Freeman launches four-year Accelerated MD/MBA

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The new Accelerated MD/MBA enables Tulane School of Medicine students to earn both an MD and an MBA in four years, saving a full year from the time required to complete the traditional dual-degree program.

Beginning this fall, Tulane University medical students will be able to pursue an A. B. Freeman School of Business MBA concurrently with their medical degrees — earning both credentials in four years and eliminating the additional year traditionally required for dual-degree completion.

“Medicine today requires leaders who understand not only how to care for patients, but how health systems operate and evolve,” said Dr. Lee Hamm, senior vice president and dean of Tulane University School of Medicine. “This accelerated MD/MBA program equips select students with the business insight needed to lead groups, launch innovations, and shape the future of health care.”

The Accelerated MD/MBA, a joint initiative of the Freeman School and the School of Medicine, addresses the evolving demands of modern health care leadership. As medicine increasingly intersects with complex business systems, physicians who understand financial strategy, operations management and organizational leadership are positioned to drive meaningful change — whether leading clinical departments, shaping health policy or transforming care delivery models.

With this launch, Tulane joins a selective cohort of about a dozen U.S. universities that offer four-year MD/MBA pathways.

The 48-credit-hour business curriculum integrates daytime, evening, online and winter intersession courses throughout the four-year Doctor of Medicine program. Students launch their business education with four courses the summer before medical school begins, then complete remaining requirements alongside their clinical training.

The curriculum balances foundational MBA coursework — including managerial finance, strategy, negotiations, organizational behavior, supply chain management and business analytics — with specialized courses addressing health care's unique challenges, such as Health Care Policy and Reform and The Long Fix: Health System Improvement.

For students seeking a more traditional MBA experience, the Freeman School continues to offer its five-year joint MD/MBA program, which delivers an identical curriculum in a less compressed format. In addition, for physicians who have already earned their MD and are in practice, the Freeman School offers flexible MBA programs designed for working professionals including the Professional MBA (evening format for local professionals), the Executive MBA (weekend format for

senior leaders), and the Online MBA (fully virtual for maximum flexibility). Each delivers a rigorous Freeman curriculum while accommodating the varied schedules of today's health care professionals.

"Whether you're building a private practice, directing a department or leading a health system, business acumen has become indispensable to medical practice," said Paulo Goes, dean of the Freeman School. "The four-year Accelerated MD/MBA provides highly motivated students an expedited pathway to leadership without postponing residency. Combined with our established five-year MD/MBA, we now offer unparalleled flexibility for students to align their education with their career trajectories."

For more information about the Accelerated MD/MBA, visit the Freeman School's Graduate Business Degrees page.