

UPDATES

Delaware Health Sciences Alliance (DHSA)
Omar Khan, MD
President & CEO



ChooseHealth
DELAWARE



Updates: October 2023

Omar Khan, MD, President & CEO
Pamela Gardner, Director

Delaware Health Sciences Alliance

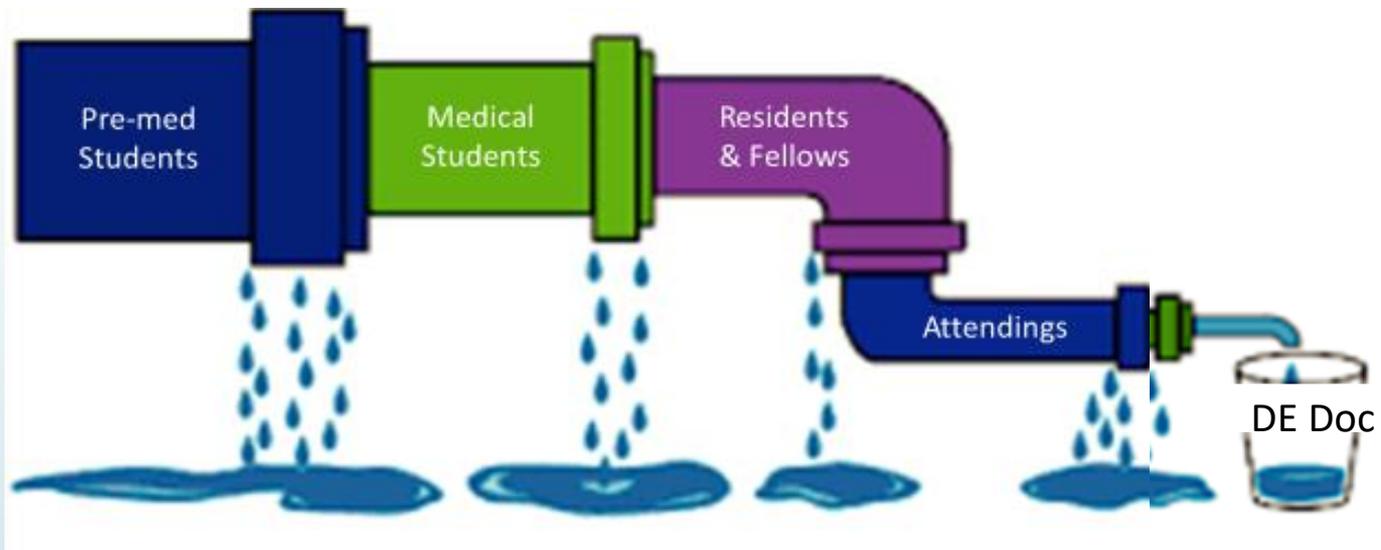
About DHSA

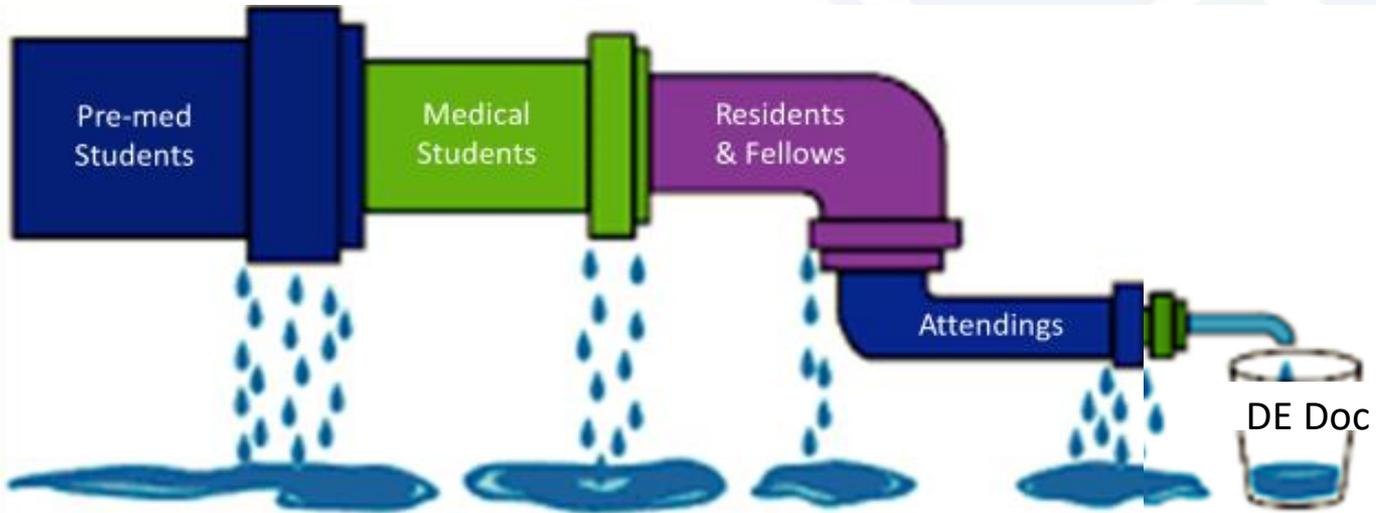
DHSA aligns resources and efforts to create a unique, broad-based alliance, focused on establishing innovative collaborations among experts in medical practice, health economics and policy, population sciences, public health, biomedical sciences and engineering. DHSA was established in 2009 with four founding partners. Our current organizational membership includes:



DE Physician Pipeline

- Keeping Delawareans engaged in DE medical education: from initial motivation all the way to becoming a practicing physician
- Ensuring representation from under-represented minorities and under-represented geographies
- Learning about and addressing every aspect of ensuring opportunity & equity for the betterment of Delaware's communities





- DE HS outreach
- College pre-med advising
- MCAT prep
- Mentorship



- *Branch campuses*
- Mentorship & Outreach
- DE-specific dinners & receptions
- GME receptions



- Resident & program director engagement
- Delaware Day
- State of DE-hosted retreats planned



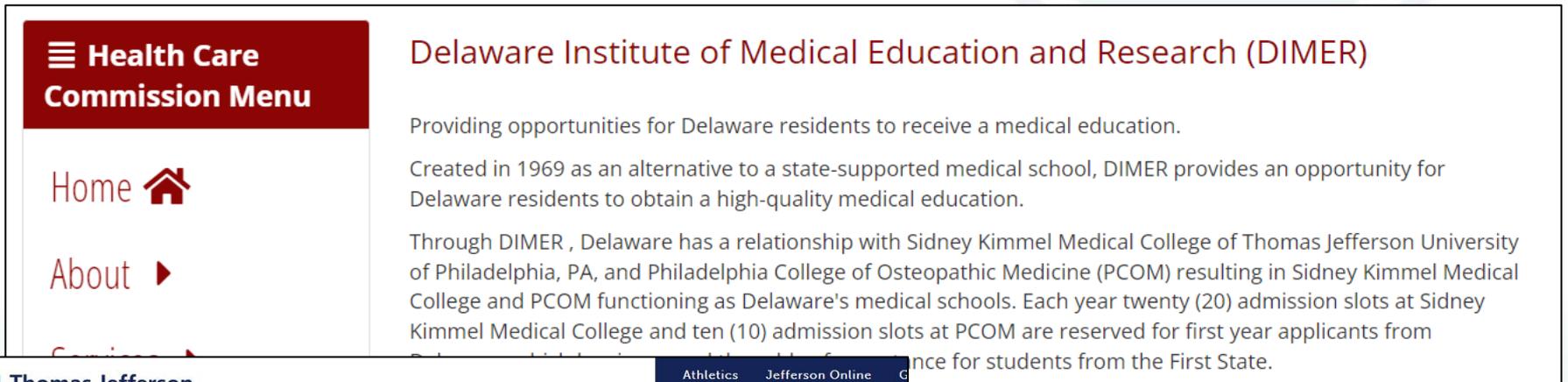
- Loan repayment (new DE-specific program!)
- Federal programs
- Health system-sponsored programs



Who is Eligible for

- Eligible applicants must be legal residents of Delaware and meet the pre-medical requirements outlined by SKMC and PCOM
- Students whose primary and permanent residence is in Delaware are identified as DIMER applicants through SKMC and PCOM Admissions

DIMER Selection criteria determined by DIMER board and shared with SKMC & PCOM: [dimereligguidelines.pdf \(delaware.gov\)](https://delaware.gov/dimereligguidelines.pdf)



Health Care Commission Menu

- Home 
- About 

Delaware Institute of Medical Education and Research (DIMER)

Providing opportunities for Delaware residents to receive a medical education.

Created in 1969 as an alternative to a state-supported medical school, DIMER provides an opportunity for Delaware residents to obtain a high-quality medical education.

Through DIMER, Delaware has a relationship with Sidney Kimmel Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University of Philadelphia, PA, and Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) resulting in Sidney Kimmel Medical College and PCOM functioning as Delaware's medical schools. Each year twenty (20) admission slots at Sidney Kimmel Medical College and ten (10) admission slots at PCOM are reserved for first year applicants from Delaware. This program provides a pathway for students from the First State.

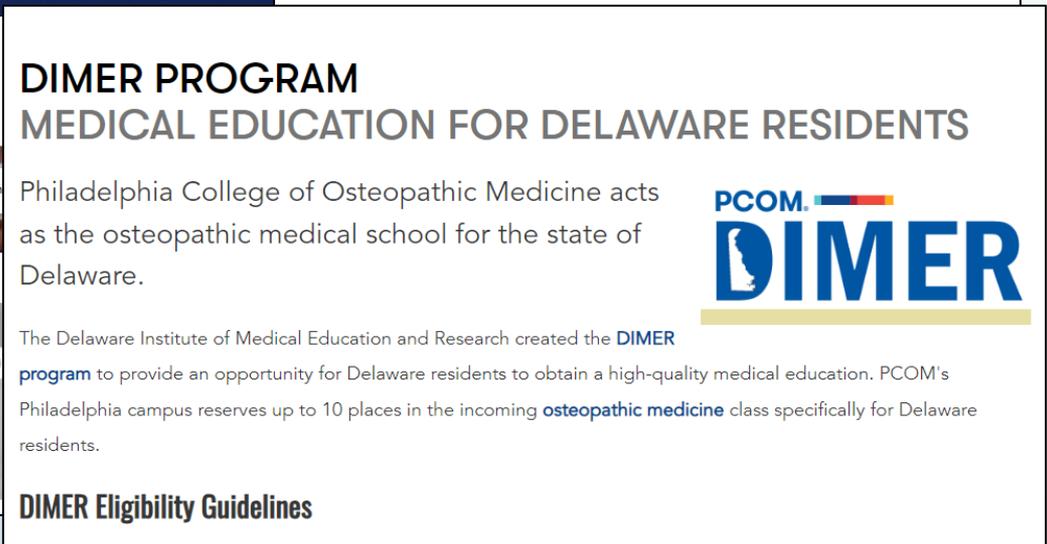


Thomas Jefferson University
HOME OF SIDNEY KIMMEL MEDICAL COLLEGE

JEFFERSON ADVANTAGE ACADEMICS ADMISSIONS TUITION & FINANCIAL AID

Academics - Sidney Kimmel Medical College - Other Educational Programs - Delaware Institute of Medical Education & Research

Delaware Institute of Medical Education & Research



DIMER PROGRAM MEDICAL EDUCATION FOR DELAWARE RESIDENTS

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine acts as the osteopathic medical school for the state of Delaware.



The Delaware Institute of Medical Education and Research created the **DIMER program** to provide an opportunity for Delaware residents to obtain a high-quality medical education. PCOM's Philadelphia campus reserves up to 10 places in the incoming **osteopathic medicine** class specifically for Delaware residents.

DIMER Eligibility Guidelines

- **DHSA partners with DIMER to create and sustain a workforce pipeline**
- **We partner with DIMER along all points of the arc of workforce: high school, college, medical school, residency, and into practice:**
 - Promoting student acceptance to partner medical schools: SKMC & PCOM
 - Assisting their transition to Delaware Branch Campuses for 3rd and 4th year med school (if desired)
 - Maximize their chances of placing into Delaware GME programs
 - Helping match them upon graduation with Delaware health systems
 - Promote DE-based loan repayment programs to encourage recruitment and retention



Updates Since Last Meeting

– Sussex County

- Beebe White Coat Ceremony
- FM Residency Program Launch
- Branch Campus

– Ongoing Medical Education Initiatives

- GMEC Meetings
- Authoring scientific paper on the growth of FM residencies in DE (co-authored with leaders from Beebe, Bayhealth, ChristianaCare, Saint Francis)

- DHSA pre-med outreach :
 - MCAT prep & fee program: partnering with Harrington Trust to promote URM outreach
 - Created a pre-med collaborative among UD, DSU, DTCC to better advise DIMER applicants on gaining entry to TJU & PCOM



**FREE VIRTUAL
MCAT PREP
PROGRAM**

**NOW ACCEPTING
APPLICATIONS**

APPLY NOW



**Delaware Health
Sciences Alliance**

**Application
Deadline:
October 16, 2023**

FOR MORE INFO PLEASE EMAIL : HARRINGTON@CHRISTIANACARE.ORG



2020-23 High School Outreach Events Panelists



Sherman Townsend
DIMER
Board Chair



David Tam, MD
Beebe Healthcare
President and CEO



Marshá T. Horton, PhD
Delaware State University
Dean, College of Health
and Behavioral Sciences



Robert Monteleone, MD
Saint Francis
DIMER Board Member



Cydney Teal, MD
ChristianaCare
Physician Executive



Omar Khan, MD, MHS
Delaware Health
Sciences Alliance
President and CEO



Brintha Vasagar, MD, MPH
Bayhealth
Program Director FM
Residency Program



David Barlow, Ph.D.
University of Delaware
DIMER Board Member



Cindy Siu, MD
Bayhealth
DIMER Alum



Joseph Deutsch, MD
Bayhealth
Program Director IM
Residency Program
DIMER Alum

2020-23 College Outreach Events Panelists



Sherman Townsend
DIMER
Board Chair



Omar Khan, MD MHS
DHSA
President & CEO



Marshala Lee, MD MPH
ChristianaCare
Harrington Trust



Brian Levine, MD
ChristianaCare
DIO



**Tabassum Salam, MD,
MBA FACP**
ChristianaCare
Chief Learning Officer



David Barlow, Ph.D.
University of Delaware
DIMER Board Member



Brintha Vasagar, MD MPH
FAAFP
Bayhealth
Founding Program Director
FM Residency Program



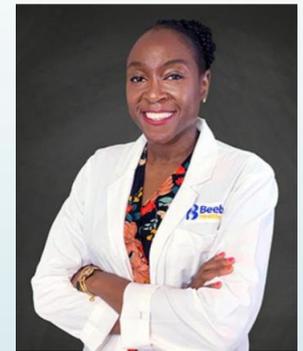
Charlie Wilson, PhD
Delaware State University
Dean, College of Biological
Sciences



Joseph Kim, DO
TidalHealth Nanticoke
President, Medical
Staff



Kate Smith, MD MPH
Delaware Academy of
Medicine Delaware Public
Health Association



Joyce Robert, MD
Beebe Healthcare
FM Residency Founding
Program Director

- DHSA/DIMER medical school outreach:
 - PCOM DIMER dinner: Sept 2023 event in Delaware!
 - In discussions with SKMC to plan their DIMER dinner





DIMER Engagement

- DHSA/DIMER medical school outreach:
 - Annual SKMC and PCOM Virtual Event: Panel and Networking with DIMER and Residency Program Leadership including GME leaders
 - PCOM-DHSA-DIMER speaker series re-launched





Engagement

please
JOIN US

for
VIRTUAL COCKTAILS & CONVERSATION

An engaging evening with DIMER, SKMC
& Delaware Branch Campus Leaders

Monday, December 5th
6:00PM - 7:30PM
BYO from HOME

Registration Required and Requested no later than December 1st



A screenshot of a Zoom meeting grid. The grid consists of 18 individual video feeds arranged in three rows and six columns. Each feed shows a participant's video and their name below it. The participants are: Row 1: David's iPad, Pamela Gardner, Brintha Vasagar, Kayla Morrell, Elizabeth Habash; Row 2: Dave Hack, Alisa LoSasso, Joyce Robert, Nivethitha Arunkumar, ArianaL Gannon; Row 3: Brian Alverson, Brian Levine, John Douds, Ashley Anttila, Ari August. Below the grid is a control bar with a profile icon for Nicola Habash, a name field for Colleen Cunningham, a name field for ashley panichelli md, and a phone icon with the number 13022909859.



Engagement

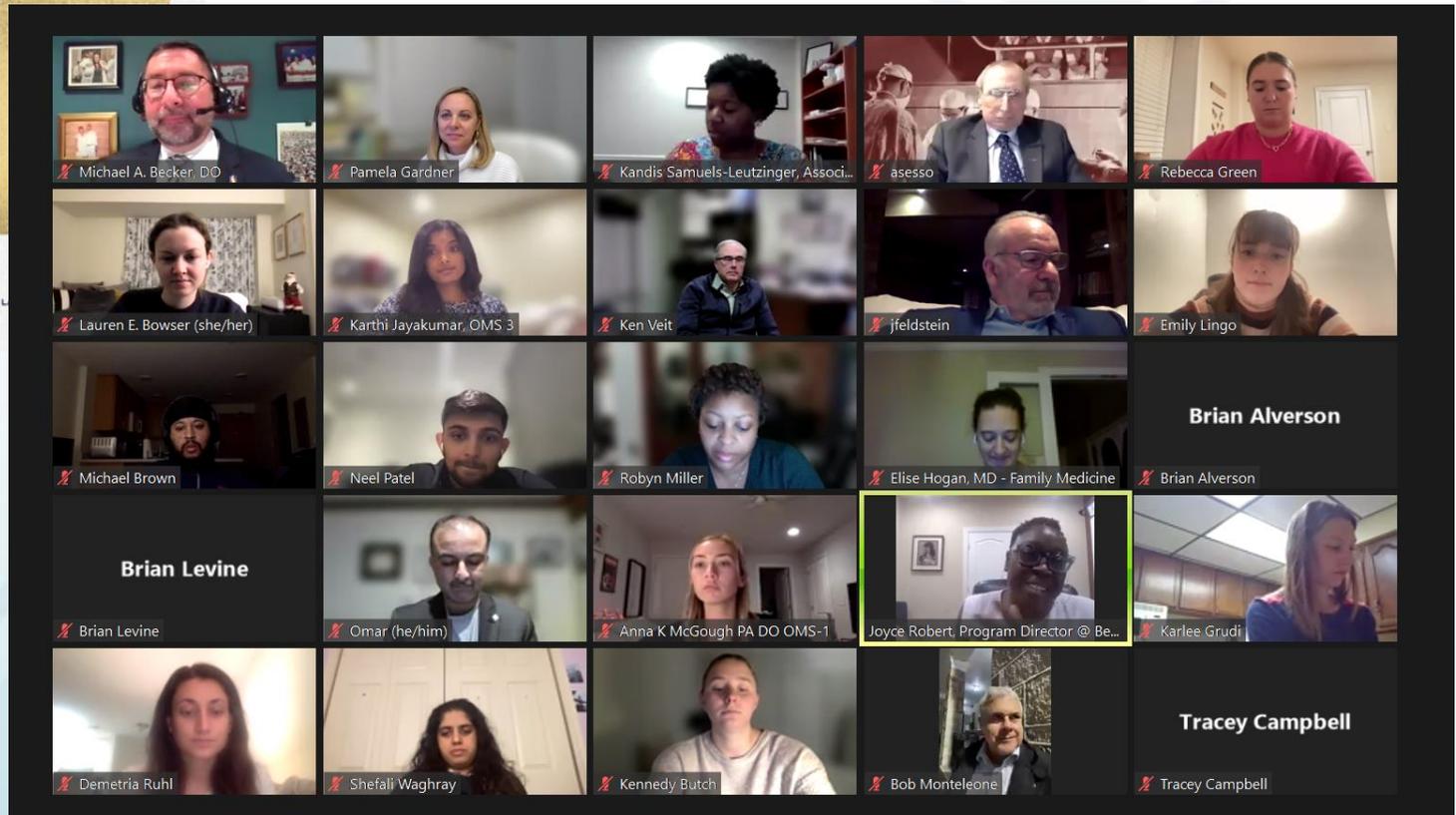
PLEASE JOIN US FOR

VIRTUAL COCKTAILS & CONVERSATION

An engaging evening for DIMER and Delaware Branch
Campus Students with PCOM, DIMER, Residency and
Health System Leadership

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12TH
5:30PM - 7:00PM
BYO FROM HOME

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED AND REQUESTED NO L



 Michael A. Becker, DO	 Pamela Gardner	 Kandis Samuels-Leutinger, Associ...	 asesso	 Rebecca Green
 Lauren E. Bowser (she/her)	 Karthi Jayakumar, OMS 3	 Ken Veit	 jfeldstein	 Emily Lingo
 Michael Brown	 Neel Patel	 Robyn Miller	 Elise Hogan, MD - Family Medicine	Brian Alverson Brian Alverson
Brian Levine Brian Levine	 Omar (he/him)	 Anna K McGough PA DO OMS-1	 Joyce Robert, Program Director @ Be...	 Karlee Grudi
 Demetria Ruhl	 Shefali Waghray	 Kennedy Butch	 Bob Monteleone	Tracey Campbell Tracey Campbell

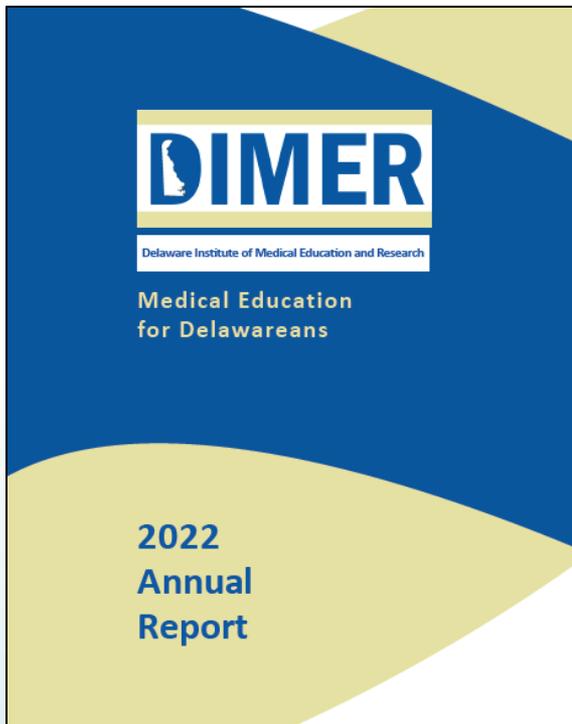
Engagement

- DHSA-DIMER Care Package for medical students and residents



2023 Annual Report

- Continued focus on storytelling, value and impact
- Content Curation to begin soon
- Partnership with DAM|DPHA
- As with 2019-22 reports, will be on DHSS website



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DIMER ADVANTAGE

35% of the DIMER applicants received an acceptance compared to an acceptance rate of 4.4% for the general application pool.



Alisa LoSasso, MD

"As the new dean of Sidney Kimmel Medical College's Office of Admissions, I have a deep commitment to Delaware and the DIMER program. This stems from my personal experience as a medical student, resident and attending physician. As a third-year medical student, I rotated through Christiana for Internal Medicine, where I grasped the concept of the coagulation cascade for the first time as explained by my chief resident, Tim Hennessy, who now is a practicing internist in Wilmington. As a pediatric resident at duPont-Jefferson, I was very grateful to be able to care for the children of Delaware and its surrounding areas. duPont Hospital for Children then and now holds a very special place in my heart.

I went on to work for Nemours and Jefferson, running the pediatric clerkship where I relied on a strong network of pediatricians in Delaware to educate SKMC medical students and to share their passion for pediatrics. In joining the Admissions Office three years ago, I was thrilled to know that SKMC was the medical school for the state of Delaware.

The students applying through the DIMER program, as well as through the University of Delaware's Medical Scholars program, have already demonstrated such amazing community engagement and immense enthusiasm for their future careers. My entire team in the admissions office makes it a priority to support these students in realizing their dreams of becoming doctors."

Since joining PCOM in April 2020, I serve as chief admissions officer. As a member of the Executive Leadership Team, I report directly to Jay S. Feldstein, DO '81, president and chief executive officer. My responsibilities include oversight of the admissions and enrollment processes for all programs on all three PCOM campus locations in Philadelphia, PA; Suwanee, and Moultrie, GA.

As an undergraduate at Southwestern University, I served as a student representative on the admissions committee. After graduation, I entered the field of education as a high school English teacher. I was recruited back to Southwestern to work as an admission professional and that sealed a journey in the profession that would take me to increased responsibility in admissions positions. In my professional journey, I have worked with undergraduates at Southern Methodist University, Vanderbilt University and later Walden University. I spent many years in consultative retail sales with The Container Store which provided an excellent business foundation and developed my talents in creating a meaningful consumer experience. My healthcare experience was gained with a focus on graduate education and preparing students for careers and post-baccalaureate options at the Maryland Institute of Integrative Health, the University of St. Augustine, and now PCOM.

Thirty-five years later, my collective experience in teaching, college counseling in public-private high schools, and admission and academic advising at various education levels has equipped me with a unique combination of skills for a chief admissions officer. This blend of working with nonprofit and for-profit institutions coupled with more than 10 years of consultative retail sales experience has provided me with a great foundation. I also credit my liberal arts education to reinvent my skills, infusing technology and innovation.

DIMER is one of my major responsibilities as the PCOM chief admissions officer. The DIMER partnership begins with the PCOM Office of Admissions. The value of this relationship is summed up in this question. Who gets to grow their own physicians? DIMER and PCOM join together to take on this awesome responsibility for the state of Delaware. The Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine has served as the official osteopathic medical school of the State of Delaware for nearly twenty years through the partnership with the Delaware Institute of Medical Education and Research (DIMER).

The value of the DIMER/PCOM connection continues with the emphasis on over 60% of our PCOM graduates engaged in primary care or family practice. The plat de résistance is our focus on osteopathic medicine, the whole person and preventative health. There is such a great demand for primary care physicians (PCP). A primary care physician sees many patients with common medical problems and is often involved in your care throughout most of your life. The pandemic showed us that primary care physicians are at the heart of our community.

Chartered in 1899, with a focus on training physicians for primary care or family practice, PCOM has graduated more than 10,000 physicians. The result of this 20-year DIMER partnership is 245 PCOM medical school graduates moving through the program. What a gift to grow your own! I am so excited to continue to support PCOM's legacy with DIMER.



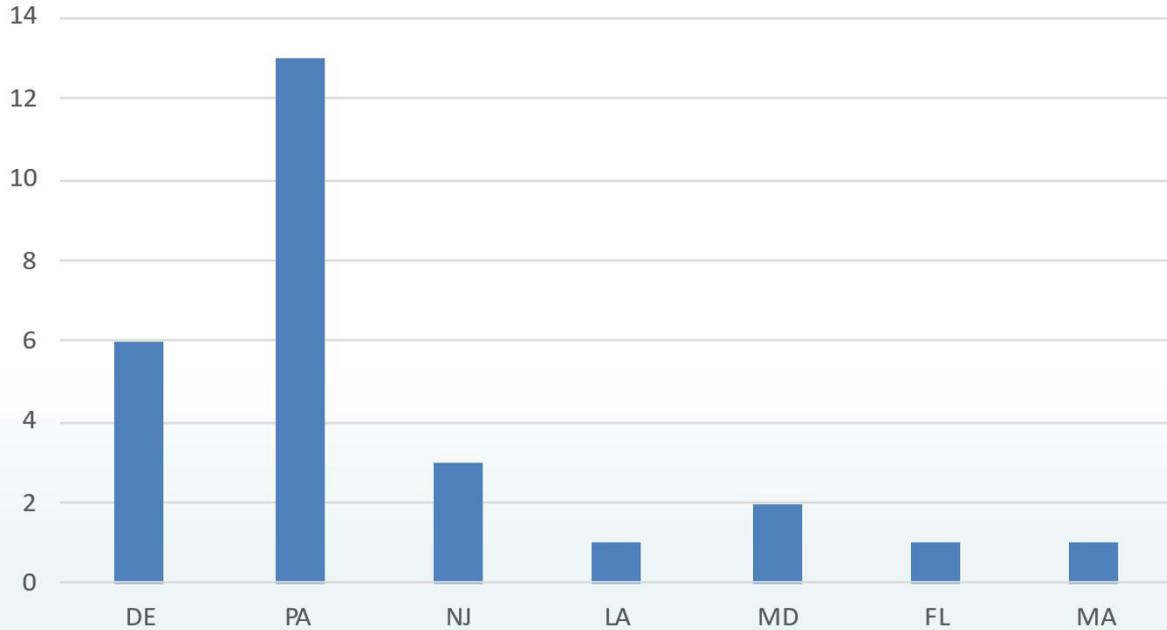
Adrienne Jones, MLS

DIMER ADVANTAGE

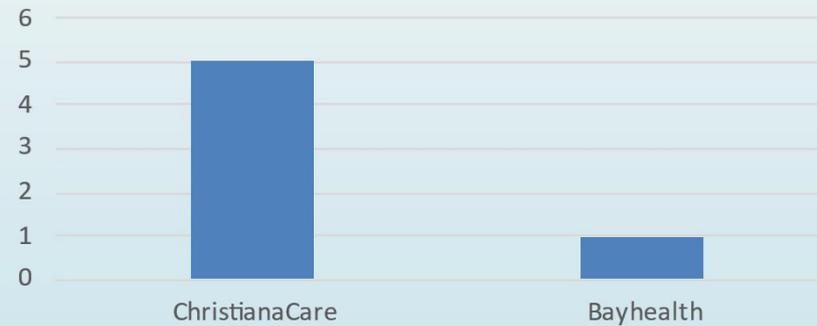
60.01% of the DIMER applicants received an acceptance compared to an acceptance rate of 5.06% for the general application pool.



State of Match

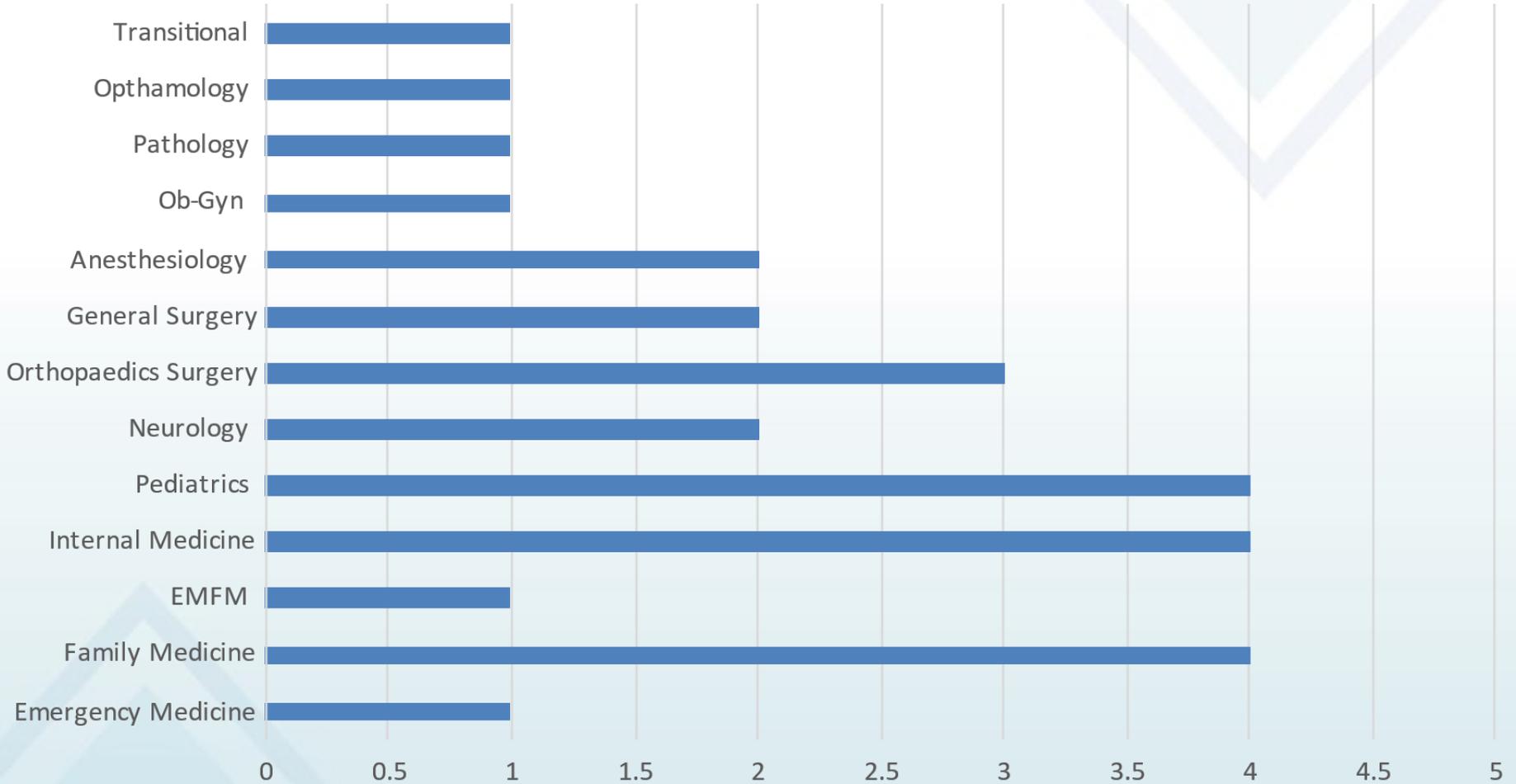


Delaware Match





Match Specialty



Workforce

Delaware Launches State Health Care
Provider Loan Repayment Program



**NEW STATE-FUNDED \$50,000/YEAR
LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM
AVAILABLE NOW!**

Annual Delaware Day recruiting event



Our strategy of focusing on each part of the arc of medical education (i.e. high school; college/pre-med; med school; residency) is paying off in increased interest and numbers

We must continue to pay high attention to Kent & Sussex county potential applicants

We must be innovative in attracting Delawareans from under-represented minority groups to qualify for and apply successfully to DIMER schools

DIMER-DHSA partnership is critical to retaining these students and residents and as attendings in the Delaware community

DIMER – Looking Ahead

- On-going engagement with current DIMER students
 - New Academic Year Engagement Letters
 - DHSA PCOM DIMER Speaker Series
 - Receptions, Panel Events
 - Writing Opportunities, Research
- DHSA Initiatives supportive of DIMER
 - Pre-Med Advisor Collaborative across Delaware: DSU, UD, DTCC, Harrington Trust, TJU, PCOM
 - Primary Care Residency Director Collaborative

Delaware Health Sciences Alliance



[Instagram: delawarehealthsciencesalliance](https://www.instagram.com/delawarehealthsciencesalliance)

[Twitter: @DHSAhealth](https://twitter.com/DHSAhealth)

[Facebook: @delawarehsa](https://www.facebook.com/delawarehsa)

[LinkedIn: dhsa \(https://www.linkedin.com/company/dhsa\)](https://www.linkedin.com/company/dhsa)

[Email: okhan@dhsa.org](mailto:okhan@dhsa.org) | pgardner@dhsa.org

[Web: www.dhsa.org](http://www.dhsa.org)