Nazarbayev University School of Medicine (NUSOM)
Building Physicians for a Global Future

Established in 2015 as an integral part of Nazarbayev University, NUSOM was conceived to address both national and international healthcare needs by preparing physicians, researchers, and public health professionals capable of working across borders and systems. The Nazarbayev University School of Medicine (NUSOM), located in Astana, Kazakhstan, represents one such forward-looking effort—designed from the outset to align medical training with global standards, strong scientific foundations, and real-world clinical relevance.From its inception, the School has adopted an explicitly international academic model, with English as the medium of instruction and curricula benchmarked against leading global medical education frameworks.

A **Curriculum Anchored in International Standards**

The flagship Doctor of Medicine (MD) programme at NUSOM follows a U.S.-style graduate-entry medical curriculum, developed in close academic collaboration with the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. This partnership has shaped not only the structure of the programme, but also its pedagogical philosophy—integrating basic medical sciences with early clinical exposure, problem-based learning, and continuous assessment.

A **Strategic Choice for Aspiring Medical Professionals**

For students seeking a globally benchmarked medical education, delivered in English, within a modern research university, the Nazarbayev University School of Medicine offers a distinctive and credible pathway. Its combination of international collaboration, accredited programmes, integrated clinical exposure, and commitment to research-driven education positions NUSOM as an important contributor to the future of medical training—not only in Kazakhstan, but across the broader region and beyond.

Accreditation and Global Recognition

NUSOM places strong emphasis on academic quality assurance and international recognition. The MD programme is fully accredited by the Eurasian Accreditation Centre (ECAQA), an agency recognised by the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME). This alignment with WFME standards is particularly significant, as it positions graduates for mobility within an increasingly interconnected global medical workforce. In addition to medical training, NUSOM offers programmes in Public Health, including a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree that has received accreditation from the Agency for Public Health Education Accreditation (APHEA) in Europe. The School also supports doctoral (PhD) programmes, fostering research capacity in biomedical and health sciences.

A Truly International Academic Environment

NUSOM attracts students and faculty from multiple countries, creating a diverse academic community that reflects global healthcare realities. English-medium instruction, international faculty recruitment, and collaborative research links help expose students to different clinical perspectives and cultural approaches to medicine. As part of Nazarbayev University, which has gained recognition as a leading research-intensive university in Central Asia, NUSOM benefits from a wider interdisciplinary environment encompassing engineering, natural sciences, social sciences, and public policy. This proximity encourages cross-disciplinary dialogue—an increasingly important factor in addressing complex health challenges such as pandemics, climate-related health risks, and health system reform.

Preparing Graduates for a Changing World

NUSOM's educational philosophy recognises that modern physicians operate in complex systems shaped by technology, policy, and society. Accordingly, the curriculum incorporates themes of public health, health systems, leadership, and professionalism, preparing graduates not only for clinical practice but also for roles in research, academia, administration, and global health.