

PODIATRIC MEDICINE - D.P.M.

College of Podiatric Medicine
www.kent.edu/cpm

Examples of Possible Careers

- Foot and Ankle Physician

Contact Information

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- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Fully Offered

- Kent Campus - Independence location

Admission Terms

- Fall

Description

The Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree in Podiatric Medicine prepares students for the podiatric medicine field. The podiatric physician is a health professional who is involved with examination, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of foot disorders by physical, medical and surgical means. A podiatric medicine doctor is trained to detect the signs of systemic disease which may appear first in the lower extremity, such as diabetes or circulatory disorders. When such diagnoses are made, the podiatric physician consults with the patient's family doctor concerning the systemic disease.

A career in podiatric medicine can include the areas of primary care, surgery, orthopedics, sports medicine, geriatrics and pediatrics.

Accreditation

The D.P.M. degree in Podiatric Medicine is accredited by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education (CPME) of the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA).

Admission Requirements

The College of Podiatric Medicine requires that candidates for admission complete a minimum 90 semester credit hours (or minimum 135 quarter hours), including the following prerequisites:

- 6 semesters (or 9 quarter hours) of English
- 8 semesters (or 12 quarter hours) of biology¹
- 8 semesters (or 12 quarter hours) of general/inorganic chemistry¹
- 8 semesters (or 12 quarter hours) of organic chemistry¹
- 8 semesters (or 12 quarter hours) of physics¹

¹ All science coursework must include labs, when applicable.

Nearly all of entering Podiatric Medicine students will have earned a bachelor's or advanced degree prior to matriculation; however, students may be granted admission with the required undergraduate coursework

(90 semester hours or 135 quarter hours) and prerequisites completed. In addition to required coursework, the following classes are recommended: biochemistry, histology, anatomy and physiology, neurobiology and microbiology.

The College of Podiatric Medicine requires candidates to take the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) prior to matriculation. Scores must be within three years of the application date. Candidates may apply before taking the MCAT; however, the college will not be able to take final admissions action until official MCAT scores are received by the application service (AACPMAS). Candidates should plan on taking the MCAT no later than May of the year they plan to matriculate.

Applicants should furnish at least one academic letter of recommendation or a composite letter from a pre-medical advisory committee, and one letter from a practicing doctor of podiatric medicine.

English Language Proficiency Requirements for International Students:

All international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning a minimum 587 TOEFL score (94 on the Internet-based version), minimum 82 MELAB score, minimum 7.0 IELTS score, minimum 65 PTE Academic score or minimum 120 Duolingo English Test score. For more information on international admission, visit the Office of Global Education's admission website.

For more information about graduate admissions, please visit the Graduate Studies website.

Technical Standards and Essential Requirements for Student Education at Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine.

The College of Podiatric Medicine is committed to the admission and advancement of all qualified students. College policy prohibits discrimination against anyone solely based on race, sexual orientation, gender, veteran status, color, national origin, religion, age, handicap or disability.

The faculty and administration have adopted the following technical standards and essential requirements that must be met by all students for progression and graduation. These technical standards expected of students seeking the degree of doctor of Podiatric Medicine reflect the college's highest commitment to the safety of its students and patients, and recognize the essential functions of the profession of podiatric medicine.

The following standards and requirements describe the academic abilities and non-academic qualifications that are essential to the program of instruction, are directly related to the licensing requirements, and are directly related to those physical abilities, mental abilities, skills, attitudes and behaviors that students must demonstrate or perform at each stage of their education to ultimately ensure patient safety.

- **Visual observation and integration:** Candidates and students must have sufficient vision to observe demonstrations, video materials, and slides through a microscope and computer screens. They must acquire information from written documents, radiographs, photographs, charts and diagrams. They must be able to observe a patient accurately close at hand and at a distance to assess asymmetry, range of motion and tissue/texture changes.
- **Communication:** Candidates and students must be able to communicate effectively in oral and written formats, and in settings where time span is limited. This includes communication in clinical and laboratory settings. Candidates must be able to accurately elicit

information in a timely and efficient manner. Candidates must be able to describe a patient's condition to the patient and to others in the diagnosis and treatment process.

- **Other sensory capacities:** Students must independently be able to take an oral history, do stethoscopy and communicate while wearing a surgical mask. Students must also have sufficient somatosensory capacity to palpate pulses, use a tuning fork and assess skin temperature.
- **Motor functions:** Candidates and students must have sufficient motor function reasonably required to undertake classes, laboratories and demonstrations, to provide general patient care as well as emergency treatment to patients. This includes cadaver dissection, microscopy, aseptic technique and safe handling of microbiological specimens. Also included is the motor capacity for chart and prescription writing, palpation, percussion, auscultation and other diagnostic maneuvers. All of these tasks must be done in a timely and efficient manner within prescribed time limitations relative to the context of a practicing physician. Examples of common daily treatments include, but are not limited to, palliative care of foot and ankle problems, injections, orthotic impressions, taking and processing of pedal radiographs, and performance of soft tissue and osseous tissue surgical procedures. Examples of emergency treatments include CPR, administration of intravenous medications, the opening of obstructed airways, and hemostasis techniques.
- **Intellectual, conceptual, quantitative and integrative abilities:** Candidates must have sufficient cognitive abilities and effective learning techniques to assimilate the detailed and complex information presented in the medical student curriculum. Candidates must engage in critical thinking and problem solving. They must be able to learn through a variety of modalities including, but not limited to, classroom and lab instruction and exams; small group, team and collaborative activities; individual study; preparation and presentation of reports; and use of computer technology. Candidates must be able to consistently, quickly and accurately measure, calculate, interpret, reason, memorize, analyze, synthesize and transmit information across modalities. Candidates must be able to demonstrate these skills and procedures under pressure and in a timely fashion across a range of conditions and time frames. They must be able to recognize and draw conclusions under pressure and in a timely fashion across a range of conditions and time frames. They must be able to recognize and draw conclusions about three-dimensional spatial relationships and logical sequential relationships among events. These skills and abilities are fully defined by the faculty and explained in course syllabi.
- **Behavioral and social attributes:** Candidates must demonstrate the maturity and emotional stability required for full use of their intellectual abilities. They must accept responsibility for learning, exercising good judgement and promptly completing all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients. They must understand the legal and ethical aspects of the practice of medicine and function within both the law and ethical standards of the medical profession. Candidates must be able to work effectively, respectfully and professionally as part of the healthcare team and to interact with patients, their families, and health care personnel in a courteous, professional and respectful manner. They must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads and long work hours, to function effectively under stress and to display flexibility and adaptability to changing environments.
- **Involvement in invasive and exposure-prone procedures:** Candidates and students must be qualified to be personally and actively involved in invasive and exposure-prone procedures without being a danger

to patients, other health care professionals or fellow students. They must demonstrate adherence to the universal precautions as defined by the Center for Disease Control. As part of the technical standards and essential requirements to matriculate at the college, the following statement shall apply: If the student is HIV seropositive, the student may be restricted by the State Medical Board of Ohio from performing procedures required for graduation. If the student is HBV and or HCV positive and does not demonstrate non-infectivity, the student may be restricted by the State Medical Board of Ohio from performing procedures required for graduation. Any questions regarding these requirements should be directed to the senior associate dean.

Program Learning Outcomes

The following educational outcomes will be attained as a result of the cumulative effect of both didactic instruction in preclinical courses and clinical courses, as well as clinical experiences afforded through clinical rotations and clerkship experiences. The goal is to prepare the graduate for successful entry into postdoctoral training program.

1. To have an appreciation of the ethical responsibilities of the physician to his or her patient.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of medical statistics, epidemiology and research methods.
3. Diagnose common foot and ankle pathology utilizing signs, symptoms, differential diagnosis, laboratory and X-ray evaluations; and discuss treatment alternatives available in each diagnosis, including the following:
 - a. Hallux valgus
 - b. Hallux limits
 - c. Contracted and deformed lesser digits
 - d. Hyperpronation on hindfoot
 - e. Hypersupination of hindfoot
 - f. Morton's Neuroma
 - g. Capsulitis of forefoot
 - h. Tendonitis/bursitis
 - i. Heel Spur syndrome
 - j. Nail deformities (Onychomycosis)
 - k. Verruca
 - l. Stress fracture
- m. Ulcers
- n. Bacterial infections
- o. Fungal infections
- p. Ankle sprains
- q. Plantar calluses
- r. Degenerative joint disease
- s. Gouty arthritis
- t. Rigid flatfoot
4. To have an understanding of the medical, social, economic, ethnic and cultural issues and concerns of the geriatric population.
5. To have an appreciation of civil, criminal and administrative laws that impact podiatric practice.
6. To have knowledge of podiatric practice administration.
7. To have an understanding of the public health issues that impact podiatric practice.
8. To be able to provide podiatric primary care in a clinical setting.

9. Is proficient in the ability to perform a history and basic physical examination, including the lower extremity.
10. Recognize the common major dermatologic conditions, and manage pedal dermatological problems.
11. Be knowledgeable of the major systemic diseases, their pedal manifestations and implication in the management of the podiatric patient.
12. Demonstrate knowledge of the pathology, clinical presentation and treatment of general neurological disease, and understand the pedal manifestations of neurological diseases.
13. Understand common emergent medical problems and their management.
14. Ability to perform a complete podiatric biomechanical arthrometric examination, and interpret the results.
15. Prescribe and institute orthotic or other mechanical therapy (physical therapy, activity modification, exercise therapy, shoe therapy, etc.), based upon findings of a podiatric biomechanical arthrometric examination.
16. Evaluate, diagnose, prescribe and institute treatment for commonly encountered and mechanically induced injuries or conditions occurring in the lower extremity.
17. Perform a complete lower extremity examination on pediatric/aged patient, comparing developmental milestones to the norm, and identifying common lower extremity injuries and conditions.
18. Be able to evaluate medical status of a pre-op patient, and recognize and prepare treatment plan for common post-op complications.
19. Understand concepts of wound healing (both soft tissue and bone), and utilize those concepts to evaluate and manage surgical wounds.
20. Understand and perform basic surgical skills, including administration of local anesthetics, aseptic techniques, instrumentation, homeostasis techniques suture materials and needle selection, suturing, hand ties, tourniquets application and gowning and gloving.
21. Understand concepts necessary to determine the indications for forefoot and rearfoot surgical reconstruction procedure, including:
 - a. Pre-operative evaluation and procedure selection.
 - b. Description of the procedure.
 - c. Reasonable postoperative follow-up plan.
22. Recognize various types of foot and ankle trauma, including fractures, dislocations, sprains, tendon ruptures, and formulates a treatment plan.
23. Recognize and implement treatment plan for soft tissue or bone infection, including surgical procedure and selection of antibiotic agents.

Professional Licensure Disclosure

This program is designed to prepare students to sit for applicable licensure or certification in Ohio. If you plan to pursue licensure or certification in a state other than Ohio, please review state educational requirements for licensure or certification and contact information for state licensing boards at Kent State's website for professional licensure disclosure.

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements ¹		
CMD 80326	PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION	3
CMD 80327	HEALTHCARE LAW AND REGULATION	3
GMD 80121	PHYSICAL ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSIS	3
GMD 80314	NEUROLOGY	2
GMD 80315	DERMATOLOGY	2
GMD 80316	MEDICINE I	4
GMD 80326	MEDICINE II	4
GMD 80327	BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE	1
GMD 80328	WOMEN'S HEALTH	1
ORT 80131	BIOMECHANICS I	3
ORT 80132	REHABILITATIVE MEDICINE	2
ORT 80211	BIOMECHANICS II	2
ORT 80325	SPORTS MEDICINE	2
PCS 80109	HUMAN ANATOMY	6
PCS 80110	EMBRYOLOGY	2
PCS 80112	CELL AND TISSUE	5
PCS 80113	STAYING ALIVE	5
PCS 80118	MEDICAL GENETICS	2
PCS 80124	LOWER EXTREMITY ANATOMY	8
PCS 80128	MEDICAL MICROBIO/IMMUNOLOGY	6
PCS 80121	NEUROMUSCULAR SYSTEMS	5.0
PCS 80122	CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM	3.0
PCS 80123	RENAL AND RESPIRATORY SYSTEMS	3.0
PCS 80230	PRECLINICAL SCIENCES COMPETENCY	4.0
PCS 80218	HUMAN SYSTEMS PATHOLOGY I	8
PCS 80219	PHARMACOLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS I	4
PCS 80228	HUMAN SYSTEMS PATHOLOGY II	8
PCS 80229	PHARMACOLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS II	4
PMD 80113	MEDICAL ETHICS	1
PMD 80114	PRINCIPLES OF MEDICAL RESEARCH	1
PMD 80117	PODIATRY, PROFESSIONALISM AND SOCIETY I	1
PMD 80132	LOW EXTREMITY ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSIS	2
PMD 80133	INTRODUCTION MEDICAL IMAGING	1
PMD 80211	PODIATRIC MEDICINE I	2
PMD 80214	RADIOLOGY AND MEDICAL IMAGING I	2
PMD 80217	PODIATRY, PROFESSIONALISM AND SOCIETY II	1
PMD 80221	PODIATRIC MEDICINE II	2
PMD 80222	PODIATRIC MEDICAL SKILLS	2
PMD 80224	RADIOLOGY AND MEDICAL IMAGING II	2
PMD 80317	PODIATRY PROF SOCIETY III	1
PMD 80318	PEDIATRICS	2
PMD 80417	PODIATRY, PROFESSIONALISM AND SOCIETY IV	4
SUR 80221	INTRODUCTION TO PODIATRIC SURGERY	2
SUR 80313	PODIATRIC SURGERY	2
SUR 80323	PODIATRIC SURGERY	2
SUR 80325	TRAUMATOLOGY	2
Clinical Requirements		
<i>Second Year Clinical Option ²</i>		1
CLI 80200	STANDARDIZED PATIENTS ROTATION	

<i>Third Year Clinical Options</i> ³		32
CLI 80310	PODIATRIC SURGERY ROTATION	
CLI 80315	SURGICAL SKILLS WORKSHOP	
CLI 80320	RADIOLOGY ROTATION	
CLI 80351	PODIATRIC MEDICINE/BIOMECHANICS (EUCLID)	
CLI 80352	PODIATRIC MEDICINE/BIOMECHANICS (INDEPENDENCE)	
CLI 80365	PRIMARY CARE/VETERANS ADMINISTRATION	
CLI 80380	SIMULATED PATIENTS I	
CLI 80381	SIMULATED PATIENTS II	
<i>Third Year Summer Clinical Options, choose from the following</i> ⁴		8-12
CLI 80441	SENIOR CLINICAL ROTATION I	
CLI 80442	SENIOR CLINICAL ROTATION II	
CLI 80445	SENIOR ROTATION VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL	
CLI 80455	COMMUNITY MEDICINE/MEDICAL IMAGING ROTATION	
CLI 80460	CLERKSHIP ROTATION I	
CLI 80465	CLERKSHIP ROTATION II	
CLI 80470	CLERKSHIP ROTATION III	
CLI 80475	CLERKSHIP ROTATION IV	
CLI 80480	CLERKSHIP ROTATION V	
CLI 80521	SENIOR MEDICINE ROTATION I	
CLI 80522	SENIOR MEDICINE ROTATION II	
<i>Fourth Year Clinical Options, choose from the following:</i> ^{4,5}		28-32
CLI 80441	SENIOR CLINICAL ROTATION I	
CLI 80442	SENIOR CLINICAL ROTATION II	
CLI 80445	SENIOR ROTATION VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL	
CLI 80455	COMMUNITY MEDICINE/MEDICAL IMAGING ROTATION	
CLI 80460	CLERKSHIP ROTATION I	
CLI 80465	CLERKSHIP ROTATION II	
CLI 80470	CLERKSHIP ROTATION III	
CLI 80475	CLERKSHIP ROTATION IV	
CLI 80480	CLERKSHIP ROTATION V	
CLI 80521	SENIOR MEDICINE ROTATION I	
CLI 80522	SENIOR MEDICINE ROTATION II	
<i>Fourth Year Summer Clinical Options, choose from the following</i> ^{4,5}		0-4
CLI 80441	SENIOR CLINICAL ROTATION I	
CLI 80442	SENIOR CLINICAL ROTATION II	
CLI 80445	SENIOR ROTATION VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL	
CLI 80455	COMMUNITY MEDICINE/MEDICAL IMAGING ROTATION	
CLI 80460	CLERKSHIP ROTATION I	
CLI 80465	CLERKSHIP ROTATION II	
CLI 80470	CLERKSHIP ROTATION III	
CLI 80475	CLERKSHIP ROTATION IV	
CLI 80480	CLERKSHIP ROTATION V	
CLI 80521	SENIOR MEDICINE ROTATION I	
CLI 80522	SENIOR MEDICINE ROTATION II	

Minimum Total Credit Hours:

214

- ¹ Students placed in Pathway II (due to two failures on the American Podiatric Medical Licensing Examination, APMLE Part I) are required to take PMD 80396 Independent Study, increasing the minimum total credit hours by 5 credit hours.
- ² 1 credit hour taken either Fall or Spring semester
- ³ 32 credit hours taken either Fall or Spring semester and follow a class rotation
- ⁴ Students are separated into twelve groups with a different rotation each month. Students are permitted to take one month off as an elective month. CLI 80485 and CLI 80490 are elective clerkship rotations available to students who wish to gain further clinical experience on top of the required five clerkship rotations. Please note, once a student registers for these electives, the required minimum total credit hours for the student will increase by 4 credit hours for each elective. PMD 80495 may be available for students to take as an elective on top of the program requirements.
- ⁵ Take courses not taken during 3rd year summer semester.

Progression Requirements

Students whose first semester of coursework in the DPM program is fall 2016 or later are required to meet the following minimum overall GPAs during the first and second year:

- 2.500 overall GPA at the end of the 1st Year fall semester
- 2.500 overall GPA at the end of the 1st Year spring semester
- 2.500 overall GPA at the end of the 1st Year summer semester
- 2.500 overall GPA at the end of the 2nd Year fall semester
- 2.400 overall GPA at the end of the 2nd Year spring semester

Students falling below the minimum overall GPAs following the 1st Year fall, spring, and summer semesters, or the 2nd Year fall semester are required to participate in mandatory academic counseling. Students below the minimum overall GPA of 2.400 at the end of the 2nd Year spring semester will be academically dismissed with the right to appeal for reinstatement, provided that the student has not previously been dismissed (academic or otherwise) from the College of Podiatric Medicine.

Graduation Requirements

A candidate for the degree of Doctor of Podiatric Medicine must have:

- Maintained satisfactory academic performance with no grade below a C or S (satisfactory)
- Demonstrated clinical competence through completion of the performance objectives
- Been verified as being in good disciplinary standing
- Satisfactorily completed all academic requirements, including clinical rotations and externship/clerkship program requirements
- Fulfilled all responsibilities and financial obligations to the college and university
- Demonstrated moral and mental competency to practice podiatric medicine
- Taken and passed the American Podiatric Medical Licensing Examination (APMLE) Part I, and have taken both sections of Part II (written examination and the Clinical Skills Encounter--CSPE examination) and released the score reports to the college

- **Attendance at the graduation ceremony is required.**
- In order to be eligible for graduation in May, candidates must have met all of the above requirements prior to June 30th immediately following the May graduation.
- All students must successfully complete the graduation requirements within six years of their initial matriculation. Exceptions for students with extenuating circumstances must have the approval of the Council on Podiatric Medical education (CPME).
- There is no contract stated or implied, between the college and the students that a degree will be conferred at any stated time, or at all.

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this major.

First Year

Fall Semester		Credits
PCS 80109	HUMAN ANATOMY	6
PCS 80110	EMBRYOLOGY	2
PCS 80112	CELL AND TISSUE	5
PCS 80113	STAYING ALIVE	5
PCS 80118	MEDICAL GENETICS	2
PMD 80113	MEDICAL ETHICS	1
PMD 80114	PRINCIPLES OF MEDICAL RESEARCH	1
PMD 80117	PODIATRY, PROFESSIONALISM AND SOCIETY I	1
Credit Hours		23

Spring Semester

GMD 80121	PHYSICAL ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSIS	3
PCS 80121	NEUROMUSCULAR SYSTEMS	5
PCS 80122	CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM	3
PCS 80123	RENAL AND RESPIRATORY SYSTEMS	3
PCS 80124	LOWER EXTREMITY ANATOMY	8
PCS 80128	MEDICAL MICROBIO/IMMUNOLOGY	6
Credit Hours		28

Summer Term

ORT 80131	BIOMECHANICS I	3
ORT 80132	REHABILITATIVE MEDICINE	2
PMD 80132	LOW EXTREMITY ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSIS	2
PMD 80133	INTRODUCTION MEDICAL IMAGING	1
Credit Hours		8

Second Year

Fall Semester

PCS 80218	HUMAN SYSTEMS PATHOLOGY I	8
PCS 80219	PHARMACOLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS I	4
ORT 80211	BIOMECHANICS II	2
PMD 80211	PODIATRIC MEDICINE I	2
PMD 80214	RADIOLOGY AND MEDICAL IMAGING I	2
Second Year Clinical Option		0-1
Credit Hours		18

Spring Semester

PCS 80228	HUMAN SYSTEMS PATHOLOGY II	8
PCS 80229	PHARMACOLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS II	4
PCS 80230	PRECLINICAL SCIENCES COMPETENCY	4
PMD 80217	PODIATRY, PROFESSIONALISM AND SOCIETY II	1
PMD 80221	PODIATRIC MEDICINE II	2
PMD 80222	PODIATRIC MEDICAL SKILLS	2
PMD 80224	RADIOLOGY AND MEDICAL IMAGING II	2
SUR 80221	INTRODUCTION TO PODIATRIC SURGERY	2
Second Year Clinical Option		0-1
Credit Hours		26

Third Year

Fall Semester

GMD 80314	NEUROLOGY	2
GMD 80315	DERMATOLOGY	2
GMD 80316	MEDICINE I	4
GMD 80327	BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE	1
GMD 80328	WOMEN'S HEALTH	1

PMD 80318	PEDIATRICS	2
SUR 80313	PODIATRIC SURGERY	2
Third Year Clinical Options		0-32
Credit Hours		46

Spring Semester

CMD 80326	PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION	3
CMD 80327	HEALTHCARE LAW AND REGULATION	3
GMD 80326	MEDICINE II	4
ORT 80325	SPORTS MEDICINE	2
PMD 80317	PODIATRY PROF SOCIETY III	1
SUR 80323	PODIATRIC SURGERY	2
SUR 80325	TRAUMATOLOGY	2
Third Year Clinical Options		0-32
Credit Hours		17

Summer Term

Third Year Summer Clinical Options		8-12
Credit Hours		8

Fourth Year

Fall Semester

Fourth Year Fall Semester Clinical Rotation Options		12-16
Credit Hours		16

Spring Semester

Fourth Year Spring Semester Clinical Rotation Options		12-16
Credit Hours		16

Summer Term

PMD 80417	PODIATRY, PROFESSIONALISM AND SOCIETY IV	4
Fourth Year Summer Clinical Options		0-4
Credit Hours		8
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		214