



# XAVIER *Ochsner*

## College of Medicine



# Xavier Ochsner College of Medicine

Xavier University of Louisiana (Xavier) has partnered with Ochsner Health (Ochsner) to establish the **Xavier Ochsner College of Medicine (XOCOM)**, creating another historically Black college and university (HBCU) medical school in the United States. Together, Xavier and Ochsner will create a strong physician workforce to improve health for local communities by building the healthcare workforce of the future.

Anchored through XOCOM, the two institutions affirm their legacy of advancing healthcare excellence and education. When it opens, XOCOM will be the fifth allopathic HBCU medical school in the U.S., bringing new opportunities to communities in Louisiana and the nation and offering stellar medical education for generations to come. The new allopathic medical school will create economic opportunity for Louisiana when it opens in Benson Tower within the growing downtown New Orleans BioDistrict.

## Louisiana and United States Healthcare Workforce Shortages

In a 2024 report, the Association of American Medical Colleges projected that physician demand will grow faster than supply, leading to a total shortage of up to 86,000 physicians by 2036. It is estimated that Louisiana will rank third in the nation for physician shortages by 2030.

A key driver of this physician shortage is the comparatively low number of U.S. medical school graduates. Producing fewer graduates than peer countries, 24% of the incoming National Resident Matching Program interns in 2024 came from medical schools outside of the U.S.

“Working together, we will train the next generation of physician scientists who will focus on finding solutions and find new therapies for our communities. Together, we can all share Xavier’s purpose ‘to contribute to a more just and humane society by preparing students to assume roles of leadership and service.’”

- *Leonardo Seoane, MD, FACP, Founding Dean, Xavier Ochsner College of Medicine*

To increase the number of medical school graduates, XOCOM will provide merit-based scholarship opportunities to students. The school will provide greater access and resources to more students who wish to practice medicine.

A growing body of research shows that physicians who practice in communities they're from improve health outcomes and access to care by increasing patient trust in healthcare providers.

## **Xavier and Ochsner: A Partnership Committed to Excellence**

Consistently recognized as a top HBCU, Xavier is widely known for fostering academic excellence and has made profound progress in improving health outcomes. Xavier is a leading institution nationally in graduating Black students who earn medical degrees and doctorates in the health sciences. Ochsner, a leading academic nonprofit healthcare system in the Gulf South, invests significantly in the communities it serves and is a top educator of physicians in Louisiana, annually instructing more than 360 physician residents and fellows.

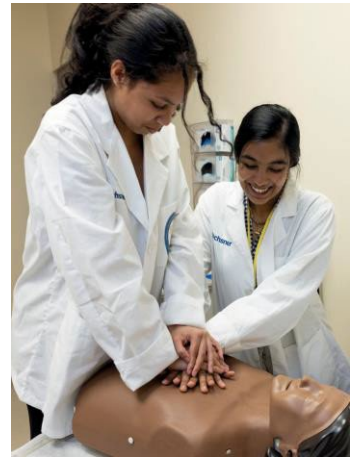
By collaborating to provide merit-based opportunities and by building on the progress of excellence and innovation at the nation's other HBCU medical schools, XOCOM will provide more opportunities in healthcare for individuals from communities throughout Louisiana and the country. XOCOM will address documented healthcare gaps and expand access to medical education for more students. It will feature state-of-the-art facilities and advanced medical technology, with a curriculum focused on interdisciplinary collaboration, compassionate patient care, and high standards of medical excellence.

XOCOM builds on a long-standing partnership between Xavier and Ochsner that dates to the early 1980s, when Xavier's College of Pharmacy and Ochsner came together to offer more clinical training sites for pharmacy students.

In 2020, Xavier and Ochsner created partnerships to improve community health outcomes through new graduate programs in health sciences and the establishment of the Ochsner-Xavier Institute for Health Equity and Research (OXIHER). OXIHER serves as a leading catalyst for improving community health and leveraging community engagement, outcomes research, population health strategies and educational initiatives to create solutions for the challenges faced today.

## **Closing the National and Local Workforce Gap**

Slated to be the nation's fifth allopathic HBCU College of Medicine, XOCOM will help increase the number of physicians for the region and the nation while promoting a personalized approach to medicine. XOCOM will build upon the strong legacies of Xavier and Ochsner to improve the nation's health outcomes, access to care and patient trust while serving as a beacon for educational excellence and economic opportunity.



*“In the 1920s, Saint Katharine Drexel sent her Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament to visit leading medical schools to learn how to best prepare Xavier scholars for the next phase of medical education. XOCOM continues the work envisioned by our founder.”*

*- Reynold Verret, PhD,  
President, Xavier University  
of Louisiana*



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the Xavier Ochsner College of Medicine.**