MEDICAL STUDENT ADVISING

The College Advisory Program (CAP) is a student-faculty learning community that strives to support students in foundational clinical skills training, academic and career advising, and the formation of their professional identities. This work is embedded in a community-oriented social matrix, offering meaningful and longitudinal relationships with faculty and among students within and across class years. CAP offers students a unique opportunity to learn the fundamental skills of medicine and lessons in professionalism and humanism with a trusted advisor and small group of peers, as well as build valued student-faculty connections.

The program goals are as follows:

• To foster a welcoming learning community for students honoring diversity and unique interests
• To promote faculty advising and mentoring relationships with all students throughout medical school
• To foster social and supportive connections between students, particularly across levels of training, and promote students’ personal well-being.
• To foster scientific inquiry, innovation, and leadership among students
• To assist students in building networks of connections within the Hopkins medical community to meet their emerging goals
• To provide clinician role models to foster excellence in humanism, professionalism, and the clinical skills of medicine

Students and faculty are organized into four colleges, named after legendary Johns Hopkins faculty: Sabin, Nathans, Thomas, and Taussig. Each college is currently populated by 120 students (30 from each class) and 6 core faculty. Incoming students meet their core faculty advisors at Orientation. Advisors help students make the transition into medical school, support their learning “the roadmap” of medical education, and facilitate exploring interests in a variety of ways over the years of medical school.

At the onset of medical school, the CAP advisors serve as the students’ small group preceptor for the Clinical Foundations of Medicine course, working with them on a weekly basis for 16 weeks. In subsequent years, CAP advisors serve as periodic clinical skills teachers and longitudinal career counselors, helping each student to develop professionally, identifying specialty mentors to satisfy emerging interests, and facilitating meaningful dialog in small groups on students’ defining experiences on the path to becoming a health professional.

Each college, under student leadership, organizes social and community service activities for its students to enhance vertical integration across classes and create a sense of home for each student. The second floor of the Armstrong Education Building is the geographic home of the Colleges, and each College has a dedicated multi-purpose suite for students on this floor.