

MEMORANDUM

TO : Department Heads

FROM: Frank Chappell

DATE: August 12, 1968

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The attached Fact Sheet was prepared by the Office of Medical Information at the request of the Women's Auxiliary to the Dallas County Medical Society. It is to be included in a health careers packet being prepared by the Auxiliary for distribution to high school guidance counselors in Dallas County.

A few additional copies are now available, and copies could be mimeographed in quantity on request.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
SOUTHWESTERN
MEDICAL SCHOOL AT DALLAS

OFFICE OF MEDICAL INFORMATION

5323 HARRY HINES BLVD.
DALLAS, TEXAS 75235

DALLAS' SCHOOL FOR DOCTORS

The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School at Dallas is a four-year school of medicine which is planned and organized to assure high quality educational experience for the preparation of physicians and selected graduate students. The curriculum is designed to provide understanding of the fundamental biological and physical sciences and the breadth and depth of clinical experience required of good physicians. Because of the rapidly expanding knowledge in all fields of medicine, the medical education program is planned so that students acquire the skills and habits of scholarship which will enable them to evaluate and adjust to new knowledge and techniques as these evolve during the productive lifetime.

Southwestern was founded in 1943. At first it was a private school, sponsored by the Southwestern Medical Foundation. In 1949 it became a part of The University of Texas System. The Southwestern campus and buildings are on Harry Hines Boulevard, adjoining Parkland Hospital. Parkland is the principal teaching hospital for the school, where students learn by helping to treat the sick, under the watchful eyes of their doctor teachers. While the majority of clinical teaching is carried on at Parkland, the medical school enjoys affiliations with many private hospitals for certain specialized teaching opportunities.

PREPARING FOR MEDICAL SCHOOL

Medical school demands a good student who is willing to work hard. The regular course is four years, followed by several years of advanced training as intern and resident.

Admission to medical school is not a right acquired by meeting the minimum entrance requirements. It is a privilege extended to those especially qualified applicants who give promise of making the best physicians for the future. It is difficult for applicants with less than a B average in pre-medical courses to gain admission to Southwestern.

In high school, the student aspiring to become a doctor should take the regular college preparatory courses, and he should take all of the courses possible in mathematics and in science, especially biology, chemistry and physics. Good grades are important in all courses, and they are especially important in the math and science courses. Ability to read and comprehend and to express facts and ideas in clear and accurate terms are important in medicine. Thus a solid training in grammar and composition and literature is important.

THE PRE-MEDICAL COLLEGE COURSE

Occasionally a very bright student is admitted to Southwestern after only three years of college, but generally four years of college and a bachelor's degree are required.

What to study in college is an often asked question.

Premedical education in college frequently includes courses in grammar, composition and literature, foreign language, history and government, philosophy and ethics, and the behavioral sciences. It should include a thorough preparation in mathematics, physics, chemistry and biology.

Some courses are required for entrance. These include 2 years of English, 1½ to 2 years of biology or zoology, 2 years of chemistry, 1 year of physics, 1 year of mathematics. These are minimum requirements and many students elect to take additional advanced courses in these subjects.

MEDICAL EDUCATION IS CHANGING

The Board of Regents of The University of Texas System has approved in principle a long-range development program for the Dallas medical school that will lead eventually to the establishment of a broad Life Sciences Center on the campus on Harry Hines Boulevard.

This will mean that Southwestern will in the future offer a much broader scope of training in all of the life sciences that pertain to health care. It will mean that students with special interest in the allied sciences that are becoming more and more important to health care will be able to study at Southwestern. Details of the life sciences program are still in the planning stage.

Meantime, the Board of Regents also has approved creation of a regional University of Texas System for North Texas that will encompass the medical school at Dallas, the University of Texas at Arlington and the Southwest Center for Advanced Studies at Richardson. This complex will further extend the educational opportunities offered by the state university in North Texas.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS

The Director of Admissions at Southwestern can tell you about the medical school. If you want to be a doctor, and if you want to study medicine at Southwestern, address your questions, in writing, to the Director of Admissions, The University of Texas Medical School at Dallas, 5323 Harry Hines Boulevard, Dallas, Texas, 75235.

Meantime, continue your high school and college preparations for medical school. Strive for good grades, strive for a well rounded personality through participation in school activities, learn as much as you can about the world around you and how it works. The doctor is also an individual and a citizen and no longer can he be a complete doctor without understanding of the society in which he lives and practices his profession.