Welcome to Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine. Stritch is part of Loyola’s Health Sciences Division (HSD), which promotes and enhances the education and research enterprise on Loyola’s Health Sciences Campus.

The campus includes Stritch School of Medicine as well as Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing, the biomedical research programs of the Graduate School, and several other institutes and centers encouraging new research and interprofessional education opportunities across the University.

Our focus is on comprehensive, collaborative health sciences education, excellence, and a rewarding environment for learning and teaching. In partnership with Loyola University Health System of Trinity Health, we offer educational resources and programs to prepare students for careers as leaders in health care and to promote team-based excellence.

Look inside for a brief overview of our education, research, and service opportunities. Learn about some of the events, programs, and people that define the Loyola University Chicago Health Sciences Division and, in particular, the Stritch School of Medicine.
Stritch program prepares students for careers in military medicine

Stritch is playing an integral role in providing specialized training and support for medical students who are preparing to serve as physicians in the U.S. military. Stritch is the only medical school in the Chicago area to offer a program that provides insight into the unique role of caring for the health needs of veterans, service members, and military families. Stritch is fortunate to have a partnership with the Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital as well as numerous physicians on staff who are either currently serving or have served in the military.

White coat ceremony

On August 27, Stritch first-year students received their first white medical coats in a ceremony that emphasizes the privilege of being able to care for patients and the responsibility that comes with wearing the coat. First-year medical students received their coats from faculty members and other physicians, including Stritch alumni, symbolizing one generation passing along knowledge and patient care to the next.

Medical and Nursing students collaborate for interprofessional education

More than 250 Loyola medical and nursing students gathered March 13 to learn how to work as a team to deliver safe and effective care for patients. Third-year medical students, senior undergraduate nursing students, and accelerated bachelor’s nursing students participated in discussions facilitated by faculty and explored values and ethics for interprofessional practice, roles and responsibilities, and team communication.

Ask Night: Stritch alumni share real-world experiences as students consider career options

During the 2013 “Ask Night” series in February, the 200+ students who attended enjoyed the opportunity to hear from a panel of Stritch alumni representing a variety of medical specialties about their real-world experiences. The featured medical specialties were chosen based on the input of medical students. After the panel presentations, the alumni presenters addressed students’ questions.
the future: Center for Translational Research and Education rising

Groundbreaking for the new Center for Translational Research and Education (CTRE) is set for this summer, with completion in early 2016. The CTRE, a collaboration of Loyola University Chicago and Trinity Health, will promote interdisciplinary bench-to-bedside research in state-of-the-art facilities. Post-doctoral trainees fellows, graduate students, and medical and nursing students will have the advantage of the latest technology and work with leading faculty and investigators.

The CTRE will encourage teamwork across the Health Sciences Division in flexible spaces that facilitate collaboration and stimulate education. Research programs will be linked to Loyola University Health System clinical priorities. The CTRE will also play a central role in the development of a University-wide Institute of Public Health.

Highlights of the five-story 227,000-square-foot structure include bench and dry laboratories, office space, and a 250-seat auditorium.

The open and light-filled space at the heart of the new center will engage researchers, students, and the community alike.

Michael Hutz brings our tradition of academic leadership to Vatican stem cell conference

Michael Hutz, a second-year student at Stritch School of Medicine, was selected to participate in a prestigious Vatican conference on adult stem cell research. Held in April, the Second International Vatican Adult Stem Cell Conference, “Regenerative Medicine - A Fundamental Shift in Science & Culture,” explored the scientific, cultural, and ethical implications of adult stem cells.

St. Albert’s Day exhibits display HSD student research findings

St. Albert is the patron saint of research, and research forms the cornerstone of the two-day annual St. Albert’s celebration at Stritch School of Medicine. The celebration opens with a blessing, followed by the Junior and Senior Scientists of the Year awards presentations. Over the course of the two days, medical students and graduate students in the Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing have the chance to set up posters and present research findings to fellow students, faculty, staff, and other invited guests.

STAR Program: Student Training in Approaches to Research

The Student Training in Approaches to Research (STAR) Program is an eight-week, research education program. Participants are fully engaged in research with the guidance of a research mentor of their choice. Most students who enter the STAR program elect to continue their research involvement through the Research Honors program. Participation in the STAR program is a prerequisite to enrollment in the Research Honors Program. Most STAR participants are funded as STAR Scholars through a competitive award system.

Above: The Center for Translational Research and Education is shown in an architectural rendering, seen from the east with the Stritch School of Medicine immediately behind it.

Right: The state-of-the-art building is purposely designed to foster collaboration and flexible to meet changing needs.
Public school outreach
Loyola University Chicago Health Sciences Division enjoys a deep and growing involvement with Proviso Township High School District 209 and School District 89 Maywood-Melrose Park-Broadview, all located near the Health Sciences Campus. Students and professors from HSD medical, nursing, and graduate schools are mentoring, tutoring, and inspiring Proviso students for future careers in health care and health sciences research.

Community health fair
In an interdisciplinary program to improve the health of the community, hundreds of people attended a health fair and flu shot clinic last fall at Cristo Rey High School on Chicago’s West Side. The event was hosted by Loyola University Chicago nursing, dietetics, exercise science, medical, and health systems management students.

The theme was green health, which focused on healthy eating through farmer’s markets and local community gardens. Other topics included exercise, air quality, how to dispose of medication, water quality, lead in the home and allergens.

This event provided students an opportunity to collaborate with the community to begin to understand the unique needs of their future patients.

International Service Immersion Program
Serving the underserved is a hallmark of the medical education experience at Loyola’s Stritch School of Medicine. The International Service Immersion (ISI) program places students in urban and rural settings around the globe where they, along with other health care providers, deliver care to those most in need.

Annual Day of Service
Each year, Stritch School of Medicine participates in Loyola University Chicago’s Day of Service. The Day of Service traditionally falls at the end of first-year orientation, making it an ideal time for new students to get to know each other and their new community. On Saturday, August 4, the medical students gardened, painted, and cleaned at various sites such as Maywood Fine Arts, the ENRICH Natural Learning Center community garden, St. Eulalia Church, Walther Lutheran High School, and local parks.