

# Summary of the Letter of Intent for a New Doctor of Medicine (MD) Program





This is an overview of Toronto Metropolitan University's (TMU) Letter of Intent to create a **Doctor of Medicine (MD) program**, which is the first step in the development of a new degree program at TMU.

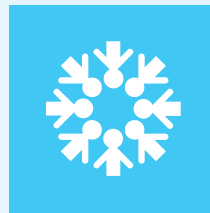
## Overview and Background

In March 2021, the Government of Ontario announced its financial support to Toronto Metropolitan University in the planning for a proposal for a new institute of medical education in Brampton. The City of Brampton matched this support in July 2021. In March 2022, the Government of Ontario confirmed its support for the school, announcing that it will invest in 80 medical school seats for undergraduate students and 95 postgraduate seats.

TMU has a proven track record of excellence in education and research across many dimensions of health care. The proposed School of Medicine will be an agent of change in preparing future-ready physicians, impacting care delivery at the community level, and focusing on the social factors (such as race, income and housing) that determine health and wellbeing. It will provide a new approach to medical education that is community-driven and intentionally inclusive.



### The School of Medicine is committed to the following core principles:



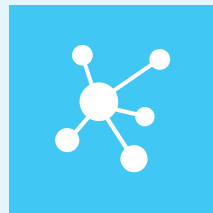
Focus on community-centered primary care and the social factors that determine health and wellbeing



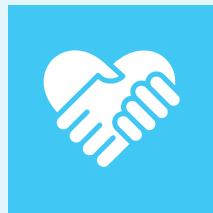
Provide more culturally respectful and sensitive care to a broad range of communities



Use technology to identify and address health issues sooner and more effectively



Equip future doctors to work in an array of healthcare settings and networks that promote better patient outcomes



Support our aging population as it grows

## School of Medicine Vision, Mission and Values

### VISION:

A healthier society, together.

### MISSION:

The School of Medicine is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities across Ontario and Canada, with a focus on the primary care needs of diverse and medically underserved populations, through community-engaged education, scholarship and service. We are committed to educating students to become compassionate, respectful, and future-ready clinicians who provide outstanding holistic health care and who lead in health system transformation. We strive for equity in all that we do. We commit to Truth, Reconciliation, anti-racism and justice to achieve inclusion and optimal health for all.

### VALUES:

Seven values will guide the attitudes and actions of the School of Medicine's students, faculty, and staff:

- health equity;
- community engagement;
- Reconciliation and Indigenous Health;
- equity, diversity, and inclusion and mutual respect;
- well-being;
- integrity; and
- leadership.



## Societal Need

Brampton is one of Canada's most culturally diverse and fastest-growing cities. In spite of this dynamism, its residents experience significant challenges with access to appropriate, high-quality primary care. This is reflected in similar communities across Ontario and Canada.

To train a new kind of physician who is ready to address current and anticipated societal needs, the proposed MD program needs to be situated in a region, such as Brampton, that is reflective of these urgent needs.

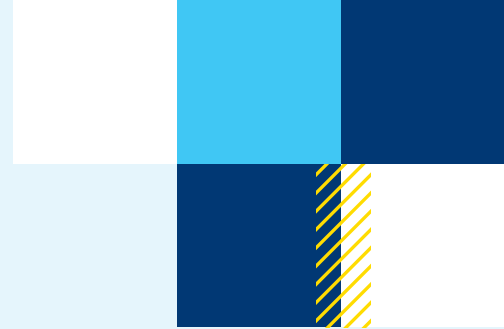
## MD Program, Curriculum and Student Learning Outcomes

The proposed MD program responds to trends in medical education and builds on the latest concepts in learning sciences and educational technologies. The curriculum will be purposefully developed, community informed and evidence-based, rooted in principles of community-driven care, cultural respect and safety, and social accountability, with equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI), Reconciliation and health equity intentionally embedded across all aspects of the program.

The modes of delivery will include: large and small group learning; online learning; laboratory experiences; self-directed learning; case-based and team-based learning; simulations; experiential learning; scaffolded reflection; and clinical skills training in community and hospital settings.

The learning outcomes of the MD program will address TMU's Degree Level Expectations and align with the CanMEDS Framework, which identifies the key competencies physicians need in order to meet the healthcare needs of the patients they serve.





## Admissions

The proposed MD program will use a distinctive holistic admissions process in which principles of anti-racism, accessibility, EDI and Reconciliation are embedded throughout. It will be designed to purposefully admit equity-deserving students and to identify and select applicants who are interested in primary care practice, particularly in medically underserved communities. Some key features include:

- Admission will be based on academic performance, progress towards an undergraduate degree in any discipline, and academic, extracurricular and professional experience.
- The MCAT will not be required.
- An Indigenous admissions stream will be established to address the underrepresentation of Indigenous students in medical education. An Indigenous Admissions Advisory Committee will support, guide and inform this process. The program will also explore the development of other admissions streams, and pathways recognizing the value and skill set of internationally-trained health care professionals.

## Interprofessional Community Clinic

To train students in interprofessional care and practice, the proposed School of Medicine is exploring the creation of an Interprofessional Community Clinic in Brampton that would provide comprehensive healthcare and clinical services for the community and a community-based experiential learning environment for students. The proposed clinic would provide mentoring and teaching to students in interprofessional collaborative clinical care and leverage health technologies and innovation. The proposed clinic would also foster opportunities for employment, residency training and certification of international medical graduates.

## Resources

It is anticipated that the MD program and School of Medicine will be located in Brampton in a new, state-of-the-art facility designed with the needs of students, faculty and the Brampton community in mind. In planning for this space, TMU will go beyond the minimum Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act requirements and ensure the space reflects the institution's commitment to EDI and Reconciliation.

## Next Steps

TMU's School of Medicine planning committee continues to move forward in this multi-year process and is regularly in consultation with the province, the Ontario Ministry of Health, and community members in Brampton and surrounding areas.