foster equity in whatever field they're serving in whether through medicine, social sciences, art, education, law, whatever the need."

Xavier's decades of work in the medical sector was nationally recognized several years ago when *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* magazine reported the findings of Xavier's history of eXcellence after obtaining the AAMC report for the year 2011. Since that time, Xavier has continued its rigorous academic training, maintaining its place as a top university dedicated to producing America's future leaders and African American doctors who are facing and solving present healthcare challenges.

The COVID-19 pandemic has called for America's first responders, many of whom are Xavier alums, to make real sacrifices as the world's top scientists and healthcare leaders race to find an effective treatment or vaccine to fight a virus that has changed the world forever. COVID-19 has also brought to light the <u>disproportionate inequalities</u> that exist in communities of color. African Americans account for more than 60% of Louisiana's COVID-19 deaths. Inequalities like this are the reasons why Xavier remains committed to producing African American doctors that are dedicated to decreasing healthcare disparities, which is reflected by Xavier's ranking in the recent AAMC report.

## **About Xavier University of Louisiana**

Being America's only historically Black and Catholic University is just the first of the distinctions that have set Xavier University of Louisiana apart for more than eight decades. Despite its relatively small size (3,300 students), Xavier is a nationally recognized leader in the STEM and the health sciences, producing more African American students who graduate from medical schools each year than any other university in the United States. Its College of Pharmacy is among the top producers of African American pharmacists.

Its liberal arts-based programs in such areas as art, business, education, psychology, and political science – as well as such recent additions as bioinformatics, data science, neuroscience, crime and social justice, and jazz studies – offer students an unbeatable combination of traditional classroom study, hands-on research, service-learning opportunities, and life experiences. The winning Xavier formula? Provide students with a well-balanced curriculum and an environment that nurtures their intellect and feeds their souls.

For more information about Xavier University of Louisiana visit us online at <a href="www.xula.edu">www.xula.edu</a> or follow us on Facebook, YouTube, or Twitter @XULA1925. To book interviews and/or to speak with our experts in the field of pharmacy, education, premed, public health, science, technology, math, business, English, communications, and the arts, contact Lance Sumler at (504) 520-5240 or <a href="www.xula.edu">www.xula.edu</a>.