

Alaska WWAMI Pre-Medical Summit: Medical Education 101

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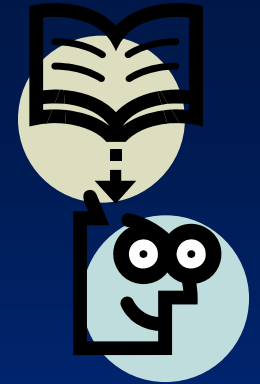


Topics

- WWAMI: Alaska's Medical School
- An Introduction to Medical Education
- Admission Information for the Alaska WWAMI Program

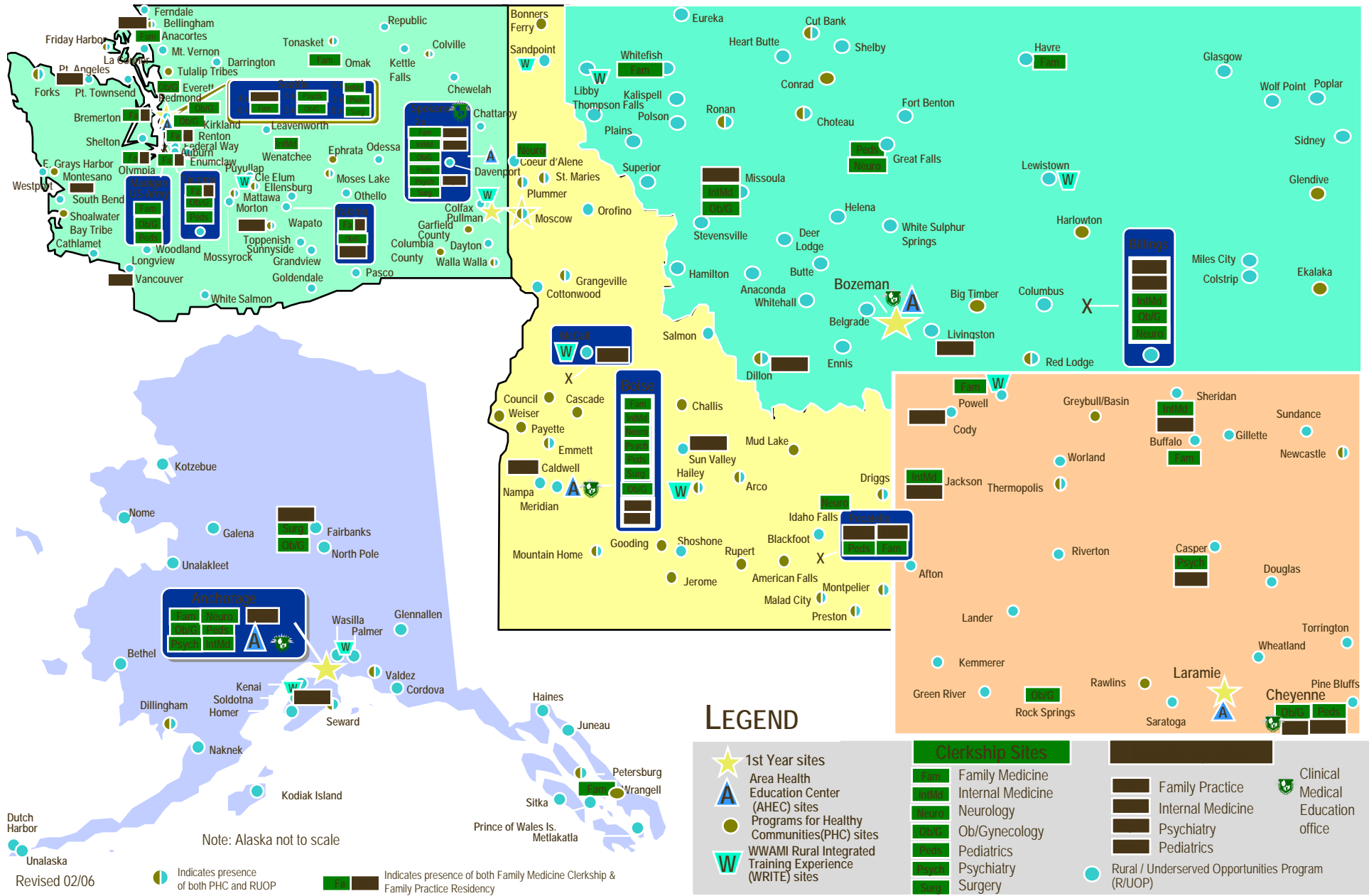


What is WWAMI?



- WWAMI is Alaska's Medical School
- It is a 35 year old partnership of Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho with the University of Washington School of Medicine
- Its purpose is to provide high quality, cost-effective medical education, with a focus on the workforce needs of the region.

WWAMI Program Site Map



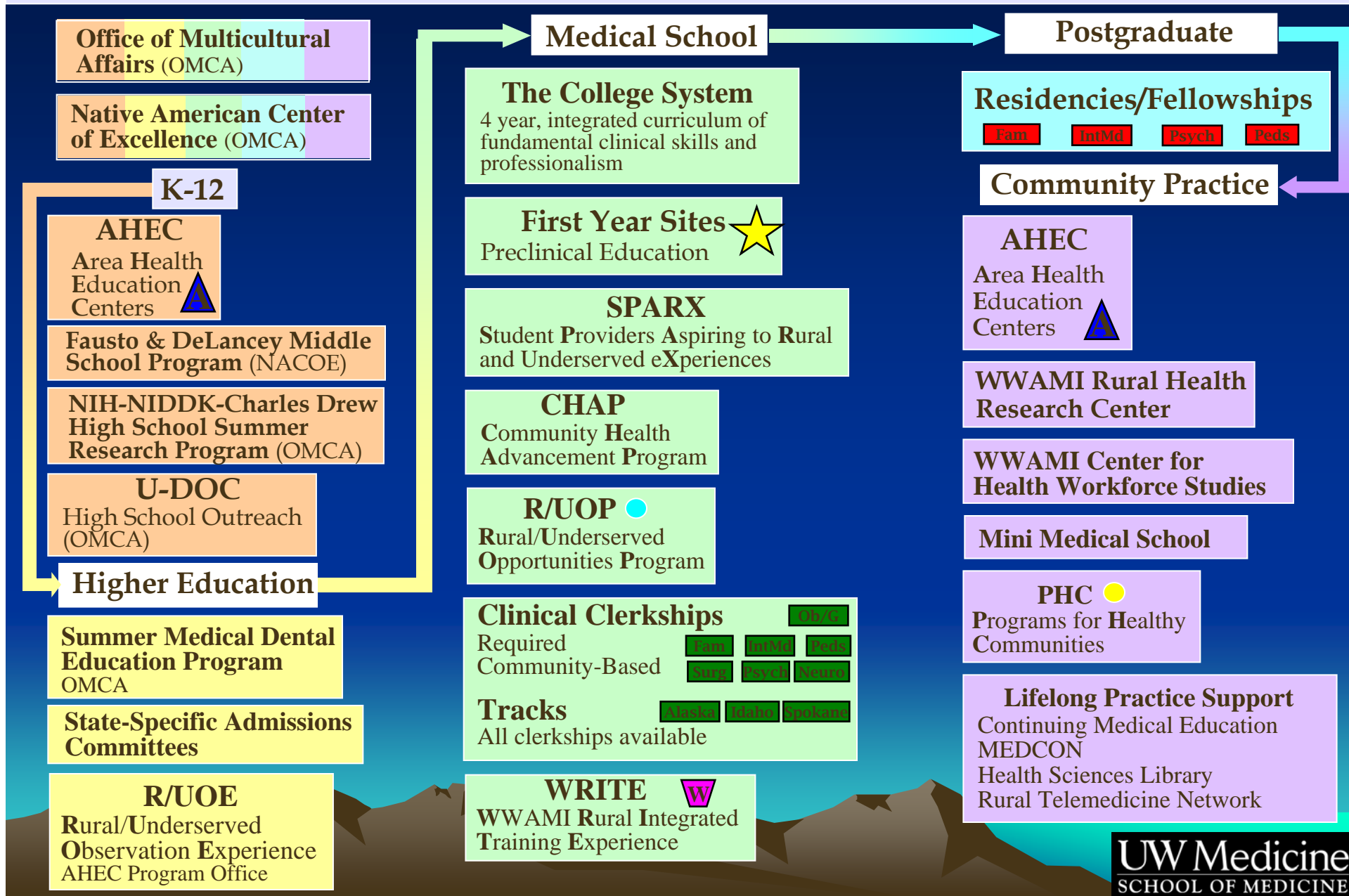
How does the Alaska WWAMI Program work?

- Alaska resident applicants to medical school are selected by the Alaska Admissions Committee – written application + interview
- 1st year of medical school done at the University of Alaska at Anchorage
- 2nd year of medical school done with all WWAMI students in Seattle
- 3rd and 4th years done at clinical clerkship sites scattered across the five WWAMI states



WWAMI Educational Continuum

Targeting Primary Care from Grade School through Community Practice



When do people decide they are interested in a medical career?

- Some decide very early -- in elementary school or before – “born to be a doctor”
- Some decide later, after experience with healthcare through –
 - First aid classes with Red Cross or Scouts
 - Experience as athletic trainers with sports
 - Experience with personal or family illnesses
 - Volunteer or part-time employment experiences in healthcare jobs



What should you do if you think you are interested in Medicine?

- Talk to your own physician about medicine as a career
- Get more experience – explore healthcare generally and medicine specifically – try to learn more about it and be sure of your decision
 - Talk to lots of people
 - Ask questions – there are lots of opinions out there
 - Seek a variety of opportunities



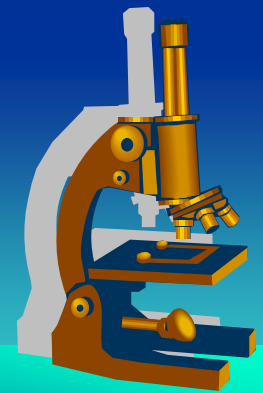
What should you do if you've decided to prepare to apply for medical school?

- Plan on obtaining a university degree:
 - A wide range of majors will work
 - Good grades will be very important
 - Be sure to get the pre-requisites:
 - **Chemistry:** 12 semester/18 quarter credits/hours
 - **Physics:** 4 semester/6 quarter credits/hours
 - **Biology:** 8 semester/12 quarter credits/hours
 - **Other “Open” Science Subjects:** 8 semester/12 quarter credits/hours
 - Biochemistry—Not required; Strongly suggested
 - Proficiency in English, basic mathematics, and information technology is essential.



What should you do if you've decided to prepare to apply for medical school?

- Take the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)
 - Prepare carefully, because the score is important
- Develop a good understanding of current issues in medicine, including current medical ethics topics.



Usual Sequence of Medical Career Preparation

University / College
(4 or more years)



Medical School
(usually 4 years)



Residency (Specialty) Training
(Typically 3-7 years)



Practice



Alaska WWAMI Admission
Information from the
2006 and 2007 Entering Classes



Application Process: What Is Included?

- Application through AMCAS (American Medical College Admissions System)
- Review of College Grades & Pre-requisite courses
- Review of Medical College Admissions Test Scores
- Review of Letters of Recommendation
- Secondary Application Questions
- Interview
- Decision



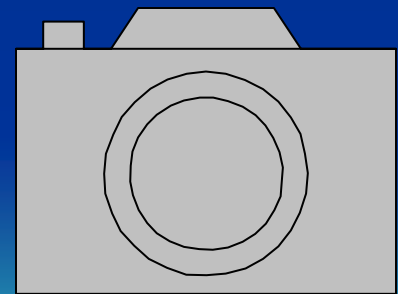
2006 and 2007 Alaska WWAMI Applicant Pool and Entering Classes

Entry Year	Applications Received	Positions Offered	Entering Students	College GPA	MCAT Score
2006	78	12	10	3.6	10.3 V 10.2 PS 10.7 BS Q
2007	83	20	20	3.6	10.5 V 9.8 PS 10.7 BS Q



2007 Entering Class Snapshot (as of 3/29/07)

- Gender
 - 13 Female
 - 7 Male
- Age Range: 23-28
- Ethnicity
 - 18 Caucasian
 - 1 African American
 - 1 Not reported
- Highest Degree
 - BA 7
 - BS 11
 - MA 1
 - Other Masters 1



Top Undergraduate Colleges for 2007 Alaska WWAMI Class

- University of Alaska – Fairbanks
- University of Washington
- Pacific Lutheran University
- University of Alaska – Anchorage
- Others (1 each)
 - Colorado College
 - Concordia College
 - Dartmouth College
 - Gonzaga University
 - Gustus Adolphus Coll.
 - Lewis & Clark College
 - Northwestern Univ.
 - Princeton University
 - University of California
 - Univ. of Wisconsin



What happens if you don't get accepted? Many apply again!

2006 matriculating students with prior applications (for entire class)

Prior Applications

Once	34	(18.6%)
Twice	8	(4.3%)
Three	1	(0.5%)
Four	1	(0.5%)

****As of 2007, there is a limit of 3 completed applications**



Total 2007 WWAMI Interviews

Interviewed a total of 839 applicants for MD Program

- Washington **507**
- Alaska **47**
- Montana **54**
- Idaho **99**
- Wyoming **25**
- Out-of-Region **107**

MSTP 46



The Alaska WWAMI Program Will Also Ask About These Items During the Admission Process

1. Prior experience in healthcare
2. Steps taken to explore a career in medicine
3. Eventual goals as a physician



UWSOM and Alaska WWAMI Application Deadlines for the 2008 Entering Class

AMCAS Deadline: November 1, 2007

Secondary/Ancillary Materials: January 15, 2008



How we decide who to interview: Alaska WWAMI Applicants

- GPA ≥ 3.5 and total MCAT score ≥ 27 will be automatically interviewed.
- Approximate GPA < 3.0 and approximate MCAT score < 21 will be reviewed by Chair of the Committee to deem eligibility for secondary
- All others screened by 2 committee members to see if an interview should be granted.



WWAMI/UWSOM Interviews

- Committee of three individuals
- 30-40 minute duration
- Interviewers are partially blinded to grades and MCAT scores
- Evaluation based on an interview, personal comments, recommendation
- Weighted at 50% of total ranking score; GPA=25% and MCAT=25%



What WWAMI & UWSOM Expects

- Inquiry and awareness of current problems affecting medicine and society in general
- Feeling for ethical issues in the health care delivery area
- Some relevant activities
- Good communication skills
- Broad interests and life experiences



QUESTIONS??

