



**SABA  
UNIVERSITY**  
*School of Medicine*

SABA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

# Catalog

2025-2027





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**Founded in 1992,  
Saba University School  
of Medicine has proudly  
educated 3,000+  
MD program graduates!**

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# Hippocratic Oath

Declaration of Geneva of the World Medical Association (adopted 1948, amended 1966 and 1983).

As a member of the medical profession:

I solemnly pledge myself to consecrate my life to the service of humanity;

I will give my teachers the respect and gratitude which is their due;

I will practice my profession with conscience and dignity;

The health of my patient will be my first consideration;

I will respect the secrets which are confided in me, even after the patient has died;

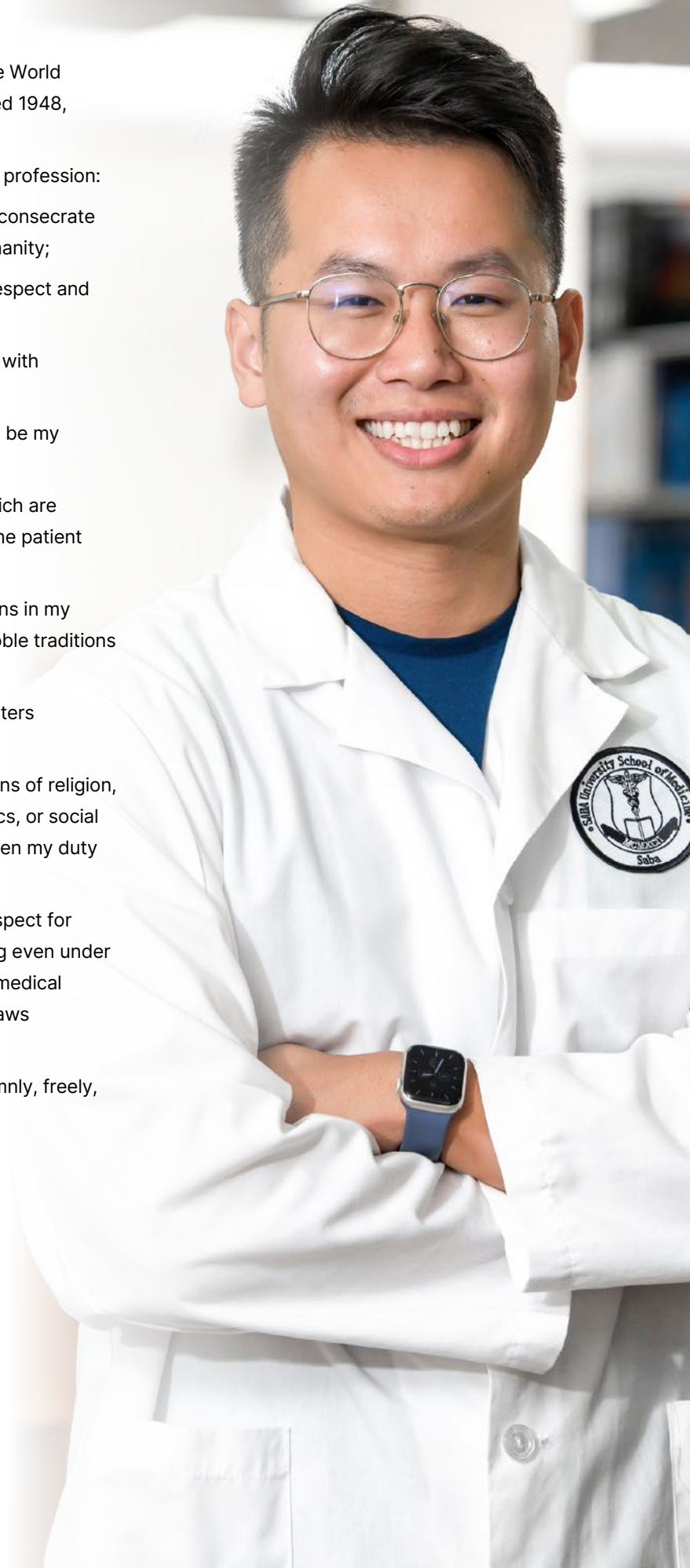
I will maintain by all the means in my power, the honor and the noble traditions of the medical profession;

My colleagues will be my sisters and brothers;

I will not permit considerations of religion, nationality, race, party politics, or social standing to intervene between my duty and my patient;

I will maintain the utmost respect for human life from its beginning even under threat and I will not use my medical knowledge contrary to the laws of humanity;

I make these promises solemnly, freely, and upon my honor.



# Welcome to Saba University School of Medicine

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## **Saba University School of Medicine (SUSOM) began operations in 1992 with a vision that has now become a reality!**

Our primary goal is to provide our students with a foundation in medical knowledge and expertise to address the health challenges pertinent to the patients, families, healthcare systems and community populations they will support. This foundational training fosters a provision of care that is considerate, compassionate, humanistic and impactful.

As a key part of our medical education curriculum, the faculty constantly reviews and assesses the program around three key concepts:

- **Ensuring that course content remains aligned with our mission and current medical education standards, and integrates foundational sciences with clinical practice.**
- **Monitoring student outcomes to support the development of clinical reasoning, professional behavior, academic achievement and long-term success.**
- **Incorporating student and faculty feedback and outcome metrics to drive ongoing curricular enhancement.**

At Saba University School of Medicine, where students are the greatest assets, we open the door to medical knowledge and together prepare them for their future roles as practicing medical doctors.

## **The Board of Trustees expresses its gratitude to the Government of Saba for its assistance in establishing Saba University School of Medicine.**

Special recognition is also given to the citizens of Saba who have continued to welcome our medical students into their community.



**Maurice Clifton, MD, MEd, MBA**  
Executive Dean  
*Saba University School of Medicine*

# Mission Statement

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**To provide students of diverse backgrounds who exhibit a passion for the field of medicine with the opportunity to acquire the medical and clinical expertise needed for successful careers as practicing clinicians, along with the skills and confidence needed to critically evaluate and apply new information.**

## Goals and Objectives

In order to fulfill its mission, the MD program is structured around certain ideals that embody our view of the essential qualities of today's practicing physician. These ideals are defined in the six competencies as summarized below:

### PATIENT CARE

Students must be able to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate and effective for the treatment of illness and the promotion of health.

### PROFESSIONALISM

Students must demonstrate a commitment to the highest standards of professional responsibility, adherence to ethical principles and sensitivity in all interactions with patients, families, colleagues and others with whom physicians must interact in their professional lives.

### SCIENTIFIC AND MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE

Students must demonstrate knowledge about established and evolving biomedical, clinical and associated sciences, and the competency to apply this knowledge to the practice of medicine throughout the life cycle.

### COMMUNICATION AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

Students must display interpersonal and communication skills that foster effective information exchange and build rapport with patients, families and professional associates.

### LIFELONG LEARNING, SCHOLARSHIP AND COLLABORATION

Students must be able to examine and evaluate their patient care practices, appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and use this information to improve their abilities.

### SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY CONTEXT OF HEALTHCARE

Students must demonstrate knowledge of and responsiveness to the larger context of healthcare, and the ability to effectively call on system resources to provide care that is of optimal value to the health of the individual and of the community.

# History and Accreditation

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Saba University School of Medicine (SUSOM) began in 1986 as a combined project between the island government of Saba and a group of medical educators from the United States. This medical consortium spent several years examining medical school curricula throughout the United States and Europe before adopting a Basic Sciences and Clinical Medicine curriculum comparable to some of the finest medical schools.

**SUSOM was approved by the federal government of the Netherlands–Antilles in 1988 and an official charter was granted in 1989. Saba University School of Medicine is listed in the World Health Organization directory.**

In 2010, the Netherlands–Antilles was dissolved, and Saba became a special municipality of the Netherlands. Following this change, SUSOM was accredited by the NVAO (in Dutch: Nederlands–Vlaamse Accreditatieorganisatie) and approved by the Netherlands Ministry of Education. The NVAO is the accreditation organization of the Netherlands and Flanders. The organization was established by international treaty and it ensures the quality of higher education in the Netherlands and Flanders.

The New York State Education Department/State Board for Medicine approved SUSOM in 2003 for clerkships and residencies within that state.

On November 5, 2004, the Medical Board of California granted recognition to Saba University School of Medicine. Graduates are eligible to apply for postgraduate training and licensure in California.

In 2006, the Board of Healing Arts of the State of Kansas granted approval for licensure to those students who entered at Saba University School of Medicine after January 1, 2002.

Saba University School of Medicine is licensed by the Commission for Independent Education, Florida Department of Education.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Commission at:

325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1414  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400  
📞 toll-free: +1 888.224.6684

# The Island of Saba

After its discovery by Europeans, the island changed hands several times between the English, French, Spanish and Dutch, but for the past two hundred years, Saba has remained a quiet, stable, Dutch island. Today, Saba is rightfully known as the **Unspoiled Queen of the Caribbean**, due to its peaceful, safe and beautiful environment.

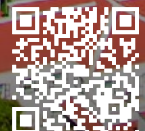
Saba is located in the central Caribbean, 28 miles south of St. Maarten. There are daily, direct flights to St. Maarten from the United States and Europe, and multiple flights a day from St. Maarten to Saba. It can also be reached from St. Maarten via a 90-minute ferry ride.

The island of Saba, which features a land area of five square miles, has a total population of approximately 2,000 residents. Tourists frequently visit Saba for its world-renowned diving, tropical rainforest and safe, relaxing environment. It is the perfect location to focus on your medical studies while benefitting from available tropical activities when it's time to unwind.





TO LEARN MORE VISIT  
THE SABA ISLAND TOURISM  
WEBSITE AT: [SABATOURISM.COM](http://SABATOURISM.COM)



# Academic Calendar for 2025-2027

## SPRING 2025

First Day of Enrollment	January 6, 2025
Orientation & Registration	January 6, 2025
Classes Begin	January 7, 2025
Graduation – no ceremony	January 10, 2025
Graduation – no ceremony	March 14, 2025
Tuition Due for Next Semester	April 1, 2025
Last Day of Classes	April 16, 2025
Basic Sciences Awards Ceremony	April 17, 2025
Reading Day and Final Exams	April 16-18, 2025

## SUMMER 2025

First Day of Enrollment	May 5, 2025
Orientation & Registration	May 5, 2025
Classes Begin	May 6, 2025
Graduation	May 23, 2025
Commencement	June 7, 2025
Tuition Due for Next Semester	August 1, 2025
Last Day of Classes	August 13, 2025
Basic Sciences Awards Ceremony	August 14, 2025
Reading Day and Final Exams	August 13-15, 2025

## FALL 2025

First Day of Enrollment	September 1, 2025
Orientation & Registration	September 1, 2025
Classes Begin	September 2, 2025
Graduation – no ceremony	September 5, 2025
Tuition Due for Next Semester	December 1, 2025
Last Day of Classes	December 10, 2025
Basic Sciences Awards Ceremony	December 11, 2025
Reading Day and Final Exams	December 10-12, 2025

## SPRING 2026

First Day of Enrollment	January 5, 2026
Orientation & Registration	January 5, 2026
Classes Begin	January 6, 2026
Graduation – no ceremony	January 9, 2026
Graduation – no ceremony	March 13, 2026
Tuition Due for Next Semester	April 1, 2026
Last Day of Classes	April 15, 2026
Basic Sciences Awards Ceremony	April 16, 2026
Reading Day and Final Exams	April 15-17, 2026

## SUMMER 2026

First Day of Enrollment	May 4, 2026
Orientation & Registration	May 4, 2026
Classes Begin	May 5, 2026
Graduation	May 22, 2026
Commencement	June 6, 2026
Tuition Due for Next Semester	August 1, 2026
Last Day of Classes	August 12, 2026
Basic Sciences Awards Ceremony	August 13, 2026
Reading Day and Final Exams	August 12-14, 2026

## FALL 2026

First Day of Enrollment	September 7, 2026
Orientation & Registration	September 7, 2026
Classes Begin	September 8, 2026
Graduation – no ceremony	September 4, 2026
Tuition Due for Next Semester	December 1, 2026
Last Day of Classes	December 16, 2026
Basic Sciences Awards Ceremony	December 17, 2026
Reading Day and Final Exams	December 16-18, 2026

**SPRING 2027**

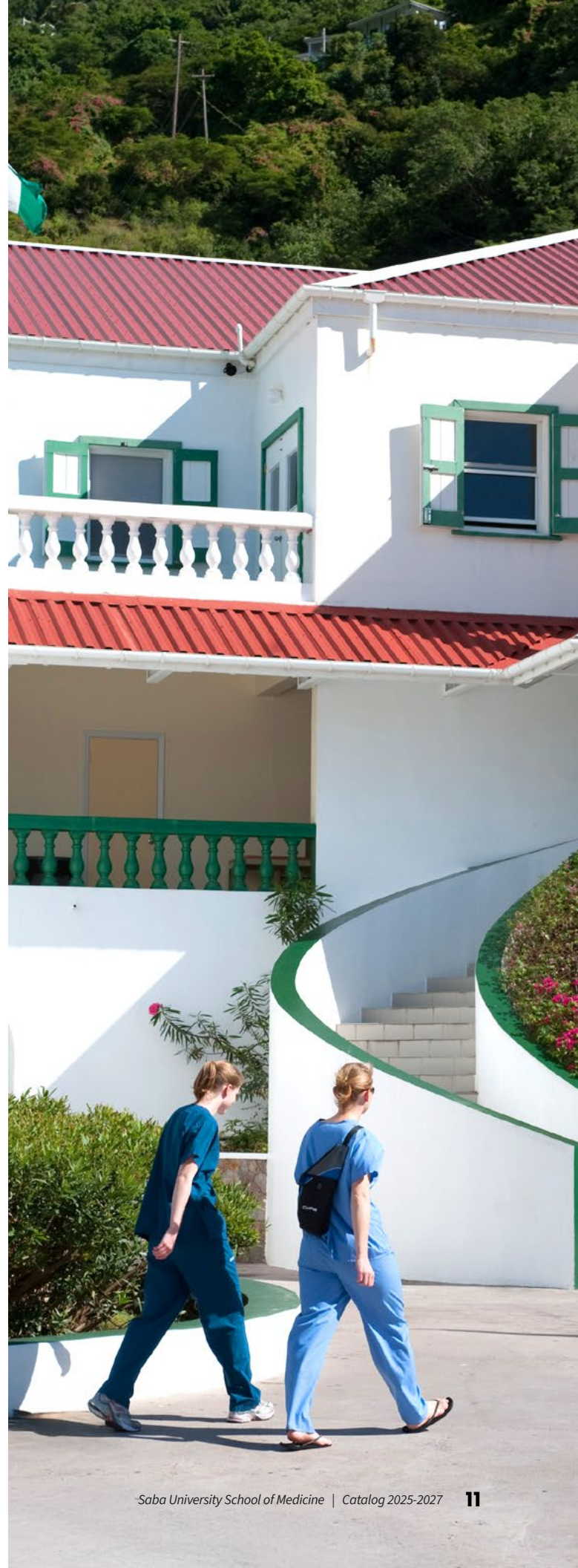
First Day of Enrollment	January 11, 2027
Orientation & Registration	January 11, 2027
Classes Begin	January 12, 2027
Graduation – no ceremony	January 8, 2027
Graduation – no ceremony	March 19, 2027
Tuition Due for Next Semester	April 1, 2027
Last Day of Classes	April 21, 2027
Basic Sciences Awards Ceremony	April 22, 2027
Reading Day and Final Exams	April 21-23, 2027

**SUMMER 2027**

First Day of Enrollment	May 10, 2027
Orientation & Registration	May 10, 2027
Classes Begin	May 11, 2027
Graduation	May 21, 2027
Commencement	June 5, 2027
Tuition Due for Next Semester	August 1, 2027
Last Day of Classes	August 18, 2027
Basic Sciences Awards Ceremony	August 19, 2027
Reading Day and Final Exams	August 18-20, 2027

**FALL 2027**

First Day of Enrollment	September 6, 2027
Orientation & Registration	September 6, 2027
Classes Begin	September 7, 2027
Graduation – no ceremony	September 3, 2027
Tuition Due for Next Semester	December 1, 2027
Last Day of Classes	December 15, 2027
Basic Sciences Awards Ceremony	December 16, 2027
Reading Day and Final Exams	December 15-17, 2027



# Admissions

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**Saba University School of Medicine (SUSOM) was established to provide a comprehensive Basic Sciences and Clinical Medicine education, leading to the successful completion of our 10-semester Doctor of Medicine (MD) program.**

Enrollment is open to all persons regardless of race, national origin, religion, gender or age who wish to devote the extensive time and effort necessary to practice medicine.

As the cost of medical education increases and training institutions limit the number of applicants, SUSOM fulfills a vital need by offering individuals throughout the world a chance to pursue their dream of becoming a practicing medical doctor.

The curriculum incorporates standards of academic and clinical instruction that parallel those of the Licensing Committee for Medical Education of the United States and the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS). All classes are taught in English by experienced medical educators from North America and abroad.

Candidates applying to SUSOM are expected to possess those intellectual, ethical and emotional capabilities required to undertake the full curriculum and achieve the levels of competence required by the faculty.

Once enrolled in the school of medicine, each candidate for the medical degree must be able to quickly and accurately integrate all information received, perform in a reasonable, independent manner, and demonstrate the ability to learn, integrate, analyze, and synthesize information and data.

A student's acceptance to SUSOM is granted upon the presumption by the Admissions Committee that all statements made by the applicant, both oral and written, are true and that all documents are authentic. If it is later discovered that false or inaccurate information was submitted, the medical school may nullify acceptance into the program or, if the student is registered, dismiss the student.

*IMPORTANT NOTICE TO NON-U.S. STUDENTS: In order to complete the program in medicine, students from outside the U.S. may need to obtain certain visas in order to undertake all or a portion of the requisite clinical training in affiliated hospitals in the U.S.. Additionally, all students from outside the U.S. will need certain visas to take one or more segments of the USMLE exams in the U.S. These visas are solely the student's responsibility to obtain. Saba University School of Medicine understands that as a result of policies or practices adopted by the U.S. State Department, a number of medical students from outside the U.S. have been unable to obtain the required visas. Students from outside the U.S. who are unable to obtain the necessary visas will not be able to complete the school's degree program. In such a case, no refund of tuition or other expenses incurred in connection with his or her attendance at Saba University School of Medicine will be made.*







## Education Requirements

Applicants are expected to have a minimum of three years of undergraduate studies or the equivalent of 90 semester hours or 135 quarter hours, including pre-medical requirements from an accredited college or university. A baccalaureate degree is recommended but not required. Preference will be given to applicants who have completed a bachelor's degree or higher. The following courses are considered standard pre-medical requirements for admission. Exceptions will be considered on an individual basis.

### PREREQUISITE COURSES

COURSE	LENGTH OF STUDY
General Biology	One academic year
General Chemistry (with Lab)	One academic year
Organic Chemistry (with Lab)	One academic year
English	One academic year

### BIOLOGY

One academic year with a laboratory component; applicants can substitute a biology-related course for ½ year of general biology. Students who pursue additional courses in the biological sciences should consider genetics, embryology, cell and molecular biology and comparative anatomy.

### GENERAL CHEMISTRY

One academic year with a laboratory component.

### ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

One academic year with a laboratory component. An applicant may substitute ½ year of Biochemistry for ½ year of Organic Chemistry.

### ENGLISH

One year of college-level English literature or composition. Applicants must demonstrate proficiency in writing, reading and oral communication.

Additional coursework in biology and related disciplines is highly recommended. Students completing courses such as cell biology, anatomy and physiology, genetics, biochemistry, molecular biology, statistics, psychology/interpersonal skills and communication are given preference in admissions.



**LEARN MORE** about SUSOM prerequisite courses, visit [saba.edu/admissions/admission-requirements](https://saba.edu/admissions/admission-requirements)

# Required Documents *for Applying*

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The following documents are required to complete the application process:

- Completed application form along with a personal statement (500 words or less).
- Official transcript(s) from each college/university or professional school attended. Student issued copies will suffice for the initial submission, pending official transcripts.
- Official MCAT report (MCAT scores are required for all U.S. citizens, nationals or permanent residents prior to matriculation). Taking the MCAT is recommended for all other applicants as well.
- Two letters of recommendation from college professors or physicians well acquainted with your character and abilities. For recent graduates, it is highly recommended that at least one letter is from a professional acquaintance and the other is academic related.
- English is the language of instruction at Saba University School of Medicine. If your first language is not English, you must submit proof of English proficiency, such as through TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language). Other comparable English proficiency tests may also be accepted.
- Two passport-size (2" x 2") color photographs.

## Admission Selection

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Prospective students may apply for admission to SUSOM at any time throughout the year. Applicants are encouraged to submit their documents early to ensure that their files are complete for consideration.

### **Key application and program details:**

- Rolling admissions process.
- Three intakes per year – in January, May and September.
- Twenty-month Basic Sciences program on Saba, followed by Clinical Medicine rotations in North America.
- All classes are taught in English.

Since the number of students in each class is limited and the application pool is competitive, early applicants will have a better chance of securing a place in the semester of their choice.

Completed applications are reviewed and evaluated by the Admissions Committee. Those with incomplete applications will be notified. Applicants are selected for a virtual admissions interview on the basis of the candidate's demonstrated ability to meet the challenges of a rigorous medical education. Factors such as motivation, perseverance, scholastic record, letters of recommendation and personal statement are important in the interview selection process. MCAT scores are required for all applicants who are U.S. citizens, nationals or permanent residents. MCAT scores are also strongly recommended for all other applicants, and, at the discretion of the Admissions Committee, they may be required.

The personal interview plays a major role in the selection of students. Decisions regarding admission are usually made within 10 business days. All interviewed applicants will receive the final decision of the Committee in writing.

## **MCAT REQUIREMENT**

The Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) is required for all applicants who are U.S. citizens, nationals or permanent residents. In addition, it is strongly encouraged for all other applicants and specifically required for those students who meet any of the following three conditions:

1. Students with outdated required science coursework (>5 years old).
2. Students who completed the required science coursework at a community college.
3. Students with C grades or lower in the required science courses.

SUSOM's MCAT code is SUSOM. More information about the MCAT is available at the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) website ([www.aamc.org](http://www.aamc.org)). Applicants can send SUSOM their MCAT exam scores through the online THx system as soon as they are available at the AAMC.

## **APPLICANTS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES**

The Admissions Committee will evaluate applicants from countries with educational standards similar to the U.S.. Each applicant, in general, should meet the educational requirements for admission to medical school in their country of origin. Students who have attended institutions outside the U.S. and whose transcripts are not in English must provide an interpretation of the transcript from an approved translation service. Students who have attended a college or university outside the U.S. or Canada are required to obtain a course-by-course evaluation of their transcript through the World Education Services ([www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org)) or from another accredited agency that is a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services ([www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org)).

Since English is the language of instruction at SUSOM, it is important that applicants be prepared academically to pursue the curriculum and be able to communicate effectively. Applicants whose principal language is not English are required to take the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) or other comparable evaluation

Unsuccessful candidates may re-apply by submitting a new application form, a new personal statement and updated transcripts, if applicable. Application materials are maintained on file for one

year; thereafter, students must reapply for admission by re-submitting all required documents.

## **DEFERRED ENROLLMENT**

Students requesting to defer their original date of matriculation must submit a written request to the Admissions Committee and must have already secured placement in that original starting class by paying their tuition deposit. If approved, the tuition deposit will be credited to the semester for which the deferment was made. In addition, a \$500 USD deferment fee will be charged, which is non-refundable and due within 10 working days of the approved deferral. This fee will also be credited to the first semester's tuition. Deferment requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis and may only be granted if a seat is available in the intended semester. A deferral is limited to two semesters from the original start date. Only one deferment request will be honored. If the student is still unable to attend after deferral, they must reapply for admission.

## **TRANSFER APPLICANTS AND ADVANCED STANDING**

Basic Sciences transfer applicants will only be accepted to the first, second or third semester. Depending on space availability, consideration is given to applicants from schools listed by the World Directory of Medical Schools. Saba will not consider coursework completed through a distance learning program. Students with unsatisfactory records or dismissal for any reason from other medical schools are not considered for advanced standing. Acceptance is contingent upon the recommendation of the Admissions Committee and on the basis of space available within the class. Students requesting to transfer directly to the Clinical Medicine program must have passed the United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE) Step 1 and have exhibited a strong academic performance in their current medical school. For licensure purposes, all Clinical Medicine transfer students must complete a minimum of 30 weeks of clerkships (two semesters) through SUSOM. Transfer students must meet all documentation requirements of a new student and must be in good academic standing. A student applying for transfer must fulfill the same documentation requirements of a new student, including:

- An official transcript from his/her current institution and all past educational institutions.
- A letter from his/her current medical school indicating the applicants stand at that school.
- A statement that the student has met all outstanding financial and academic obligations from their current school.

Saba does not offer advanced-standing credit for courses taken in graduate or professional degree program (chiropractic, physician assistant, podiatry, dentistry or other allied health professional programs) other than coursework completed through an accredited medical school.

#### **STUDENT ORIENTATION**

Attendance for student orientation is mandatory for all new incoming students. Orientation Day is usually held on the Monday before classes begin. During orientation sessions, students will register for classes, submit required documents for temporary residence, meet the deans and faculty, and learn about medical school policies and island life.

#### **WEBSITE INFORMATION**

Please visit our website at [www.saba.edu](http://www.saba.edu). Although a website cannot replace the experience of visiting the campus, it will provide a wealth of information about Saba University School of Medicine and the island of Saba.





# Our Saba Campus: A Haven for Education

**The Saba University School of Medicine (SUSOM) campus is fully equipped with modern classrooms, laboratories, a medical library, administrative offices, faculty offices, a fitness center and other student support services.**

All classrooms are air-conditioned and equipped with state-of-the-art teaching aids (LCD projectors, flat-screen displays, multimedia capability, video microscope cameras, etc.) to facilitate the learning process.

A computer testing lab (for USMLE preparation) is located on campus, as well as conference rooms, a cafeteria and recreational facilities. Student dormitories are adjacent to the main campus. High-speed internet is available throughout campus spaces.

## **LABORATORIES**

The gross anatomy laboratory is supplied with human cadavers for dissection and radiological materials to conduct detailed studies of the human body.

A modern clinical skills laboratory provides students with the opportunity to practice history taking with standardized patients and learn basic procedures like suturing and drawing blood.

## **W.F.M. JOHNSON MEDICAL LIBRARY**

The W.F.M. Johnson Library provides students with a central location to access medical literature, reference books and a computer center.

Students have access to a wide variety of hardcopy journals, as well as online access to full text journals and bibliographic information through the library's subscription to major research publications and educational web services. The library also contains a learning resource center supplied with tutorial materials, models and specialized computer programs.



**TO BOOK A TOUR ON CAMPUS,  
SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT**  
[saba.edu/student-experience/campus-tour](https://saba.edu/student-experience/campus-tour)



**TO CHECK OUR VIRTUAL TOUR,  
SCAN THE QR CODE OR CLICK ON**

# Basic Sciences Curriculum

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The Saba University School of Medicine (SUSOM) curriculum parallels the courses and training offered by medical schools in the United States and Canada. The Basic Sciences program is five semesters (20 months) in length.

The 80-week Clinical Medicine program is comprised of 72 weeks of clinical clerkships (rotations) at associated teaching hospitals, clinics and medical centers in the U.S. (including ACGME-approved locations), and at select elective rotation sites in Canada, and eight weeks of the Research: Literature Review and Analysis module.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

Graduation requirements are as follows:

- Satisfactory completion of Basic Sciences and Clinical Medicine programs.
- Passing scores on the United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE) Step 1, USMLE Step 2 Clinical Knowledge and clinical skills Pathway examinations.
- Payment of all outstanding financial obligations.
- Return of all assigned institutional property and equipment in acceptable condition.

## BASIC SCIENCES CURRICULUM

The first five semesters of the MD program, comprising the Basic Sciences curriculum, are taught on the island of Saba by qualified medical school faculty that hold advanced degrees (MD, PhD, etc.) and who are dedicated to providing comprehensive medical instruction.

The low student-to-faculty ratio provides ample opportunity for students to interact with the teaching faculty directly, as do the regularly offered office hours.

The Basic Sciences program consists of five 15-week semesters of coursework, with two-week breaks between each semester.



BASIC SCIENCES CURRICULUM			
COURSE	COURSE NAME	CREDITS	CONTACT HOURS
<b>SEMESTER 1</b>			
MED 512	Human Body Structure and Function	15	231
MED 514	Human Histology and Physiology	13	180
MED 516	Clinical Skills I	2	37
<b>SEMESTER ONE TOTAL</b>		<b>30</b>	<b>448</b>
COURSE	COURSE NAME	CREDITS	CONTACT HOURS
<b>SEMESTER 2</b>			
MED 611	Metabolism and Nutrition	9	134
MED 612	Genetics and Development	4	65
MED 613	Infection / Defense / Response	12	186
MED 614	Medical Ethics	2	37
MED 616	Clinical Skills II	3	44
<b>SEMESTER TWO TOTAL</b>		<b>30</b>	<b>422</b>
COURSE	COURSE NAME	CREDITS	CONTACT HOURS
<b>SEMESTER 3</b>			
MED 714	Neuroscience and Neurology	10	143
MED 715	Systems and Disease I (Introduction/Endocrine)	11	158
MED 716	Clinical Skills III	3	43
MED 719	Behavioral Medicine	8	127
<b>SEMESTER THREE TOTAL</b>		<b>32</b>	<b>471</b>
COURSE	COURSE NAME	CREDITS	CONTACT HOURS
<b>SEMESTER 4</b>			
MED 811	Systems and Disease II (Repro/GI/Peds)	13	196
MED 812	Systems and Disease III (CV/Resp/Renal)	13	199
MED 816	Clinical Skills IV	6	96
MED 819	Research Curriculum – Evidence-Based Medicine	1	19
<b>SEMESTER FOUR TOTAL</b>		<b>33</b>	<b>510</b>
COURSE	COURSE NAME	CREDITS	CONTACT HOURS
<b>SEMESTER 5</b>			
MED 911	Systems & Disease IV (MSK/Heme/Immuno/Integ/Multi)	12	189
MED 916	Clinical Skills V	3	45
MED 918	Foundations of Clinical Medicine	16	241
<b>SEMESTER FIVE TOTAL</b>		<b>31</b>	<b>475</b>

# Basic Sciences Course Descriptions

## First Semester

### **MED 512** **HUMAN BODY STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION** 15 CREDITS; 231 HRS

This course explores basic gross human anatomy, allowing students to understand anatomical relationships, development, structure and function. Through lectures, regional dissections of cadavers and evaluation of radiographs (including CT and MRI), students acquire a basic knowledge of the normal gross structure, embryologic development, functional and clinical anatomy of organs and systems of the adult human body, including the brain and spinal cord. Computer-based tutorial programs and structured reviews are used to supplement the lectures and labs.

### **MED 514** **HUMAN HISTOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY** 13 CREDITS; 180 HRS

This course examines the microanatomy of cells, tissues and organs, as well as the basic components of human physiology. Lectures illustrate the microstructure of major tissues and organs in relation to their function. This program presents the molecular biology and histology of normal cells, tissues and organ systems at various developmental functional stages. Students learn how individual cell functions interact with one another and how such interactions are accomplished from the tissue levels to the organ levels. The course prepares students for an understanding of normal (homeostasis) structure of the systems and furnishes the background for appreciating pathological conditions. In addition, students learn how molecular building blocks are utilized for growth and differentiation, wound healing and tissue repair, defense mechanisms, and transfer of hereditary characters. Physiology topics include the basic components of all organ systems.

### **MED 516** **CLINICAL SKILLS I** 2 CREDITS; 37 HRS

This is the first course in a five-part series that focuses on communication skills, eliciting the patient's history, performing a physical exam, and communicating findings to healthcare professionals through oral presentations and written notes. In this course, students will learn and practice the foundations of patient-physician communication skills, including initiating the session, building the relationship, exploration of problems, understanding the patient agenda and structuring the consultation. Students will also learn the first steps of eliciting the patient's story in a patient-centered manner and the initial components of a physical exam. In addition, students will begin to develop their skills in documenting their findings in a patient note.





## Second Semester

**MED 611**  
**METABOLISM AND NUTRITION**  
**9 CREDITS; 134 HRS**

The biochemical pathways of living organisms are studied with a focus on metabolic processes. Topics include pathways linking nutritional intake and energy yielding processes, as well as the application of underlying principles discussed in the first semester. Broad content includes a study of the chemistry and reactions of constituents of living matter, including carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, nucleic acids, vitamins, coenzymes and minerals. In addition, the chemistry and regulation of the reactions and processes of whole organisms will be examined, including: endocrinology, enzymology, nutrition, intermediary metabolism and biochemical mechanisms involved in select disease states.

**MED 612**  
**GENETICS AND DEVELOPMENT**  
**4 CREDITS; 65 HRS**

This course provides students with an understanding of the principles and concepts upon which current clinical genetic practice (diagnosis, treatment and genetic counselling) is based. It also incorporates human development, allowing students to understand the relationship between development and the underlying genetic mechanisms of congenital abnormalities. This course covers the genetics of human populations and introduces recent and ongoing discoveries so that their future applications may be understood.

**MED 613****INFECTION / DEFENSE / RESPONSE****12 CREDITS; 186 HRS**

This course considers the characteristics and properties of microorganisms, their role in the disease processes, and selected aspects of diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases. Other topics include the basic principles of bacteriology, mycology, parasitology, virology, immunology and microbial genetics, including cultural characteristics and pathogenic properties of medically important species of bacteria, fungi and viruses. This course covers the basic immunologic concepts of the cells and humoral products of the immune system. Lectures include the molecular biology and genetics of antigen recognition and immunoglobulin production, plus the characteristics and detection of antigen-antibody reactions. The approach is to correlate these basic concepts with clinical manifestations of disease, the immunopathologic mechanisms of hypersensitivity, autoimmunity transplantation, tumor immunology, hematology, reproduction, infectious diseases, immunodeficiency and pharmacotherapy.

**MED 614****MEDICAL ETHICS (WEEKS 9-14)****2 CREDITS; 37 HRS**

This course provides a comprehensive study of the legal and ethical issues involved in the practice of medicine. Medical ethics will consist of a series of seminars devoted to the discussion of various topics, such as disclosure, confidentiality, informed consent, and death and dying. The inclusion of ethics case discussions will allow students to discuss and debate ethical scenarios. Legal cases posing dilemmas that relate to each case will be presented, along with abstract material to facilitate conceptual and ethical analysis.

**MED 616****CLINICAL SKILLS II****3 CREDITS; 44 HRS**

After a review of the skills developed in Clinical Skills I, students will learn additional components of a patient-centered history, including explaining and planning a treatment plan and communication skills in specific situations, such as delivering bad news, cultural and social diversity, and demonstration of empathy. Instruction on the patient history continues with the past medical history, family history, social



history and a complete review of systems. Students will also learn to perform a complete screening physical exam and will continue to develop documentation skills with oral presentations and the patient note.

## Third Semester

### **MED 714** **NEUROSCIENCE AND NEUROLOGY** **10 CREDITS; 143 HRS**

This course will include an interdisciplinary investigation of the pathology, physiology and the gross and microscopic structure of the brain, spinal cord and nervous system of humans. Aspects of brain energy metabolism, neurotransmitter synthesis and degradation, and psychopharmacology are presented. This course integrates anatomical and physiological material to assist the student in understanding common neurological disease processes. Laboratory exercises will provide slides and dissection of the human brain, spinal cord and relevant structures. Students will be introduced to modern methods of neuroimaging, including CT scans and MRI. Weekly sessions will introduce students to the relationship between Basic Sciences and Clinical Medicine, with emphasis on diagnostics, therapeutics and disease causation. In addition, there will be integration of concepts learned in MED 706 - Clinical Skills III, MED 705 - Systems & Disease I and MED 709 - Behavioral Medicine. Each of these interactive sessions will include group problem-solving exercises and critical appraisal of the primary literature. Students will present different aspects of contemporary scientific and medical literature, including the background, current understanding and future directions.

**Whether on-campus  
or during clinical  
rotations, SUSOM delivers  
individualized support  
to help you succeed.**

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### **MED 715** **SYSTEMS AND DISEASE I (INTRODUCTION/ENDOCRINE)** **11 CREDITS; 158 HRS**

Basic principles of human physiology, pathology and pharmacology are studied, followed by an investigation of the Endocrine System. This course employs the Endocrine System as a transition to semesters 4 and 5, where the remainder of the systems will be discussed. As with the rest of the Systems & Disease courses, each system will begin with a detailed review of pertinent human body structure and function, as well as cell/tissue structure and function. This will be followed by the presentation of the individual systems in detail, including relevant pathology, physiology, pharmacology, clinical skills and clinical presentations of disease. All content will be integrated.

### **MED 716** **CLINICAL SKILLS III (WEEKS 5-15)** **3 CREDITS; 43 HRS**

After a review of the skills developed in Clinical Skills I & II, students will learn to communicate in a patient-centered manner in other specific situations, including patients with mental illness, obtaining information from other caregivers, providing advocacy and support, and medically unexplained symptoms. Students will continue to refine their ability to obtain a complete history and conduct a complete physical exam. Students will also refine their ability to obtain a complete history and physical exam in a patient-centered manner, and will begin to learn to obtain a problem-focused history. Documentation skills will focus on the complete patient history and physical exam, through oral presentations and the patient note.

**MED 719**  
**BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE**  
**8 CREDITS; 127 HRS**

This course presents the basic principles of human behavior, including biological, social and cultural substrates. Both normal and abnormal behavior theories will be included in an overview of personality development. Workshops will cover areas such as interviewing techniques, death education, human sexuality and psychophysiological disorders, including stress management and biofeedback. Additional lectures present various classes of psychotropic drugs and their indications.

The course will also address the fundamental principles of the distribution of diseases and their causes in human populations. Students will learn how to conduct epidemiologic investigations, how to critically review medical literature and how to use this information in a clinical environment. Students will acquire a basic level of proficiency in epidemiologic principles and biostatistics, and be able to apply these in clinical practice.

## Fourth Semester

**MED 811**  
**SYSTEMS AND DISEASE II (REPRO/GI/PEDS)**  
**13 CREDITS; 196 HRS**

The Systems and Disease series of courses begins with a detailed review of pertinent human body structure and function, as well as cell and tissue structure and function. This will be followed by the presentation of the individual systems in detail, including relevant pathology, physiology, pharmacology, clinical skills and clinical presentations of disease. All content will be integrated. This course covers the reproductive and gastrointestinal systems, and pediatrics.

**MED 812**  
**SYSTEMS AND DISEASE III (CV/RESP/RENAL)**  
**13 CREDITS; 199 HRS**

This course covers the cardiovascular, respiratory and renal systems, and follows the structure described in MED 811 - Systems & Disease II.

**MED 816**  
**CLINICAL SKILLS IV**  
**6 CREDITS; 96 HRS**

After a review of the skills developed in Clinical Skills I-III, students will continue to develop their communication skills and ability to perform a complete history and physical exam. Physical exam skills will be reinforced by more in-depth instruction in the physical exam skills that correspond to the systems studied in Systems & Disease, concentrating on the integumentary, cardiovascular, respiratory, renal and neurological systems. Students will further develop their ability to complete a problem-focused history and physical exam. Documentation skills will focus on the complete patient history and physical exam through oral presentations, patient notes and a focused patient visit.

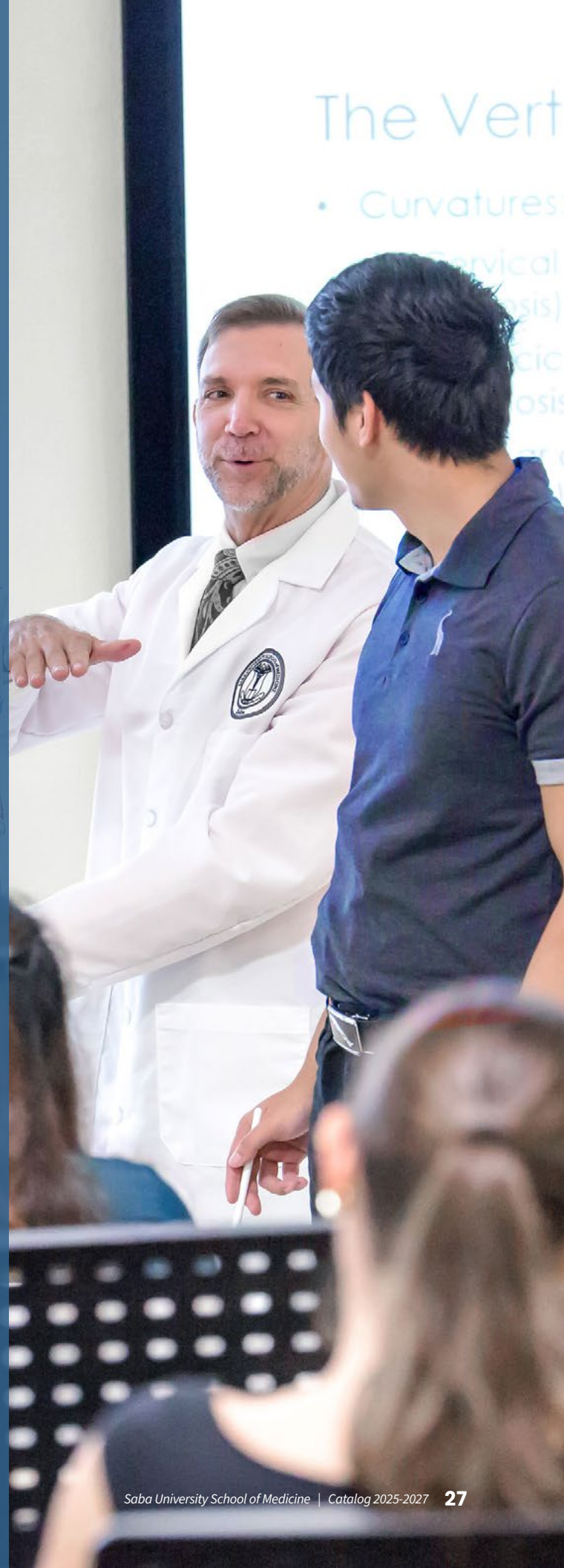


**MED 819**  
**RESEARCH CURRICULUM –**  
**EVIDENCE-BASED MEDICINE**  
**1 CREDIT; 19 HRS**

Students will have an opportunity to develop research skills related to Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM). They will be introduced to concepts of research analysis and critical thinking. At the end of this course, students will be able to identify and frame a clinical question based on therapy, diagnosis, prognosis or etiology; develop a focused search strategy to identify articles that best answer the clinical question; find the appropriate medical database; and critically appraise articles for validity. Students will be required to independently utilize various types of EBM resources. Students will use technological resources that are available online and in the Saba University School of Medicine library. Skills acquired in this course will allow students to successfully complete the research module, Research: Literature Review and Analysis (RLRA).

**SUSOM has adopted an organ-system approach that incorporates small-group, hands-on learning sessions.**

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## Fifth Semester

**MED 911**  
**SYSTEMS AND DISEASE IV**  
**(MSK/HEME/IMMUNO/INTEG/MULTI)**  
12 CREDITS; 189 HRS

This course covers the hematologic, immune, integumentary and musculoskeletal systems as well as one multisystem disease. It follows the structure described in MED 811 - Systems & Disease II.

**MED 916**  
**CLINICAL SKILLS V**  
3 CREDITS; 44 HRS

After a review of the skills developed in Clinical Skills I-IV, students will continue to develop their communication skills and ability to perform a complete history and physical exam. Physical exam skills will be reinforced by more in-depth instruction in the physical exam skills that correspond to the systems studied in MED 901 - Systems & Disease V, concentrating on the gastrointestinal, endocrine, reproductive and musculoskeletal systems. Students will further develop their ability to complete a problem-focused history and physical exam. Documentation skills will be further developed through focused patient visits, with additional instruction on medical order writing, diagnostic decision-making and prescription writing.

**MED 918**  
**FOUNDATIONS OF CLINICAL MEDICINE**  
16 CREDITS; 241 HRS

This course utilizes daily live lectures and other materials to provide a structured, integrated review of the basic sciences. An emphasis is placed on understanding disease processes and clinical problem solving.

Students attend daily live lectures. Early in the course, students are given a diagnostic pre-test to help identify problem areas and individualize learning goals.

Every student is required to demonstrate proficiency by passing this course, which involves achieving a satisfactory score on a comprehensive exam covering the entire Basic Sciences curriculum, before the school will certify that the student can take the USMLE Step 1 exam. This evaluation may be the Comprehensive Basic Sciences Exam (CBSE), which is designed by the NBME for this purpose, and/or another exam.

“

**We were blessed with really amazing faculty that I thought were really invested in our growth and learning, even beyond the medical science, as people. The small class sizes, which was honestly one of my favorite parts about Saba, made me feel seen and heard.”**



**Maitri Makwana, MD**  
Resident Physician (OB-GYN),  
University of Missouri, Kansas City  
SUSOM Alum 2024





ON TO  
Genetics  
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Second Edition  
AN INTRODUCTION TO  
**Human  
Molecular  
Genetics**  
Mechanisms of  
Inherited Diseases  
Jack J. Pasternak

WILEY

FIGS

# Clinical Medicine Curriculum

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**In concert with curriculum reform in U.S. medical schools, SUSOM promotes the early introduction of students to learning interviewing skills and gaining experience developing relationships with patients.**

Basic Sciences students may attend hospital clinics and make house calls to home-bound residents. Simple procedures, including suturing, wound care and blood drawing, are demonstrated and taught.

After successful completion of the Basic Sciences program, students enter the Clinical Medicine portion of their studies.

The 80-week Clinical Medicine program consists of a required eight-week research module, followed by 72 weeks of clinical clerkships (rotations) focused on core and elective medical specialties at SUSOM-affiliated teaching hospitals, clinics and medical centers in the U.S. (including ACGME-approved locations), and at select elective rotation sites in Canada.



During these clinical clerkships, students will work directly with physicians and hospital staff, conducting history taking, physical examinations, case presentations and laboratory analysis, and attending workshops, conferences and grand rounds.

During clinical clerkships, students will undertake 42 weeks of required core clerkships in Surgery, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, and Obstetrics and Gynecology. The remaining 30 weeks include elective clinical clerkships, which students may select based on their desired medical career specialty.

All SUSOM students are required to complete four weeks of a Primary Care elective rotation.

In order to successfully complete this portion of the MD program and receive school approval to take the USMLE Step 2 CK exam, which is necessary for graduation, students are required to demonstrate proficiency by achieving a satisfactory score on a comprehensive exam covering the Clinical Medicine curriculum, such as the Comprehensive Clinical Sciences Exam (CCSE) and/or another exam.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TRANSITION TO CLINICAL MEDICINE

Students must successfully complete the Basic Sciences curriculum and be recommended by the Pre-Clinical Medicine faculty to enter the Clinical Medicine portion of the curriculum. Other requirements for clerkships include:

- Application for professional liability insurance.
- Complete the current immunization form.
- Participation in a clinical orientation session.
- Signed clinical contract.
- Completed clinical preference questionnaire.
- Clearance from Saba: Students completing the Basic Sciences or concluding studies for any reason, must first obtain a financial clearance letter from the school's Administrative Office. Clearance signatures are required from the student's landlord, major utility company and Satel N.V., the local telephone company. Without this form, SUSOM reserves the right to withhold grade reports or transcripts.
- Passing score on USMLE Step 1: Students are expected to take the USMLE Step 1 examination within three months of completing the Basic Sciences program. Students are only permitted to begin clinical clerkships after successfully completing USMLE Step 1.
- Be in full compliance with the requirements of the Research: Literature Review and Analysis Course (RLRA).
- Additional documents/forms may be required as needed.



**RESEARCH: LITERATURE REVIEW  
AND ANALYSIS  
8 WEEKS**

The purpose of the Research: Literature Review and Analysis portion of the curriculum is to further develop students' abilities to evaluate and assimilate scientific evidence and to reinforce the skills required to critically appraise the ever-changing body of medical knowledge. These skills are essential for practicing physicians, who will have to continuously improve their medical knowledge and clinical skills over the course of their careers.

Students are expected to apply the knowledge and understanding from their Basic Sciences courses to analyze a current and complex medical care question, using evidence from published medical literature. As part of this course, students are required to write a paper that is evaluated by a faculty committee.

While working independently, students will interact on a regular basis with a faculty mentor who will provide oversight throughout the project, including: selection of an appropriate topic, identification of relevant literature, formulating conclusions and the preparation of a final paper. The faculty mentor will also review the written paper to ensure that it meets school standards prior to approval for submission to the faculty committee for review.

## Description of Clinical Clerkships (Rotations)

**INTERNAL MEDICINE  
12 WEEKS**

Students build on skills acquired in physical diagnosis to complete thorough histories and physical examinations of primarily adult patients. Students will be a part of the clinical management team and given responsibilities for certain aspects of direct patient care under the close supervision of a preceptor. Lectures will include the management of commonly encountered disease processes, as well as an introduction to the use of diagnostic procedures. Students will be given direct

assignments for research and expected to present them at clinical conferences.

**SURGERY  
12 WEEKS**

Students will be introduced to disease processes that require various levels of surgical intervention. Initially, students will be taught the policies and procedures of the operating room, including scrubbing and the maintaining of sterile technique. They will have opportunities to do presurgical histories and physical examinations. Opportunities will be provided for direct practice of simple procedures, such as suturing, debridement and wound care. Under close supervision of a preceptor, students will be able to observe and assist during various procedures in the operating room, and participate in the follow-up and treatment of the postsurgical patient.

**OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY  
6 WEEKS**

Students will be introduced to the normal course of pregnancy, including prenatal care, labor, delivery and the postpartum period. Students will be taught the fundamentals of a proper obstetric and gynecologic history and examination. Students will observe a number of live births.

Students will also attend lectures and gain direct experience with various disease processes and complications of pregnancy and delivery. Students will learn the fundamentals of family planning and treating patients with sexually transmitted diseases.

**PEDIATRICS  
6 WEEKS**

This clinical rotation introduces the student to the challenging medical treatment of infants, children and adolescents. Students will initially learn to take histories and perform physical examinations on healthy infants and children in inpatient and outpatient clinic settings. The diagnosis and treatment of common illnesses will be emphasized, but the student will also learn about the more rare congenital and acquired disorders.

**PSYCHIATRY**  
**6 WEEKS**

The student will learn about the major psychiatric illnesses, such as schizophrenia, affective and anxiety disorders. Special emphasis will be placed on the difference between organic and functional mental illnesses through the taking of a proper psychiatric history and performing a mental status examination. Students will be instructed in the judicious use of major classes of psychotropic medications.

**PRIMARY CARE AND OTHER ELECTIVES**  
**4-8 WEEKS**

Students must have their elective clinical clerkships approved by the Office of Clinical Medicine prior to the beginning of the rotation. The total of elective clerkships must be a minimum of 30 weeks. The suggested length for electives is a four-week minimum and an eight-week maximum. All students must complete four weeks of a Primary Care elective.

**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED ELECTIVES INCLUDE:**

Highly recommended electives include:

- Anesthesiology
- Cardiology
- Dermatology
- Emergency Medicine
- Family Medicine
- Intensive Care Medicine
- Neurology
- Pathology
- Plastic Surgery
- Radiology
- Urology
- Vascular Surgery

## Required Core Clerkships (Rotations)

CORE ROTATIONS	
Internal Medicine	12 weeks
Surgery	12 weeks
Obstetrics and Gynecology	6 weeks
Pediatrics	6 weeks
Psychiatry	6 weeks
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42 WEEKS</b>

## Clinical Placements

Geographical mobility is required of all students in the Clinical Medicine program. Students are given an opportunity to fill out a geographical preference form prior to entering the Clinical Medicine program. Special consideration is given to engaged students, married students and students with school-age children.

For students requiring visas, Saba University School of Medicine will make every attempt to place a student in a clinical rotation within an approved U.S. hospital/medical center. This placement is subject to United States government regulations.

Clinical clerkships are scheduled through the SUSOM Office of Clinical Medicine. Students are not permitted to contact affiliated hospitals directly until official assignment to the site is received via a clerkship confirmation form. Special arrangements for electives or other clerkships should be cleared first through the Office of Clinical Medicine, which will provide proof of insurance and liaison contacts with the hospital or preceptor.

## HOSPITAL AFFILIATIONS

Although the vast majority of SUSOM students complete their clinical electives in the United States and Canada, electives outside North America may be requested by a student who should organize and submit the details to the Office of Clinical Medicine for approval at least three months in advance. SUSOM graduates have participated in elective clerkships in Great Britain, Ireland, Israel, Australia, India, the Dutch Caribbean, Africa, Central America and Bosnia.

The following is a partial list of major affiliated hospitals in the United States where SUSOM students regularly do clinical clerkships:

### HOSPITAL AFFILIATIONS (PARTIAL LIST)

Ascension Saint Agnes Hospital	Baltimore, MD
Aultman Hospital	Canton, Ohio
Brentwood Behavioral Health	Shreveport, LA
Bridgeport Hospital	Bridgeport, CT
Cape Cod Hospital	Hyannis, MA
Good Samaritan Hospital	Baltimore, MD
Griffin Memorial Hospital	Norman, OK
Holy Cross Hospital	Silver Spring, MD
Jewish Hospital of Cincinnati	Cincinnati, OH
Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center	Houma, LA
Manatee Memorial Hospital	Bradenton, FL
Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute	Fairfax County, VA
O'Connor Hospital	San Jose, CA
One Brooklyn Health	Brooklyn, NY
Rochester General Hospital	Rochester, NY
Sheppard Pratt Hospital	Baltimore, MD
Sinai Grace Hospital	Detroit, MI
Spring Grove Hospital Center	Catonsville, MD
St. Luke's Hospital	Chesterfield, MO
St. Mary's Health Center	Blue Springs, MO
St. Mary's Hospital	Waterbury, CT
Wyckoff Heights Medical Center	Brooklyn, NY

## POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

The Clinical Medicine program staff team at Saba University School of Medicine takes special pride in mentoring students for residency positions in the United States and other countries.

Students become eligible for the National Resident Matching Program in the United States by passing the USMLE Step 1, Step 2 CK and clinical skills Pathway examinations.

Each student is given individual attention and guidance throughout their application process. Personal statements are reviewed and a comprehensive Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE) is written for residency training directors.

## RESEARCH

The medical world is changing rapidly – new medical problems arise continually and scientific research advances quickly around the world. As such, the ability to think critically and apply scientific methodology, especially when assessing new developments, is essential to the practice of medicine. Research at Saba University School of Medicine (SUSOM), and its integration into its program of medical education, are designed to support these principles. To this end, the curriculum is designed to ensure that all graduates are able to:

- Integrate and apply their knowledge, understanding and problem-solving abilities in new or unfamiliar environments within the broader context of medicine.
- Handle complex health scenarios and formulate sound judgments with incomplete or limited information.
- Understand the social and ethical responsibilities linked to the application of their knowledge and judgment.
- Communicate their conclusions, and the knowledge and rationale underpinning these conclusions, clearly and unambiguously.
- Continue to study medicine in what may be largely self-directed or autonomous settings.

Students develop these competencies throughout the Basic Sciences program, where course directors

and faculty are encouraged to incorporate the latest developments in medical research into their respective courses. Case presentations are also utilized as a means to teach students how biomedical research becomes part of patient care.

Prior to beginning their formal clinical training, students are required to begin a research module. In this required research module, the cornerstone of the research program at SUSOM, students choose a current and complex medical care question, develop an actionable hypothesis, research published literature and critically assess their findings under the guidance of a faculty mentor.

The research module culminates with a written paper in which students present their findings and formulate conclusions that are evaluated by a committee composed of faculty and deans.

In addition to the required research elements of the curriculum, SUSOM students are actively encouraged to pursue research projects independently and in conjunction with faculty members during the Basic Sciences and Clinical Medicine portions of their education. Once a year, the school provides students and faculty the opportunity to publish and present their research projects to their peers at the institution. SUSOM also supports the publication and presentation of student and faculty research projects in various academic medical journals and other recognized forums.

## THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The Research Committee, consisting of faculty members, evaluates all proposals for research projects to be conducted at SUSOM. The committee reviews projects in the context of the desirability and feasibility of the proposal, and the soundness of the experimental design.

**Develop essential critical thinking skills and learn to apply scientific methods when evaluating new advancements in medicine.**

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# Academic Policies

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## **HONOR SYSTEM**

Students are required to sign an honor code contract prior to matriculation, stating that they will maintain a high degree of personal honor and integrity during their medical training. The Student Honor Code is printed in the Student Handbook.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Regular, punctual attendance is mandatory of all students in Basic Sciences classes. Students who exceed the number of allotted absences are subject to academic review and penalty. Full attendance is required at all clerkships (rotations). Students are expected to make up days missed due to illness or other reasons.

## **WITHDRAWAL**

Withdrawal requests must be submitted in writing to the Associate Dean of Basic Sciences or the Associate Dean of Clinical Medicine. Basic Sciences students are required to submit a completed island clearance form to the Administrative Office. Failure to comply may result in retention of student records.

## **DISMISSAL**

A student may be dismissed from Saba University School of Medicine for any of the following reasons:

1. Failure to maintain academic performance, as determined by the Promotions Committee.
2. Cheating, plagiarism or other unethical academic conduct.
3. Violation of the laws or statutes of the island of Saba, Dutch Caribbean.
4. Demonstration of unprofessional behavioral or emotional instability that impairs judgment and/or represents a potential compromise to patient care.

## **STUDENT GRIEVANCE: PROCEDURES AND APPEALS**

Students seeking to resolve problems or complaints should first contact their instructor. Should a student desire to appeal a decision made by an instructor, they shall notify the appropriate Associate Dean in writing, stating the reason for the appeal and submitting any supporting documents relative to the appeal for review.

Students who feel that the grievance has not been adequately addressed by the Associate Dean should contact the Executive Dean in writing. Refer to the Student Handbook for more detailed information regarding appeals.

## **EXAMINATIONS AND GRADING**

Examinations are generally given in each Basic Sciences course every third Monday, while final exams are generally given at the end of each semester. Examinations are in a format compatible with that of the USMLE, and will include laboratory and clinical skill assessments when appropriate. Oral examinations are an integral part of the clinical skills segment of the curriculum.

A score of 70% or higher is required to pass examinations in both the Basic Sciences and Clinical Medicine curricula.

## **OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR – TRANSCRIPT INFORMATION**

Permanent records of each student enrolled at Saba University School of Medicine are maintained in the Office of the Registrar. The Office of the Registrar is responsible for all enrollment statistics, verification of attendance, management of all student records, and issuance of transcripts and grade reports. Requests for transcripts must be submitted in writing directly to the Office of the Registrar. The fee is \$10 USD per transcript request. An online transcript request form can be downloaded from SUSOM's website under the Forms section. E-mail, fax or phone requests will not be honored.

All transcripts sent directly to students will be marked "Issued to Student" and will not be considered official. Transcripts will not be released for students who have an outstanding financial obligation to Saba University School of Medicine. Students applying to ERAS are not charged a transcript fee. Transcript requests are usually processed within 3-5 business days.

### LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Requests for a leave of absence may be granted for medical, personal, financial or academic reasons. Students are required to give advanced written notification and must assume responsibility to complete course or clinical rotation requirements upon returning. Time missed during Basic Sciences studies will be counted as part of the 90% class attendance requirement. The maximum time granted for a leave of absence in Basic Sciences is one academic semester (15 weeks).

For students who are receiving financial aid, notification will be submitted to the loan agencies for an approved Leave of Absence. Students who

neglect to return to the program at the end of the leave of absence or who neglect to apply for an extension are subject to administrative withdrawal from Saba University School of Medicine.

Clinical Medicine students who take more than 30 days off during their clerkships must submit a written request for permission to the Associate Dean of Clinical Medicine. Students must specify dates and the reason for the request. Students who depart without submitting a written leave of absence request may be subject to immediate administrative withdrawal.

Emergency leaves for a short period of time may be granted in cases of a serious illness or death in the family, within 24 hours of written notification, by the Associate Dean of Basic Sciences or Clinical Medicine, as appropriate. The Office of Clinical Medicine, the preceptor and the hospital's Office of Medical Education must be notified immediately if a student has a personal emergency requiring absence from a rotation.

All time missed during a rotation must be made up to the satisfaction of the hospital's Director of Medical Education or the preceptor.

### COURSE GRADES WILL BE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA

<b>A</b>	90-100% = 4.0	Superior performance.
<b>B</b>	80-89% = 3.0	Good - commendable performance.
<b>C</b>	70-79% = 2.0	Satisfactory performance.
<b>F</b>	Below 70%	Unsatisfactory - failing performance.
<b>I</b>	Incomplete	This indicates that a student was doing satisfactory work, but for nonacademic reasons (other than competencies) was unable to meet the full requirements of the course.
<b>W</b>	Withdrawn	This indicates that a student was permitted to withdraw without an academic grade penalty. Any student who withdraws on or before the drop date, as defined in the course syllabus, will receive a W.
<b>WF</b>	Withdrawn Failing	This indicates that a student was permitted to withdraw from a class after the drop date, as defined in the course syllabus, while failing the course.
<b>WP</b>	Withdrawn Pass	This indicates passing at the time of withdrawal without academic grade penalty.
<b>T/C</b>	Transfer Credit	Accepted transfer credits.
<b>SCHEDULED</b>		Approved clerkship - no grade awarded.
<b>CURRENT</b>		Clerkship in progress - indicates weeks but no grade.
<b>PENDING</b>		Clerkship complete - pending evaluation to enter grade.



## **EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION FOR FOREIGN MEDICAL GRADUATES (ECFMG) CERTIFICATION**

Saba University School of Medicine prepares its students for the international practice of medicine. Students should familiarize themselves with the licensure and certification requirements of the jurisdiction(s) in which they may wish to practice.

All students are required to sit for and pass the United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE) Step 1, USMLE Step 2 Clinical Knowledge and clinical skills Pathway examinations, regardless of whether they intend to practice in the United States. In accordance with the school's regulatory and accreditation requirements, all students are further required to report their USMLE and OET scores to the school, provide a consent allowing the ECFMG to report their scores to the school, and provide a consent allowing the school to report their scores to the school's regulatory and accrediting bodies.

Information regarding the USMLE and the ECFMG Certification can be found at [www.ecfm.org](http://www.ecfm.org). Students are permitted a maximum of three attempts each for the USMLE Step 1 and Step 2 CK tests.

## **STUDENT PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE**

The Student Promotions Committee reviews every student's performance during and at the end of each semester.

The Promotions Committee may place a student on academic probation when it is determined that the student is experiencing academic difficulty or course failure. Faculty advisors are informed by the Promotions Committee of all students placed on academic probation at midterm and at the end of the semester.

The Assistant Dean of Student Affairs sits on the Promotions Committee and is responsible for monitoring the progress of all students on academic probation.

Please note, any students accepted into the SUSOM MD program with advanced standing will be placed on academic probation during their first semester.

# Student Services and Advising

## STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

Student health services are maintained on the island of Saba for routine care. Mental health and wellness support is available as needed.

The local physician will assess medical emergencies, and the student will be evacuated, if necessary, to the nearest appropriate facility.

A modern medical-surgical hospital is available on St. Maarten for both inpatient and outpatient care.

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE

The use, possession or distribution of illegal drugs carries serious penalties. Abuse of alcohol resulting in impaired performance or legal difficulties will be dealt with stringently.

Saba University School of Medicine recognizes that healthcare professionals are at risk for substance abuse and will attempt to assist any student with substance abuse problems in a rehabilitative manner. Health and wellness support services are available in such cases.

## STUDENT ADVISING

Students are assigned a faculty advisor in their first semester. Faculty advisors meet with all advisees early in the semester. Faculty advisors are informed of all advisees' failing courses at the midterm (if any) and are required to meet with the student. The grades of all assigned advisees are available to each faculty member at the end of the semester.

## CENTER FOR STUDENT LEARNING

The Center for Student Learning helps students develop the skills and dispositions needed to effectively acquire the medical and clinical expertise required for successful careers as practicing clinicians. The center fosters an environment that enriches student learning and success. Group and individual meetings are available to help students excel.

“

It's a school that has been there for many years now, and has years and years and years of success in producing great doctors who have been working all over North America, including Canada and the United States.”



**Dhanjit Litt, MD, FRCP**  
Program Chief and Medical Director  
at Trillium Health Partners  
Partner and Clinical Advisor at HealthOne  
SUSOM Alum 2011





# SUSOM Ceremonies

## Basic Sciences Awards Ceremony

Fifth-semester students who have successfully completed all the Basic Sciences requirements must attend the Basic Sciences Awards Ceremony, which is held during the last week of classes each semester.

## MD Program Commencement

A commencement ceremony to celebrate the conferring of degrees is held annually in the United States. Students who have completed the graduation requirements in the preceding January, May and September semesters are invited to attend, but are not required to attend in order to obtain their degrees.

## Academic Recognition and Awards

### DEAN'S LIST

Students who achieve a 4.0 grade-point average and are full-time students qualify for the Dean's List.

### HONOR'S LIST

Students whose grade point average is 3.75-3.99 and are full-time students qualify for the Honor's List

### DEAN OF BASIC SCIENCES AWARD

In recognition of the student with the highest academic class average during the Basic Sciences program.

### DEAN OF CLINICAL MEDICINE AWARD

In recognition of outstanding performance and academic excellence in the Clinical Medicine portion of training.

## **STUDENT RESPONSABILITIES**

### **HEALTH INSURANCE**

Students are required to carry personal health insurance coverage for the duration of their medical school program.

Proof of coverage is necessary upon matriculation and is required throughout the program. Information on health insurance options is included in the student's acceptance packet or may be requested from the Admissions Office.

### **MEDICAL EVACUATION AND REPATRIATION INSURANCE**

This blanket insurance policy covers emergency medivac and repatriation. The premium is \$30 USD per student per semester and is included as part of the tuition fees. It is mandatory that all Basic Sciences students and dependents carry this insurance.

### **LIABILITY INSURANCE**

SUSOM provides students with liability insurance during the 72 weeks of their Clinical Medicine program. Application forms must be submitted prior to beginning the Clinical Medicine portion of the MD program.

### **SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT POLICY**

Saba University School of Medicine is committed to the promotion of a healthy environment for all students. Smoking and/or vaping is not permitted within any of the medical school buildings, hospital, library or other school facilities. Designated smoking areas are provided. Students are expected to adhere to any local smoking-related laws during clerkships.

### **CHANGE IN STATUS**

If a student has a change in name, address, e-mail address, telephone number, financial situation, etc., it is the responsibility of the student to notify the appropriate official of any changes as soon as possible.



# Student Life



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## ARRIVING

New incoming students arriving by air or ferry will be provided with a complimentary taxi ride directly to their campus dorm building. Taxi services are available at the airport and port entry for students who have secured off-campus housing.

## DORM ARRANGEMENTS

We feel it is important for incoming unaccompanied students, single or married, to stay in campus dormitories during their first semester. Residing in the dorm will give students an opportunity to meet classmates, become familiar with the island and the school, and form study groups that may lead to future roommates for off-campus housing.

Learn more about campus housing: [www.saba.edu/student-experience/housing](http://www.saba.edu/student-experience/housing)

## SABA HOUSING

After their first semester, students usually move off campus. Apartments, private rooms, houses and single rooms are available for rent throughout the island, with single-bedroom apartments starting at approximately \$600 USD monthly. Three- and four-bedroom houses are extremely limited on Saba and rental costs begin at approximately \$1,500 USD monthly, excluding utilities. Fully furnished rentals generally include linens, towels, fans and utilities. Some apartments cater specifically to students and provide maid service.

Students attending with a spouse or family should contact the SUSOM Housing Coordinator well in advance of matriculation to discuss their housing needs.

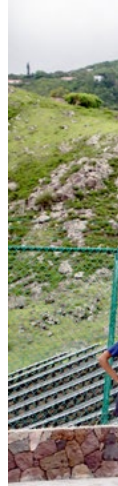
The Housing Coordinator can provide any student with assistance in locating suitable housing options.

## CAMPUS CAFETERIA

The campus cafeteria offers students and faculty breakfast and lunch during the week. The cafeteria is open Monday to Friday during school hours.

## CLOTHING

Summer cotton sportswear is appropriate for daytime activities all year round. A sweater or light jacket may be needed for the cooler winter evenings and air-conditioned classrooms. Although formal wear is not required on Saba, certain social activities (such as the White Coat Ceremony) may require semi-formal attire. Students are required to maintain a respectable appearance on campus and within the Saban community.





**The island of Saba's land area is approximately five square miles. Saba University School of Medicine is located at The Bottom, the island's capital, which is also near the island's harbor.**

Another major community is Windwardside, which also has restaurants and accommodations.

The trip from the airport in the north to our campus is approximately 15 minutes by taxi.

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# Student Organizations & Recreation

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SUSOM has several student-run organizations and sports clubs, including basketball, soccer and hockey. Scuba diving and hiking are also popular local activities.

## **STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (SGA)**

The Student Government Association ratified a constitution in July 1995. The goal of the SGA is to promote self-improvement, to mediate and resolve student problems, and to organize recreational activities. Each semester, the student body elects a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer. Class representatives in the SGA are elected from semesters 1-5. Student Activity Fees are allocated for SGA projects each term. The SGA sponsors numerous student events, including a welcome party for new students and health-related projects for the island community. The officers meet with the medical school administration to discuss student issues. Membership in the American Medical Student Association is actively promoted by the SGA.

## **AMERICAN MEDICAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION (AMSA)**

AMSA is an international, student-governed organization that is committed to representing the concerns of physicians in training. AMSA deals with issues such as universal health insurance, global health, diversity in medicine and medical education. AMSA strives to get students involved in medical activities and issues, and prepare them for the challenges they will have to face in practice. AMSA is one of the largest student groups on campus and is actively involved in local community initiatives, fundraising events and campus seminars.



## **SIGNIFICANT OTHERS OF SABA (SOS)**

The SOS is a support network of the spouses and significant others of medical students and faculty members. The organization elects officers each term and sponsors a number of projects, including a formal banquet, a bulk-food ordering program and a children's Halloween party. SOS members meet all new students with families and provide a welcome kit of food and other necessities to help a family through the initial adjustment to island life.

## **WOMEN'S MEDICAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

The mission of this organization is to facilitate the integration of women into the field of medicine at all levels. It is dedicated to the enhancement of personal growth, promotion of gender balance in administrative and faculty appointments, and sponsorship of educational events for the Saba community. Officers are elected each term and meetings are held regularly.



#### **MUSLIM STUDENT ASSOCIATION (MSA)**

The MSA encourages students in the learning and practice of traditional Islamic beliefs and traditions. Apart from being a spiritual and social outlet, the MSA at SUSOM also strives to support humanity, both locally and abroad. The MSA hosts several special events each year, such as a welcome dinner for new incoming students and the two main festivals of Islam (Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha). Meetings are held regularly and are open to all students and spouses.

#### **CHRISTIAN STUDENT ORGANIZATION (CSO)**

The CSO meets every Sunday for an informal student worship service. This Christian group is open to all students, non-denominational and Bible-based. Students play musical instruments, and the worship service is led by fellow students.

#### **SOUTH ASIAN STUDENT SOCIETY (SASS):**

The South Asian Student Society exposes SUSOM medical students and the Saban community to South Asian culture. This society helps educate the student body and faculty by providing an opportunity for South Asian students to demonstrate and learn more about their vibrant background. The SASS provides an opportunity for other people to participate in traditional South Asian celebrations and events that are held each semester.

#### **STUDENT INTEREST GROUP IN NEUROLOGY (SIGN)**

SIGN fosters medical students' interest in neurology by providing opportunities to participate in neurological activities that may involve other schools and the Saban community. Becoming a member allows the individual to become more aware of and involved in helping establish programs that are focused on clinical and research-oriented neuroscience studies and information.

#### **AFRICAN DIASPORA ASSOCIATION (ADA)**

The African Diaspora Association's mission is to share the African, Afro-American and Afro-Caribbean culture by hosting or participating in related school events, and highlighting prevalent issues and topics of interest. Several meetings are held during each semester, and membership is open to students, faculty and staff.

#### **CANADIAN STUDENT SOCIETY**

The Canadian Student Society provides a forum for information pertinent to Canadian students studying medicine abroad. The society helps celebrate Canadian heritage and supports students in their adjustment to Saba. Meetings are usually held twice per semester.

#### **JEWISH STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF SUSOM**

The Jewish Student Association involves students in religious activities, such as prayer and celebrating Jewish Holy Days, and hosts meetings and discussions to help students spiritually, educationally and socially.

# Financial Information

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It is the goal of Saba University School of Medicine to consistently maintain tuition rates that will allow students from diverse economic backgrounds the opportunity to attend medical school and achieve their career objectives. Tuition rates at SUSOM compare favorably to those offered by most state or federally supported institutions in the United States and Canada.

**We are committed to making  
medical education and training  
more accessible for all!**



**LEARN MORE, SCAN THE QR CODE**  
or visit [saba.edu/admissions/tuition-and-fees](https://saba.edu/admissions/tuition-and-fees)



## Tuition and Fees

Effective as of the September 2026 semester.

MD PROGRAM TUITION AND FEES	USD	CAD
Basic Sciences Tuition per Term (Terms 1-5)	\$20,480	\$20,480
Administrative Fee per Term (Terms 1-5)	\$8,270	\$8,270
Clinical Medicine Tuition per Term (Terms 6-10)	\$24,950	\$24,950
Administrative Fee per Term (Terms 6-10)	\$6,050	\$6,050
ALL ADDITIONAL FEES ARE PAID IN USD		
Graduation Fee	\$500	
Visa Fee	\$210	
Part-Time Tuition per Credit Hour	\$705	
Transcript Request Fee	\$10	
Tuition Deposit (non-refundable)	\$750	
Administrative Fee (non-refundable)	\$100	
Malpractice Insurance (Terms 6-10)	\$295	

*Tuition, fees and other expenses are listed in U.S. dollars, unless otherwise noted. Canadian citizens entering the SUSOM MD program in September 2025 or later are eligible to pay tuition and administrative fees in CAD.*

*Dormitory rates are subject to change without notice.*

*The Saba University School of Medicine Board of Trustees reserves the right to change tuition and adjust fees or to establish additional fees or charges.*

### NOTE

- Students may incur additional surcharges for elective clinical clerkships as part of the Clinical Medicine portion of the program. Elective clerkships conducted at certain hospitals may require a surcharge to be paid by the student. While many elective clinical clerkship sites do not require a surcharge, those that do currently range from \$50 to \$550 USD per week.
- Before students choose clinical sites for their clinical rotations, they will be provided a list detailing all surcharges per hospital, in order to ensure they can make informed decisions. This list is also available for all students upon request from the Office of the Associate Dean, Clinical Medicine.
- While Cost of Attendance budgets include an estimate for the surcharges, it is possible, based on the elective rotations selected by students, that the actual charge may exceed these estimates and thus not be included in financial aid budgets.

## TUITION PAYMENT POLICIES

All students are responsible for payment of tuition and fees via personal check, bank check or money order one month prior to matriculation into each new semester, whether in the Basic Sciences or Clinical Medicine program.

A \$750 USD deposit is due within 30 days of the date when an official letter of acceptance is proffered. A student may request a refund within three days of receipt of the deposit. After the three-day grace period, the deposit is non-refundable and is applied to the first semester Basic Sciences tuition.

All students entering into first semester must pay tuition at least 45 days prior to matriculation. If payment is made by check, the cancelled check will serve as the student's receipt. If a student remits a check that is returned because of insufficient funds, he or she must make any future payments to Saba University School of Medicine in the form of a bank check or money order.

Payment of all tuition and fees are due in full by the due date specified on the student's bill. A \$35 USD fee will be imposed for a returned check.

Students will be billed approximately two months prior to the beginning of each new semester. Invoices are mailed to the permanent address on record for registered students.

Payment for a student's semester bill should be directed to the Bursar's Office. If a bill is not received, it is the student's responsibility to contact the Finance Office.

All fees for the Clinical Medicine program must be paid prior to graduation. Students whose accounts have not been paid in full or otherwise cleared by the Finance Office will be subject to cancellation of class enrollment.

SUSOM reserves the right to withhold all diplomas, degrees, official transcripts and any other documentation from any student with outstanding financial obligations (rates are subject to change without notice).

## LATE FEES

Students will be assessed a late fee of \$200 USD for tuition not paid on or before the tuition due date. Students whose tuition has not been received prior to the start of the semester will not be permitted to attend classes.

## DEFERMENT FEE

Such a fee is assessed when a student requests and is granted postponement of matriculation to SUSOM. This fee is credited to the first semester's tuition, along with the initial deposit. The deferral fee must be received within 10 working days of the approved deferral.

## TUITION AND FEES PAYMENT POLICY FOR FIRST SEMESTER STUDENTS

First-semester students must pay their tuition and fees in full at least 45 days prior to registration. Subsequent semesters' tuition payments are due at least 30 days prior to the beginning of the semester. Credit card payments are not accepted. Please mail your check or money order made payable to:

### **c/o R3 Education Inc.**

One Jackson Place  
27 Jackson Road, Suite 302  
Devens, Massachusetts 01434  
United States of America

## TUITION REFUND

Tuition and fees shall be refunded in full, less an administrative fee of \$100 USD and the \$750 USD acceptance deposit, if notice of withdrawal is received prior to the first day of the semester. Tuition and fees shall also be refunded in full for the current enrollment period, minus the administrative fee and acceptance deposit, under the following circumstances:

- Courses cancelled by the institution.
- Involuntary call to active military duty.
- Documented death of the student.
- Exceptional circumstances, with approval of the President or designee of the institution.

Refunds will be calculated by the Finance Office and will be refunded within 30 days of withdrawal.



#### **THE TUITION WILL BE REFUNDED AS FOLLOWS, MINUS APPLICABLE FEES AND DEPOSITS**

- **A refund of 100% of the tuition** for which the student is obligated shall be issued if the student withdraws prior to the first day of the semester.
- **A refund of 90% of the tuition** for which the student is obligated shall be issued if the student's last date of attendance is prior to the expiration of 10% of the period of enrollment for which the student was charged or obligated.
- **A refund of 50% of the tuition** for which the student is obligated shall be issued if the student's last date of attendance is prior to the expiration of 25% of the period of enrollment for which the student was charged or obligated, but more than 10%.
- **A refund of 25% of the tuition** for which the student is obligated shall be issued if the student's last date of attendance is prior to the expiration of 50% of the period of enrollment for which the student was charged or obligated, but more than 25%.
- In case of withdrawal after 50% of the period of enrollment, the student is obligated for full tuition and fees.

All monies paid by an applicant will be refunded if cancellation occurs within three business days after signing the terms of enrollment and making the initial payment.

In order to be eligible for a tuition refund, students must obtain a financial clearance letter from the Administrative Office at SUSOM and a formal withdrawal form must be completed and authorized by the Dean.

# Financial Aid



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We realize that attendance at medical school represents a significant investment for our students and their families. At SUSOM, we are committed to doing everything we can to make your medical education more accessible. This includes maintaining a cost-effective tuition that makes our MD program attainable for students from around the world.

We also work closely with students to take full advantage of scholarship and financial aid options.

## **U.S. FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM**

Saba University School of Medicine has been approved by the United States Department of Education for participation in the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program. Qualified citizens and permanent residents of the United States may be eligible to receive funding from the Direct Loan programs to help pay for the cost of their education.

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) must be completed to determine eligibility. SUSOM's school code is G37803.

## **CANADIAN STUDENT LOANS**

Canadian students are eligible for student loans through the relevant government loan program in their province of residence, if one exists. For example, Ontario residents are eligible for the OSAP loan. Students may apply for up to 52 weeks of financial assistance annually. Canadian students should contact their individual provinces directly for information regarding additional requirements. SUSOM's school code is: NUBP.

In addition, numerous banks provide student lines of credit to supplement or substitute for the provincial loan alternative. Some of these banks include CIBC, RBC, TD and BMO, among others.



**LEARN MORE, SCAN THE QR CODE**  
or visit [saba.edu/admissions/financial-aid](https://saba.edu/admissions/financial-aid)

# Required Educational Equipment & Materials

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## **MEDICAL APPAREL**

Students must purchase their own medical apparel (i.e., laboratory coats, scrubs, short white coat, etc.).

## **COMPUTER**

Students must bring a laptop to engage effectively with the material and for note-taking during classes. All lectures are presented using PowerPoint.

## **TEXTBOOKS**

Students will be given a list of required textbooks and other equipment at the time of admission. Saba University School of Medicine reserves the right to change the book list.





# Living on Saba

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Name	Saba, Dutch Caribbean
Capital	The Bottom
Size/Population	13 km <sup>2</sup> ; 2,035 residents
Location	Approximately 1,230 miles from Miami; 1,600 miles from New York City; about 20 minutes by air from St. Maarten, with connecting flights available from Puerto Rico, Antigua and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
Weather	Warm all year. Temperatures average 80° Fahrenheit (27° C). No distinct rainy season, but brief heavy showers are more common from August through January.
Language	English
Government	Saba is a special municipality of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. While it follows Dutch law and governance, it retains local administrative autonomy.
Currency	The U.S. dollar (USD) is the official currency of Saba. It replaced the Netherlands Antillean guilder in 2011 and is used for all local transactions.
Electricity	Electricity on Saba is 110/120V at 60 cycles, the same as in the United States. No adapter is needed for U.S. appliances.
Cars/Taxi	Driving is on the right. Visitors who wish to drive must obtain a temporary Dutch Caribbean driving permit. Taxis are available at Juancho E. Yrausquin Airport and around the island.
Getting to Saba	Juancho E. Yrausquin Airport on Saba offers regular flights from St. Maarten via Winair. Travellers from the U.S., Canada or Europe typically connect through St. Maarten which is served by major international airlines. Saba is also accessible by scenic ferry ride from St. Maarten.
Customs/ Immigration	Passports are required for all visitors. Check with a Dutch embassy for entry requirements based on your nationality.
Dress	Casual attire is standard on Saba. Swimwear is appropriate at the beach or pool, but not on the streets or in public areas. Modesty is appreciated, and public indecency laws are strictly enforced.
Post Office	Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Closed on weekends and public holidays.

## **CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION**

Saba is considered a rabies-free island. Therefore, there are many rules and regulations pertaining to pets on Saba. See the government of Saba website for more information: [www.sabagov.nl](http://www.sabagov.nl).

## **CURRENCY AND BANKING**

The U.S. dollar and traveler's checks are acceptable currency everywhere on Saba. Banks on Saba are open on weekdays but closed on weekends. The bank on Saba is the RBC bank, which is located in Windwardside. Students may have funds wire-transferred directly to the bank on Saba. An ATM machine is located at the RBC bank.

## **ELECTRICITY AND TELEPHONE**

Electricity is based on the U.S. standard of 110 volts. Students bringing computers and other electronic equipment are encouraged to also bring a surge protector. Modern, direct dialing, worldwide telephone service is standard on Saba. Nearly all hotels and government offices have fax machines.

## **CHURCHES ON SABA**

Numerous religious denominations are represented on Saba. Some of the churches include Roman Catholic, Anglican, Seventh-Day Adventist and Wesleyan Holiness.

## **CLIMATE**

The mountains on Saba create a temperate climate with temperatures in the 78° to 82° range year-round. In the evenings, the air may cool to the mid-60s; minimum rainfall is 42 inches annually.

## **HIKING**

The elevation of Saba ranges from sea level to the 2,800+ ft. peak of Mt. Scenery, which is often hidden in the clouds. The Saba Conservation Foundation has marked and groomed trails for hikers of all abilities around the island.

## **DIVING**

The Saba Bank has established itself as one of the most pristine diving spots in the world. The Saba Marine Park Foundation, under the direction of the Saba government and a marine biologist, has

29 permanent moorings for dive boats. Diving is excellent on Saba all year round, with visibility to a depth of 100 to 125 feet and 75° to 86° water temperatures. The diving sites include lava flows, sand spills, overhangs, caves, Elkhorn coral forests and underwater mountains. Dive centers on Saba provide NAUI and PADI instruction.

## **PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN ON SABA**

Public schools for grades kindergarten through high school are available on Saba. All classes are taught in English. Medical students with children are encouraged to make contact with the school principal well in advance of their arrival on Saba to facilitate their children's matriculation in public school.

### **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 6**

Sacred Heart Primary School is located in St. John's on Saba. Classes are from 7:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. daily. Subjects covered are language arts, reading, mathematics, social studies, science, art, music, physical education, drama, religious education and foreign languages. Transportation to and from school is provided for free. Tuition is approximately \$100 USD per child per year.

### **SECONDARY SCHOOL: GRADE 7 THROUGH GRADE 12**

Saba Comprehensive School is located in St. John's on Saba. Classes run from 7:15 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. daily. Some of the subjects covered are English, physical education, mathematics, physics, computer studies, geography, business, accounting, art, foreign languages and history. Transportation to and from school is provided for free.

## **DAYCARE SERVICE**

The Laura Lindsay Day Care, located in The Bottom, is open daily from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Breakfast and lunch are included for attendees.

## **CHILD FOCUS FOUNDATION**

This foundation provides after-school activities for children. Learn more on their website: [www.childfocussaba.org](http://www.childfocussaba.org).





#### **SABA MARINE PARK HYPERBARIC FACILITY**

Saba is very fortunate to be one of the locations in the Caribbean to have a Hyperbaric-Recompression Chamber. This hyperbaric facility is administered by the Saba Marine Park authorities.

#### **LEISURE ACTIVITIES**

The island of Saba features a variety of dining, diving, hiking and water sport activities for students and locals. A little further afield, St. Maarten is also a popular destination for Sabans and students looking for fun activities in their downtime. Less than 15 minutes by plane from Saba, St. Maarten has a population of more than 40,000 residents, hundreds of restaurants, world-class hotels, and is surrounded by white, sandy beaches.



## **TRANSPORTATION**

### **AIR TRAVEL**

All international travel to Saba must first connect in St. Maarten (SXM). There are several major commercial airlines that offer daily flights there from the United States, North America, South America and Europe. Winair then offers multiple daily direct flights from St. Maarten to Saba's Juancho E. Yrausquin Airport. The short trip between St. Maarten and Saba is approximately 15 minutes by air.

### **FERRY SERVICE**

Travelers can choose between two ferry services located on St. Maarten. The Edge ferry and the Makana ferry travel to Saba from St. Maarten several times a week. Travel time by ferry from St. Maarten to Fort Bay, Saba is approximately 90 minutes in duration.

### **TRANSPORTATION ON SABA**

Taxis and small vans are readily available for newcomers to Saba. Given the small size of Saba, getting around the island should not present a problem. Saba also has several school vans that provide transportation to and from class for students living off-campus.



# Saba Calendar of Events

The following holidays are observed on Saba. On these legal holidays, business offices, banks and most shops are closed.

## JANUARY

New Year's Day

## APRIL

Good Friday

Easter Sunday

Easter Monday

Coronation Day and King's Birthday

## MAY

Labor Day

## JUNE

Ascension Thursday

## JULY

Saba Summer Carnival Festival

Saba Grand Carnival Parade

Carnival Monday

## OCTOBER

Antillean Day

## DECEMBER

Saba Days "Mini Winter Carnival" (first Friday of the month)

Christmas Day

Boxing Day

 **FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**  
visit [www.sabatourism.com](http://www.sabatourism.com)

# Institutional Complaints

Students should seek to resolve academic matters through the Student Grievance: Procedures and Appeals policy outlined on page 36 herein.

In the event a student has a complaint regarding a disciplinary action that has not been resolved by Saba University School of Medicine through the Procedures and Appeals policy, the student may contact the government of the locale in which they reside. A list of state agencies may be found on the [saba.edu](http://saba.edu) website in the Student Consumer Information document.


For other institutional matters, students are encouraged to address complaints that they may have concerning Saba University School of Medicine through a meeting with the SUSOM personnel directly involved with the issue that is the subject of the complaint. In the event the student is unable to resolve their complaint in this manner, the student may submit a written complaint to the Assistant Dean, Student Affairs.

If a student complaint is associated with the institution's compliance with academic program quality and accrediting standards, they may file a complaint with the Accreditation Organization of the Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO), the agency that accredits SUSOM's program of medicine.

The NVAO will only consider complaints that have not been resolved satisfactorily at the institutional level. The contact information for NVAO is:

## NVAO

Parkstraat 28  
2514 JK The Hague  
Netherlands  
Postbox 85498  
2508 CD The Hague, Netherlands

 +31 (0)70 312 2300

 [info@nvaio.net](mailto:info@nvaio.net)

 [www.nvaio.net](http://www.nvaio.net)

# Administration

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*Kansas City, KS*

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*MA, Goddard College, Plainfield, VT*

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Director for the Center

for Student Learning

*PhD, Johns Hopkins University,*

*Baltimore, MD*

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Registrar

**TERRY J. MOYA**

Chief Financial Officer

**MICHELE WULFKEN**

Interim Director, U.S.

Financial Aid

**MICHAEL MCGILLICUDDY**

Bursar, Finance Office

**BONNIE O'BRIEN**

Coordinator,

Graduate/Alumni Affairs

**JUSTIN KANTOR**

IT Specialist (U.S. Office)

**MICHEL NATION**

Assistant IT Specialist

(Saba Campus)

**TARA A. EVERY**

Campus Administrator

**LAURA BOATSWAIN**

Administrative Assistant

**MARGARET CHARLES**

Housing Coordinator

**LINA RAMIREZ**

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Dallas, TX

**TOLU OLUPANA, MD (PSYCHIATRY)**

MD, New York University Grossman School of Medicine,  
New York City, NY



# Faculty

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**REEM ABRAHAM**

**PhD**

Professor, Courses: Human Histology and Physiology, and Systems and Disease Courses



**VAUGHN E. HUCKFELDT JR.**

**PhD**

Professor, Director of Center for Student Learning and Course Director Medical Ethics



**JOMI HILOTINA ALCON**

**MD**

Assistant Professor, HHP and SD Courses



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**PhD**

Professor Human Body Structure and Function



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**MBChB, FRCPath (UK)**

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**BSc, Med, PhD, PGCHET**

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**MBBS, MPhil, PhD**

Associate Professor, Systems and Disease Courses (Pharmacology) and Foundations of Clinical Medicine



**VICTOR M. DELACRUZ**

**BSc, Med, PhD, PGCHET**

Associate Professor, Physiology; Course Director/Examiner, Systems and Disease III



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**B.Sc. Combined Honors, Biol/Psych. M.A., PhD Psychology**

Associate Professor, Course Director/Examiner, Behavioral Medicine; Chair, Behavioral Sciences Department



**DANIELLE GOLD**

**DBH, NCC, ACS**

Director of Counseling and Assistant Professor of Behavioral



**ISMAIL MEMON**

**MBBS, PhD**

Assistant Professor, Human Body Structure and Function



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PhD

Professor, Associate Dean of Basic Sciences, Infection, Defense, Response and Evidence-Based Medicine, and Foundations of Clinical Medicine



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MD

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Professor, Clinical Medicine



**KERI CSEENCSITS SMITH**  
PhD

Associate Professor and Course Director/Examiner of Microbiology and Immunology, and Chair of Molecular Department



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MBBS, MD

Professor, Course Director/Examiner, Systems & Disease II, Pharmacology



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Professor, Metabolism and Nutrition and Foundations of Clinical Medicine



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Assistant Professor, Clinical Skills, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Neurology



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MD

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**SAMMY C. WONG**  
MD

Assistant Professor, Human Body Structure and Function



**RESHMA SHRESTHA**  
MD

Associate Professor, Systems and Disease Courses (Pathology)



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Professor, Course Director/Examiner, Genetics, Foundations of Clinical Medicine



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