

DPM licensing

California Board of Podiatric Medicine

2005 Evergreen Street, Ste. 1300, Sacramento, CA 95815
www.bpm.ca.gov * BPM@dca.ca.gov
tel 916.263.2647 * fax 916.263.2651

schools of podiatric medicine

American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine

15850 Crabbs Branch Way, Ste. 320, Rockville, MD 20855
www.aacpm.org * tel 800.922.9266

American Podiatric Medical Students' Association

www.apmsa.org/index.php/home

careers

California Podiatric Medical Association

2430 K Street, Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95816
www.calpma.org * tel 916.448.0248 or 800.794.8988

American Podiatric Medical Association

9312 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD 20814-1621
www.apma.org * tel 301.581.9200

Department of Consumer Affairs

1625 North Market Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95834
www.dca.ca.gov * tel 800.952.5210

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2005 Evergreen Street, Ste. 1300, Sacramento, CA 95815
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step into a
rewarding career
in
**podiatric
medicine**

CALIFORNIA BOARD OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE



Are you looking for a medical **specialty career** that
delivers high **income**, job **security**, rewarding **doctor-**
patient relationships, and a **good lifestyle**?

become a DOCTOR of
PODIATRIC MEDICINE [DPM]

DPMs, also called podiatrists, are independent practitioners of medicine and surgery who diagnose and treat disorders, diseases, and injuries of the foot and ankle.

Now may be the best time to enter the podiatric medical profession.

A 2008 study by the American Podiatric Medical Association found that "unless the number of graduations of new podiatric physicians increases dramatically, the supply will not keep up with the increasing demand for their services."

Doctors of podiatric medicine placed 15th in *Forbes* magazine's survey titled "America's 25 Best-Paying Jobs," with a median salary of \$150,000 a year. The U.S. Department of Labor Statistics' 2008-09 *Occupational Outlook Handbook* says, "Podiatrists enjoy very high earnings" and "job opportunities should be good."

DPMs can focus on various aspects of podiatric medicine and surgery, including sports medicine, infectious disease, wound care, radiology, biomechanics, orthopedics, vascular disease, diabetes and limb salvage, dermatology, pediatrics, geriatrics, hospital administration, academia, and research. They can work in a private or group practice, multi-specialty groups, clinics, hospitals, long-term care facilities, or other settings.



Several factors are **FUELING** the **GROWING** need for **podiatric** **medical care**



- * The prevalence of **diabetes**
- * The interest in **fitness and sports**
- * The **aging** of the population
- * The rise in **obesity**

DPMs form close and rewarding doctor-patient relationships that provide for meaningful practice. Plus, they are less likely to be on call evenings, nights, and weekends than some physicians.

DPMs can be the primary surgeon in foot and ankle operations, and can assist MD and DO surgeons in any surgical procedure. This contributes to an interesting practice, collaborative cross-training among surgeons, and higher income.

education

As with most medical schools, the minimum requirement for admission to a college of podiatric medicine is 90 semester units. That includes specific pre-medical courses as well as elective and recommended courses. Most students entering colleges of podiatric medicine will have earned a bachelor's or graduate degree, and an acceptable score on the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT).

Podiatric medical school includes two years of classroom instruction and laboratory work, followed by two years of clinical rotation and patient care. Graduates are awarded a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (DPM) degree.

Podiatric medical school graduates need at least two years of graduate medical education (GME or postgraduate residency training) and to pass standard national licensing tests before receiving a permanent California license to practice.

The California Board of Podiatric Medicine licenses all DPMs who practice or participate in postgraduate training in California.

“**Podiatric Medicine is an outstanding career opportunity** that is sometimes overlooked by pre-medical students, as it is often considered an alternative instead of an option. As a podiatric practitioner who spent 30 years in an academic health science center, I can say without a doubt that podiatric medicine is an exciting, challenging, rewarding profession, as we are many specialists wrapped up in one. We are the dermatologist, neurologist, rheumatologist, and orthopedist of the foot and ankle.”

“The podiatric foot and ankle specialist is an integral member of the healthcare team, as they are often the practitioner who diagnoses many systemic diseases which initially present with foot manifestations. The foot has often been coined the ‘mirror of systemic disease,’ as many diseases such as diabetes, vascular disease, arthritis, neuropathy, and HIV/AIDS would initially manifest in the foot.”

Lawrence B. Harkless, DPM, Founding Dean, Western University College of Podiatric Medicine

There are **9** COLLEGES of **PODIATRIC MEDICINE**

California School of Podiatric Medicine
at Samuel Merritt University, Oakland, CA

Western University College of Podiatric Medicine,
Pomona, CA

Arizona Podiatric Medicine Program
at Midwestern University, Glendale, AZ

Barry University School of Podiatric Medicine,
Miami Shores, FL

**Des Moines University—College of
Podiatric Medicine and Surgery** Des Moines, IA

New York College of Podiatric Medicine, New York, NY

Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine, Independence, OH

Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine
at Rosalind Franklin University, North Chicago, IL

Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine,
Philadelphia, PA

