

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA
SANFORD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

CHAIR OF FAMILY MEDICINE

LEADERSHIP PROFILE



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH DAKOTA
SANFORD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Together in teaching, innovation and compassion



THE OPPORTUNITY

The University of South Dakota (USD) Sanford School of Medicine (SSOM) announces a nationwide search for an accomplished family medicine physician to serve as the next

Chair of Family Medicine.

This position reports directly to the Dean of the Sanford School of Medicine and Vice President for Health Affairs at the University of South Dakota, Tim Ridgway, M.D., MACP, FASGE.

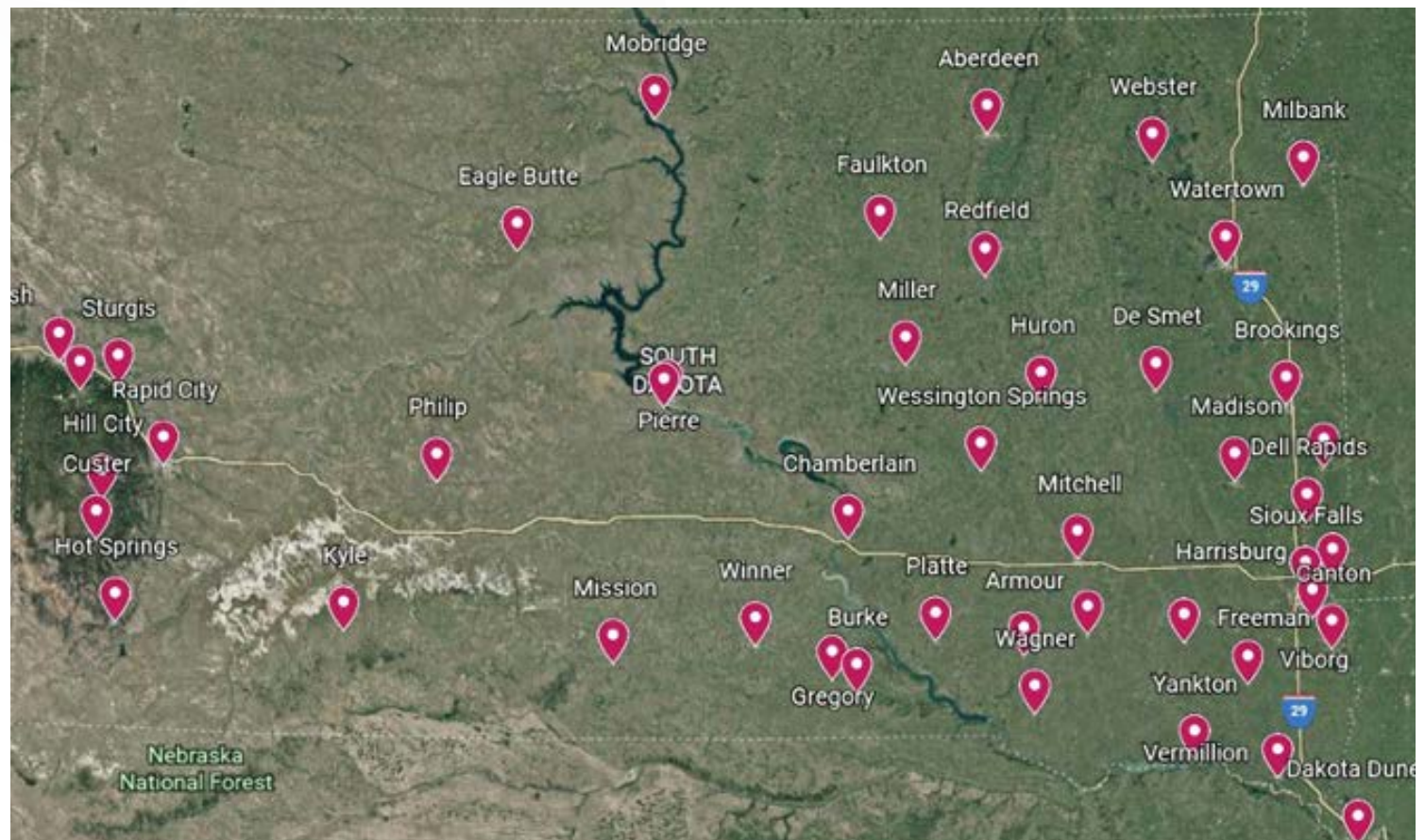


THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE

The **Department of Family Medicine** consists of **440 total faculty**. Of these faculty, 380 are clinical, 48 are academic, 10 emeriti, and two are adjunct faculty. Additionally, there are 57 faculty members with cross appointments in Family Medicine. In addition to the primary family medicine faculty, the department includes a Division of Emergency Medicine.

The vision of the department is to improve the health of the people of South Dakota and beyond through leadership in family medicine education, clinical practice, research, and community service. The mission of the department is to provide high quality education in family medicine, further the scholarship of the discipline, serve the patients in the community, advance the mission of the School of Medicine, and support the university.

The medical school is fortunate to have faculty across the entire state which brings a wide range of educational and training settings for students and residents to learn optimal care of different patient populations. In total, USD family medicine faculty provide care for patients in more than **44 communities** including at three primary campus locations (Sioux Falls, Yankton and Rapid City), as well as FARM program and rural preceptor sites across the state. Health care partners at the Sioux Falls campus include Sanford Health, Avera Health, VA Sioux Falls Health Care and several community-based clinics including the resident-led Center for Family Medicine and Falls Community Health which serve unique, underserved populations. The Yankton campus offers medical students a unique opportunity to learn primary care through a longitudinal integrated curriculum that follows patients through both inpatient and outpatient health care



journeys at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Avera Medical Group clinics, the Yankton Medical Clinic, and the Lewis and Clark Behavioral Unit. The Rapid City campus offers training at Monument Health and other health care partners that serve the Black Hills communities including Rapid City Medical Center, Dakota Primary Care, Project Recovery, Creekside Medical Clinic and the Black Hills Urgent Care Center. Rotation opportunities exist at all partnering sites and include innovative medical education experiences for veterans and other underserved populations at the VA Hospital, a correctional facility, a Hutterite colony, and Native American health care facilities, among others. These opportunities are highlighted in the department's cultural immersion program.

The Department of Family Medicine houses the [South Dakota Area Health Education Center \(SD AHEC\)](#) which has centers in Yankton, Aberdeen and Rapid City. This grant-funded program connects students to careers, professionals to communities, and improves community health in rural areas. The research and clinical programs of the department have a strong focus on social determinants of health, public health, cultural sensitivity, and improving the overall health of South Dakota. Specifically, the Center for Rural Health Improvement has over \$3.1 million in grants to support efforts to improve health and wellness across the state.



One other innovative way the department meets its mission to train South Dakota's rural physicians is through the [Frontier And Rural Medicine \(FARM\) program](#) which integrates medical students in rural areas to gain experience and perspective on practicing in smaller communities. A high percentage of these students match into family medicine residency after completing the FARM program.

In addition to rural medical school training, the department helps support three distinct **family medicine residency programs** located in [Sioux Falls](#), [Rapid City](#) and [Pierre](#). The Sioux Falls residency program is sponsored jointly by Avera McKennan and Sanford Health Hospitals with a combined total of 900 nearby hospital beds and a wide range of primary and subspecialty care. The fully accredited program accepts nine residents per year. To grow a pipeline of care for the increasingly populated Black Hills area, the Rapid City residency program will transition from accepting six residents per year to eight residents per year in 2027. Residents in this program train with doctors at Monument Health Hospital and its affiliated partners in Rapid City, South Dakota. The Pierre Rural Family Medicine residency program is based in the state's capital city with a community of 14,000 residents. This program is designed to prepare residents for the unique practice environment present in smaller communities. Additionally, the department sponsors a one-year geriatrics fellowship program accredited for four fellows.



Educational Goals

1. To introduce medical students to the discipline and specialty of family medicine and to family physicians.
2. To provide quality, affiliated family medicine residency programs, which prepare graduates for practice in both rural and urban settings.
3. To provide excellent teachers, mentors, role models and advisors for our students and residents.
4. To promote family medicine as a career choice for students and provide support and appropriate counseling in this regard.
5. To demonstrate the importance of continuing, comprehensive and coordinated patient care.
6. To emphasize the biopsychosocial model of health care.
7. To provide students with personal experience in the practice of rural medicine.
8. To teach key concepts in preventive medicine, emergency medicine, geriatrics, nutrition, professionalism and ethics.



Courses, Clerkships and Electives

Pillar 1

- Clinical Foundations of Medicine

Pillar 2

- Family Medicine Preceptorship
- Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship (LIC)
- Frontier And Rural Medicine (FARM)
- Cultural Immersion
- OSCE (Objective Structured Clinical Examination)

Pillar 3

- Emergency Medicine
- Rural Family Medicine
- Family Medicine Sub-Internship (Sub-I)
- Electives
 - Health care for Underserved
 - Sports Medicine
 - Research in Family Medicine I and II
 - Focus on Family Medicine
 - Telemedicine
 - Native American Health care
 - Chronic Pain and Drug Dependent
 - Health Policy and Physician Leadership
 - One Health
 - Critical Approach to Health Equity
 - Geriatrics in Primary Care
 - Asniya: Med & Native American Youth
 - Clinical Applications: Point of Care Ultrasound
 - Rural Health and the Inter-Professional Collaborative (REHPS)

Mission

Our mission is to provide high quality education in family medicine, further the scholarship of our discipline, serve the patients of our community, advance the mission of our School of Medicine and support our university.

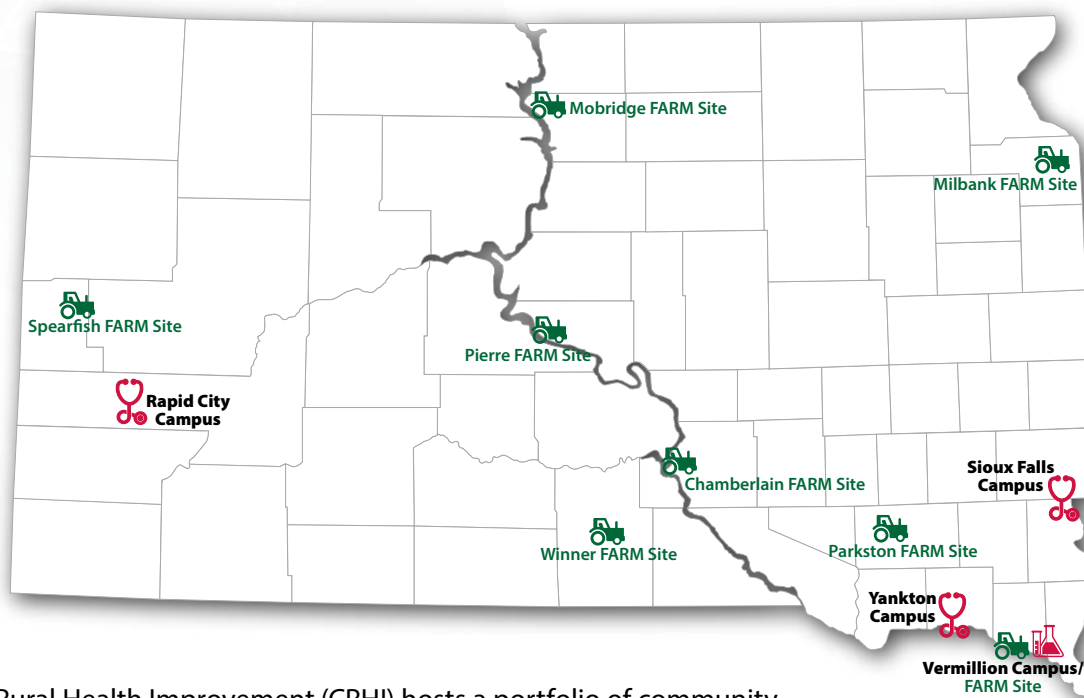
Vision

The vision of the USD Sanford School of Medicine Department of Family Medicine is to improve the health of the people of South Dakota and beyond through leadership in family medicine education, clinical practice, research and community service.

Department Highlights

FARM

Frontier And Rural Medicine (FARM), our rural track training program, is a unique opportunity for a select group of third year (Pillar 2) medical students to complete 10 months of their clinical training in a rural South Dakota community. While at their clinical sites, students experience the full spectrum of rural living and providing rural medicine. They work with the health care team to provide supervised care, following patients and their families over time in clinic, hospital and extended care settings. Students engage with their communities outside of the health care setting by creating community projects aimed at benefiting the community at large and participating in volunteer activities within the community.



CRHI

The Center for Rural Health Improvement (CRHI) hosts a portfolio of community facing and internal projects based on social determinants of health. CRHI takes a social location perspective (e.g., race, class, gender, disability, and rurality) in addressing community needs to improve health and wellness outcomes. The team does this through supporting the development of new programs through grant writing/management, evaluation of programmatic efforts, providing technical assistance, project management, and performing academic and applied research that contributes to knowledge in this area.

AHEC

The South Dakota Area Health Education Center (AHEC) connects students to careers in health care, health care professionals to communities and communities to better health. SD AHEC fosters a continuum of interdisciplinary health professions education focusing on the health care needs of the most underserved in our state. This is accomplished through academic-community partnerships in collaboration with state agencies and organizations to improve the supply and distribution of a quality health care workforce

HOSA

HOSA: Future Health Professionals is a student organization whose curriculum is aligned with Career Tech Education standards. SD HOSA's focus is to recruit students into the health care pathway. Through local and state chapters, South Dakota HOSA provides education activities and procedures encompassing health care careers and topics for students in a multiple number of courses. Currently, there are 250,000 members nationwide. South Dakota was the first state to host a collegiate chapter which means that a student's HOSA journey to health care careers does not end when they graduate high school.

Three Distinct Family Medicine Residencies

- 1. Sioux Falls** (SFFMR) – The program is sponsored by USD, Avera, and Sanford Health and accepts 9 residents per year. Of the program's 350 graduates, 75% practice in South Dakota. The program offers special programs in obstetrics, procedures, underserved care, and mental health training.
- 2. Pierre** – This program is a rural health care leader and accepts two residents per year. The Pierre Rural Family Medicine Residency program was born out of the Governor's Primary Care Task Force Committee in 2012. We train excellent family medicine physicians in rural medicine by serving Pierre and the surrounding rural communities with patient-centered, evidence-based medical care.
- 3. Rapid City** – Sponsored by Monument Health, this program is expanding from six to eight residents per year over the next two years. Of the 148 program graduates, 61% practice in South Dakota. The Rapid City Hospital Family Medicine Residency program is committed to training full spectrum, comprehensive medical care in all settings with a special focus on rural and frontier communities. Residents have a robust obstetric experience, a busy inpatient service, and a large, established outpatient clinic in an underserved area of Rapid City, with a special focus on understanding social determinants of health and mitigating health care disparities in our patients' care.



THE POSITION

The Chair of the Department of Family Medicine for the [University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine](#) (SSOM) will be a respected board-certified academic family physician with leadership experience in a medical school or similar environment. This individual will have demonstrated abilities as a leader, educator, clinician and scholar. The chair is expected to work effectively and collegially with colleagues in the community and throughout the state, advancing the mission of the department in both rural and urban areas. SSOM is a community-based medical school with a tradition of excellence and is highly ranked in family and rural medicine.

Required Qualifications:

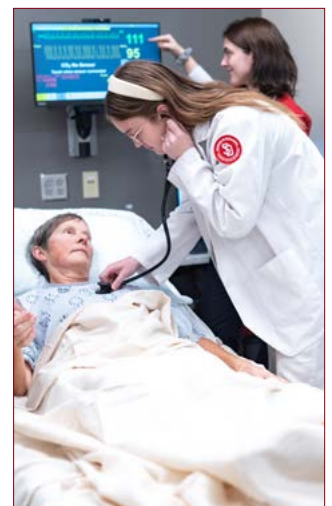
- Board Certified Medical Doctorate or Doctor of Osteopathy
- Minimum of eight years of clinical experience
- Nationally or regionally recognized achievement in clinical, educational, and/or scholarly pursuits that would warrant an academic appointment at an advanced rank at USD
- Able to work collaboratively with academic and clinical faculty
- Familiar with Area Health Education Centers (AHEC)
- Commitment to holistic care of patients from every background
- Commitment to rural and urban primary care, and to inter-professional education
- Able to obtain a medical license and hospital privileges to practice in South Dakota

Preferred Qualifications:

- Ability to collaborate with state of South Dakota, tribal nations, community providers, cities, and other educational institutions;
- Ability to interact and promote health care education to community professionals and leaders;
- Ability to be an effective spokesperson for the school and the university;
- Actively engaged in or willingness to participate in development, alumni relations and philanthropic activities;
- Ability to be a positive, supportive role model for students, faculty and staff, modeling exemplary ethical and professional behavior;
- Ability to foster interdisciplinary teamwork, delegate authority and ensure accountability.

Personal Qualities:

- High degree of personal integrity and credibility
- Mission oriented professional
- A team player with skill in collaboration, communication and mentorship
- Ability to inspire and mentor students



RESPONSIBILITIES

Academic/Teaching

- Develop an understanding of how the SSOM works to assist the department in advancing its strategic mission and vision
- Recruit, retain, and develop talented faculty whose passion is family and rural medicine
- Advocate for the SSOM and its mission and goals
- Regularly participate in SSOM leadership meetings
- Work closely with the Associate Dean of Rural Health to support the FARM program, and to assist in promoting rural health care
- Advise the dean on policy development/ implementation and methods/actions to achieve the mission and goals of SSOM
- Document the degree of attainment of the department's academic goals
- Assure departmental curricular development in conjunction with SSOM's curriculum reform endeavors
- Recruit, mentor and develop academic and clinical faculty from across the state to ensure the highest possible academic learning experiences for the students and residents
- Assure departmental continuing professional development activities in education, scholarly activities, service, and community engagement
- Communicate to academic and clinical faculty at all campuses to include regularly scheduled on-site visits to each campus
- Assure the quality/effectiveness of medical student education on all campuses in family medicine
- Foster relationships with specialty experts to ensure student participation in the entire patient care process
- Oversee communication to medical students and faculty at all campuses including:
 - The educational goals and objectives
 - The learner and program assessment methods
 - The process and methods for medical student evaluation of the program and their instructors
- Perform annual evaluations:
 - Conduct annual faculty and staff evaluations in a timely manner
 - Assure timely evaluation and reporting of student/resident achievement
 - Monitor and counsel students/residents in both their academic and career goals
 - Intervene as needed to remedy inadequate faculty or student performance
- Work with the directors of the affiliated Sioux Falls, Pierre and Rapid City Family Medicine Residency Programs and their sponsoring institutions to ensure the programs are fully accredited and of high quality
- Assume leadership of the AHEC program, responsible for renewals, outcomes, and progress reports (negotiable)
- Provide leadership and oversight of the Center for Rural Health Improvement (CRHI)
- Oversee Relationships and Engagement portion of the school's strategic plan



Research

- Advance the academic mission including enhancing externally funded research, publications and presentations
- Encourage and facilitate student/resident involvement in research
- Assist faculty in obtaining funding and collaborators for research activities

Clinical

- The chair may have a clinical practice which will allow for visibility and an intimate understanding of the clinical environment
- The structure of the clinical practice is negotiable



Toward the Future – Strategic Priorities for the Chair, Family Medicine

- It will be vital for the chair to continue to advance Family Medicine as a specialty.
- The Frontier and Rural Medicine (FARM) program is a vital pipeline for primary care providers in rural areas of our state, and enhancing the initiative is key to our future.
- Developing and understanding the diverse health care needs in populated, rural, and tribal nations across South Dakota will be a principal goal of the department.
- As a family medicine leader in the state, the Chair will work with local, state and federal agencies to secure a healthier future for South Dakotans.
- Strategic planning for educational excellence is a key priority for LCME reaccreditation visits which are scheduled for 2025.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA SANFORD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

School History

More Than a Century of Service

[The Sanford School of Medicine \(SSOM\)](#) has provided high quality medical education and served as the only school of medicine in the state of South Dakota since 1907. The SSOM strives for excellence in education, research and service. The [2023-2024 Data Reference card](#) highlights the current enrollment of the medical school as well as the economic impacts the school has on the state and region.



Humble Beginnings

Beginning as a two-year medical program with two students enrolled, the following year saw enrollment grow to four first-year and seven second-year students. The first dean, Christian Peter Lommen, began a long tradition of dedicated, public-spirited medical school deans. By 1925, the class size was stable at 20 students and the school was recognized as one of the finest two-year medical institutions in the nation. The school continued to grow and in 1955, the class size increased to 40 students.

Program Expansion

By the late 1960s, with a physician shortage in the state, South Dakotans began to question if a four-year medical program would better serve its citizens. Thus, medical school advocates proposed expanding the school to a four-year, degree-granting institution. A campaign to accomplish that was led by Medical School Dean Dr. Karl Wegner and State Senator Harvey Wollman and in 1974, the state legislature and Governor Richard Kneip endorsed the four-year program.



The new four-year institution used a “school without walls” approach, an innovative concept that utilized existing hospitals and clinics as classrooms for third and fourth-year students. Practicing physicians complemented full-time, academic faculty. The school’s first four-year graduates - 39 in all - received their M.D. degrees in May 1977.

Research Emphasis

Research at the medical school assumed new importance in the 1990s and funded research grew from \$5.3 million in 1996 to \$16 million by 2019. A focus on research for faculty and students continued to flourish, and, in 2006, the school launched an M.D./Ph.D. program to train future physician scientists. In addition to USD research, faculty at all our institutional partners add to the scholarly environment. Students, residents and faculty have opportunities to participate in basic, translational, clinical and population health work, as well as quality improvement and advocacy.

Contemporary Medical Education

Today's medical school – renamed in 2006 as the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine – includes diverse training experiences across several campuses. In Pillar 1, students participate in foundational biomedical sciences in parallel with foundational clinical sciences over the course of the first 18 months. The clinical foundation courses are integrated with two medical foundations courses and eight organ system courses. Much of this foundational training occurs on the main USD campus in Vermillion, South Dakota with additional early clinical exposure, active learning, case-based small groups, and high-fidelity simulation training at the state-of-the-art Parry Center for Skills & Simulation on the USD SSOM Sioux Falls campus. In Pillar 2, students participate in seven core clerkships through longitudinal integrated ambulatory experiences interleaved with hospital-based education, formal didactics and a focused rural family medicine block experience. Most students complete this training at one of three clinical campuses – Rapid City, Sioux Falls or Yankton. Selected students voluntarily participate in the FARM (Frontier And Rural Medicine) program, in which they serve nine months in a rural South Dakota community. In Pillar 3, students complete selected required rotations including two surgery sub-specialty experiences, an emergency medicine rotation, and an acting internship (sub-internship). Students also participate in a capstone rural family medicine experience during this phase of the curriculum. The remainder of this time provides flexibility to pursue elective rotations, research, away rotations, and global health experiences. Students can also select from a variety of courses on medical ethics, medical humanities, and health policy. A transition to residency course and a professional development course serves as the final requirements in the M.D. program.

With its innovative focus on training holistic physicians that care for patients in all communities, the school has been acknowledged as the nation's top provider of rural physicians. Despite its community-based focus, USD SSOM also successfully trains academic physician scientists through a combined seven-year M.D./Ph.D. program. Alternatively, students can supplement their medical training with courses and experiences that focus on improving population health through an M.D./MPH Track. USD SSOM offers diverse and personalized training opportunities to support nearly every career path in medicine.

Throughout its history, the medical school has distinguished itself as a leader in medical education, rural medicine, research and innovation. This tradition of excellence continues, creating a vibrant, modern institution.



Vision Statement

The University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine will be a leader in educating students who with knowledge, skill, and compassion dedicate their lives to the well-being of their patients, their community, and their profession.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine is to provide the opportunity for South Dakota residents to receive a quality, broad-based medical education with an emphasis on family medicine. The curriculum is to be established to encourage graduates to serve people living in the medically underserved areas of South Dakota and is to require excellence in the basic sciences and in all clinical disciplines. The University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine provides its students and the people of South Dakota with excellence in education, research and service. To these ends, the school is to provide educational pathways leading to both the Doctor of Medicine and the Doctor of Philosophy degrees. Quality health care for the people of South Dakota is addressed by undergraduate, graduate and continuing educational programs as well as by basic and applied medical research. The School of Medicine should serve as a technical resource in the development of health care policy in the state and provide extension and research initiatives to improve the health care of the citizens of the state.

Diversity Statement

The University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine is committed to fostering a dynamic and welcoming working and learning environment for all. USD SSOM provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to ideological, political, or sectarian opinions or perspectives; or race, color, creed, religion, sex, ancestry, disability, national origin or any other factor protected by applicable federal, state, or local laws. USD SSOM is committed to the principles of free expression and encourages the timely and rational discussion of topics in an environment that is intellectually and ideologically diverse.

Together in teaching, innovation and compassion

The Sanford School of Medicine's adopted inspirational statement exemplifies the sentiments that permeate the school and its people.

TOGETHER: Working together, we can accomplish tremendous things.

TEACHING: The school of medicine has produced outstanding physicians and scientists who have made significant contributions in local, national and international arenas. Teaching is the foundation of our school.

INNOVATION: Our faculty, staff, residents, and students are dedicated to discovery and innovation. This dedication leads to a greater understanding of illnesses that impact our communities and ultimately to new therapeutic approaches.

COMPASSION: Health care is in need of compassionate practitioners. Kindness is what we are known for, and I believe kindness is a vital component of compassion.

SSOM Dean, Dr. Tim Ridgway

Dr. Tim Ridgway is the 15th dean of the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine and the vice president for Health Affairs. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Augustana University and Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of South Dakota School of Medicine. After doing a transitional residency at McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, he completed his internal medicine residency and gastroenterology fellowship at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine in Rochester, Minnesota. Dr. Ridgway is a Fellow of the American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, a Master of the American College of Physicians and has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the SDSMA Presidential Award, the USD Sanford School of Medicine Distinguished Alumnus Award, the Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award, the Augustana Alumni Achievement Award and the Teacher of the Year Award by the American College of Physicians. His service highlights include serving as president of the South Dakota State Medical Association and councilor of the Alpha Omega Alpha-South Dakota chapter. In 2015 he was named the Dr. Charley F. and Elizabeth Gutch Chair in Medicine. He has been a faculty member of the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine since 1997.



SSOM Links

[STRATEGIC PLAN – SANFORD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE](#)

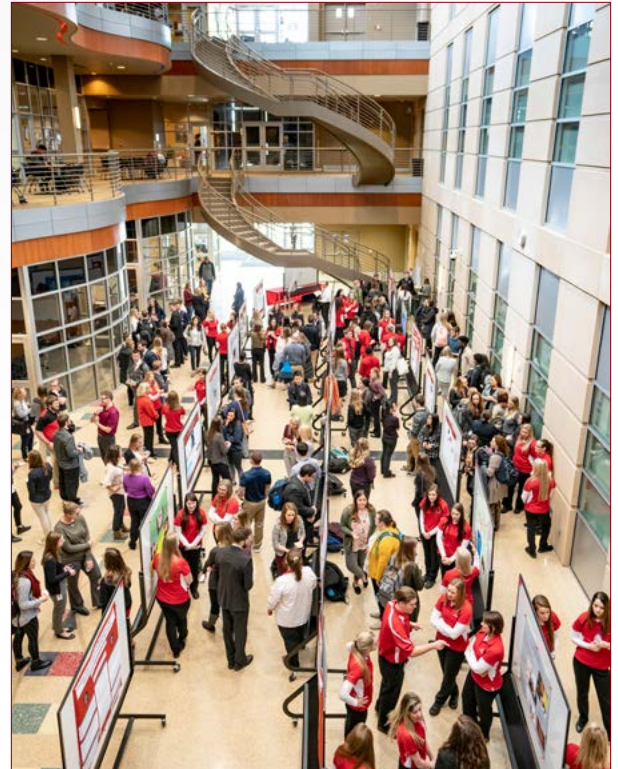
**[SANFORD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE ACCREDITATION
\(LIAISON COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL EDUCATION – LCME\)](#)**

[NEWS – SOUTH DAKOTAN MD](#)

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

The Sanford School of Medicine is a part of the **USD Division of Health Affairs**, which also oversees the [School of Health Sciences](#).

The university's School of Health Sciences has a profound economic impact with over 2,000 students majoring in undergraduate and graduate health sciences programs in the following departments: Addiction Counseling & Prevention, Dental Hygiene, Medical Laboratory Science, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Physician Assistant Studies, Physical Therapy, Public Health & Health Sciences, and Social Work. Last year, over 500 students graduated with degrees from the School of Health Sciences. Additionally, the school has two centers: the Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment (CPCM), and the Interprofessional Health Education Center (IHEC). Students at USD SSOM interact with a wide array of multidisciplinary health care providers to assure they learn modern, holistic approaches to care.



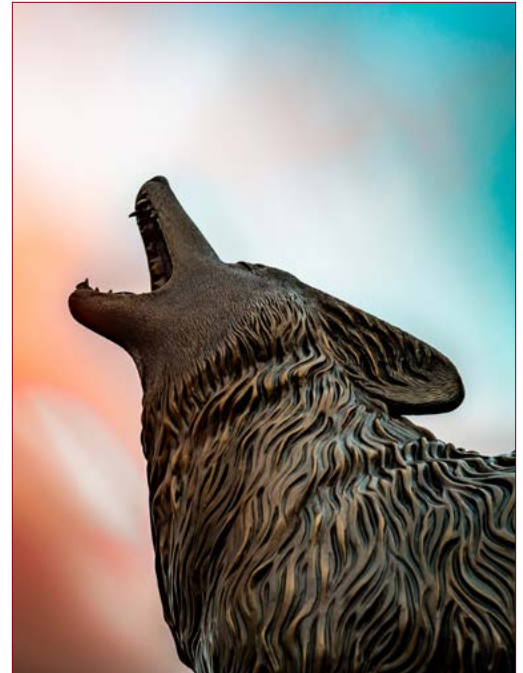
Committed to academic excellence, the University of South Dakota School of Health Sciences provides low student-to-faculty ratios and real-world settings beyond the classroom that lead to student success. This is proven as students routinely exceed the national average on their board certification exams.



THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA

The [University of South Dakota](#), the first public university established in the Dakota Territory and the flagship university within the South Dakota system of higher education, highly values excellence in teaching and learning, advancement of knowledge, public service, freedom of thought and expression, and personal responsibility and development. USD provides a strong liberal arts education and an array of regionally and nationally recognized professional and graduate programs. Undergraduate programs provide a solid foundation for entry-level careers and for graduate and professional degrees at USD or other institutions of higher education. Graduate and professional programs at USD prepare students to contribute to their disciplines and professions as well as to their communities through scholarship, leadership and service.

The university provides students an intellectually stimulating educational experience, in and out of the classroom, within a supportive and diverse community of active learners. The students' academic and personal growth is assured through an innovative curriculum that integrates excellence in teaching with research and service. At USD, students are inspired to become lifelong learners who will make significant contributions through leadership and service as citizens of the state, the nation, and the world. USD relies on strategic planning, program review, and assessment activities to refine its vision and measure its success in achieving its goal to be the best small, public flagship university in the nation built upon a liberal arts foundation.



USD Facts

- Founded in 1862 in Vermillion, South Dakota
- Campus locations in Vermillion and Sioux Falls
- 15:1 student-faculty ratio
- [Sheila K. Gestring](#), president since 2018 ►



USD Enrollment (Fall 2023)

- Total Enrollment: 9,868
- Undergraduate: 6,829
- Graduate: 2,260
- Medicine: 266
- Law: 513
- More than 70,000 alumni



Campus & Community

USD is located on an attractive 274-acre campus in Vermillion, a small community nestled along the bluffs above the Missouri River in the southeast corner of South Dakota. Vermillion serves as a safe, welcoming host for the university and recreational and cultural opportunities abound in town, the nearby countryside and in neighboring communities.

Faculty

- Total USD Faculty (not including SSOM): 431
- With Highest Degree in Field: 75.2%
- Student-Faculty Ratio: 15:1

Finances

- The university: \$147.7 million
- Medical School: \$54.6 million



Statistical Highlights: [Annual Fall Stat Highlights - Institutional Research](#)

History

When the first Legislature of the Dakota Territory met in 1862, it authorized the establishment of the University at Vermillion, making it the oldest postsecondary institution in the Dakotas. The authorization was unfunded, however, and classes did not begin until 20 years later under the auspices of the privately incorporated University of Dakota, created with great support from the citizens of Clay County. Ephraim Epstein served as the first president and primary faculty member in the institution that opened in loaned space in downtown Vermillion. Before 1883 ended, the university had moved into Old Main, and the first public board was appointed to govern the fledgling institution.

Enrollment increased to 69 students by the end of 1883, and, by the time South Dakota became the 40th state in 1889, USD boasted an enrollment of 500 students. USD's first academic unit, the College of Arts & Sciences, was established in 1883.

The School of Law began offering classes in 1901; the School of Medicine in 1907; Continuing Education in 1916; the graduate school in 1927; and the College of Fine Arts in 1931.

Today, USD is one of six public institutions governed by the South Dakota Board of Regents, a nine-member board appointed by the governor.

Institutional Accreditation

USD has been continuously accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools since 1913.

Institutional accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) provides assurance to prospective students, parents and others that an institution of higher education meets the agency's clearly stated requirements and criteria. Institutional accreditation is the standard against which colleges and universities are evaluated as a whole for the quality of their education activities. The HLC is an independent organization founded in 1895 as one of six regional institutional accreditors in the United States. The University of South Dakota has been accredited by the HLC since 1913.

Institutional accreditation is an ongoing process consisting of the Assurance Review, the Quality Initiative, and the Comprehensive Evaluation. Please visit the Higher Learning Commission website for more information on the institutional accreditation process.



[USD Links](#)

[USD STRATEGIC PLAN](#)

[USD NEWS](#)

APPLICATION AND NOMINATION PROCESS

The University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine seeks qualified candidates from all backgrounds to align with our goal to promote a rich learning environment.

The position is available with a negotiated start date as early as spring semester 2025, but not later than July 1, 2025. Befitting the importance of a search for an academic executive at this level, the University of South Dakota has retained [AGB Search](#) to assist in the recruitment of the Chair of Family Medicine.

Assisting the search committee will be AGB Search principal, Cody Futch, MBA, (cody.futch@agbsearch.com), senior executive consultant Garry W. Owens, PhD, (garry.owens@agbsearch.com), and executive search associate, Dalene White (dalene.white@agbsearch.com). Potential candidates are encouraged to initiate a conversation about this opportunity through an email contact with Mr. Futch, Dr. Owens, or Ms. White prior to submitting materials. To receive full consideration, nominations and application materials should be submitted not later than the target date of **October 10, 2024**.

Application materials must include

- 1) a letter of interest, which responds directly to items listed under *The Position*, along with addressing each of the listed *Strategic Priorities*, both of which are included within the **Leadership Profile**,
- 2) a curriculum vitae and,
- 3) the names, addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses of five references (indicate your professional relationship with each). No references will be contacted without prior permission granted by the candidate.

Please include your personal email and cell phone number. All candidate names will remain confidential, except for those individuals invited to final interviews. Application and nomination materials should be submitted electronically through the [AGB Search portal accessible via this link](#). Please direct all nominations and expressions of interest to USDFamMedChair@agbsearch.com.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA SANFORD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE CHAIR, FAMILY MEDICINE SEARCH COMMITTEE

Chair

Dr. Michelle Baack—Search Committee Chair; Chair, Pediatric department, SSOM, USD

Members

Dr. Brad Kamstra, Center for Family Medicine Family Medicine residency program director

Dr. Bobbie Schneller, Rapid City Family Medicine program director

Dr. Scott Boyens, Sanford Family Medicine Representative

Dr. Carrissa Pietz, Yankton Family Medicine Representative

Dr. Taylor Kapsch, Rapid City Family Medicine Representative

Dr. Aaron Prestbo, Avera Family Medicine Representative

Dr. Nanci Van Peurseem, Frontier and Rural Medicine (FARM) representative

Dr. Nedd Brown, Dean of Graduate Medical Education

Dr. Benjamin Aaker, Office of Medical Student Education

Sharon Myers, USD SSOM Human Resources

Jenny Wilka, Search Committee, Administrative Support

AGB SEARCH



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH DAKOTA
SANFORD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Together in teaching, innovation and compassion