

WHY PODIATRY?



PODIATRISTS ARE PHYSICIANS, SURGEONS, AND SPECIALISTS WHO:

- Treat a wide range of patients and conditions within a variety of practice settings.
- Treat patients from diagnosis, through conservative care, surgery, and recovery, while developing meaningful patient relationships.
- Earn a salary comparable with other physician specialties, while working an average of 40–60 hours a week and maintaining work-life balance.
- Work in a number of subspecialties including diabetic wound care, surgery, sports medicine, dermatology, pediatrics, and more.
- Receive training comparable to other medical specialties through a highly specialized and straightforward pathway by attending four years of podiatric medical school, followed by a three-year, hospital-based residency.
- 99% of podiatric medical students are placed into a podiatric residency program after completing their degree.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING: A COMPARISON

	DPM	MD & DO
Bachelor's Degree, MCAT, and other pre-med requirements (shadowing, interning, etc.)	4+ Years	4+ Years
Attend Medical School	-----	4 Years
Attend Podiatric Medical School	4 Years	-----
Residency Training	3 Years	3-7 Years
Fellowship Training	Optional - varies in length	Optional - varies in length
Obtain License	Scope varies depending on state in which you practice	Scope varies depending on the specialty within the state in which you practice
Continuing Medical Education to Maintain License	Ongoing	Ongoing

Visit https://www.fpma.com/podiatric_education_career_inf.php to learn more about a career in podiatry and how to apply to the colleges of podiatric medicine.



FPMA Young Physicians Share Why They Chose Podiatry



Philip Calaj, DPM

"I chose podiatric foot and ankle surgery over other medical specialties because it allows me to address complex lower extremity issues with a focus on surgical intervention, offering the opportunity to make a profound impact on patients' lives by restoring their mobility and relieving pain. The combination of surgical skills and specialized knowledge in this field perfectly aligns with my passion for providing comprehensive care for patients with foot and ankle conditions, making it the ideal choice for me."



Alyson Slater, DPM

"Podiatric Medicine is one of the most well-rounded professions in all of healthcare. I knew it was the best field for me because it gave me the opportunity to incorporate all of my medical interests into one area of practice. I am continuously humbled by the privilege of being able to perform surgeries that help patients to live better lives. We have such a diverse profession! Some patients will leave the office pain free, while others will require months of long term planning to reach their goals. We have the best of it all -- we are constantly faced with both challenges and rewards that keep each day exciting. I am very grateful to be a practicing Podiatrist."



Nishu Vora, DPM

"Podiatry is a unique specialty of medicine, as we are able to treat almost any pathology in the foot and ankle. Be the type of podiatric physician you want to be! You can be a clinician, orthopedic surgeon, dermatologist, pediatrician, plastic surgeon, reconstructive surgeon, or sports medicine doctor. Many podiatrists take the path of doing everything, while others take a more specialized path. The path to becoming a doctor of podiatric medicine is a very rewarding one."



Matthew Miller, DPM

"A podiatrist gave the commencement speech at my college. I was a runner in high school and met an amazing podiatrist who loved what he did every single day (in my hometown, of all places). There are countless reasons to enter the field of podiatry. It allows me the freedom to live my life on my terms."