

## THINKING OF BECOMING A DOCTOR? CONSIDER THIS:

Of this many students who start college with
the goal of medical school:


This many will persist:

Of those, this many will be accepted to medical school㜔

THEN...You have to be accepted into a residency for a speciality.
You have to rank your specialties and might have to enter one you don't particularly want!

Of this many graduates from one of the top-ranked medical schools


This many will be accepted into one of the most competitive residencies Integrated interventional radiology Orthopedic surgery Integrated plastic surgery Radiation oncology
Neurological surgery Otolaryngology Thoracic surgery: 11
Of the same number of graduates from a lesser ranked medical school,
this many will be accepted into one of the most competitive residency programs:
$\dagger$
...And because the odds don't favor pre-med [usually Biology or Chemistry] majors proceeding to med school, there are many of them left over.
The starting salary for a UF graduate with a Biology major is just $\$ 24,000$; Chem $\$ 18,000$.
If you want most of the same job functions, what else can you do? Consider Nurse Practitioner or Physicians Assistant

Increasingly, physicians and dentists work for corporations, which sometimes prioritize profit over patient care. Many insurance companies won't even negotiate with private practices any longer.
Just like education, healthcare is big business.

## A Comparison

## The path to becoming a doctor

4 years of university High GPA
MCAT scores Interview Recommendations

4 years of medical school GPA/ Class rank Licensing exam Clinical rotations Recommendations Interview

3-5 years in residency
Board Certification Exam
For sub specialities like pediatric oncology,
1 year Fellowship and
Certification Exam

That's 11-13 years. The annual cost of attending med school in 2019 ranges from $\$ 30,000$ (NYU--fees only, tuition is free) to $\$ 100,000$ and increases every year.

SALARY:
126,440 family and general practitioners 10th percentile: $\$ 73,240$ 25th percentile: $\$ 138,100$ 50th percentile (median): $\$ 198,740$

The path to becoming a nurse practitioner 4 years of university in Nursing State board exam

2 years master's in Nursing May earn 1-2 year DNP 500-700 hours clinical experience Certification exam

## The path to becoming a

 physicians assistant4 years of university, preferably in healthcare

| 1000-4000 hours clinical |
| :---: |
| experience |
| Interview |

All of this medical education has a hefty price tag. For some specialties, like orthopedics, the average student loan debt is over $\$ 400,000$ and growing every year. The average student loan debt for dental school grads exceeds $\$ 300,000$. Veterinary school $\$ 167,000$ With an average starting income of $\$ 65 \mathrm{~K}-70 \mathrm{~K}$, vets have the highest debt to income ratio of all professions (law, dentistry, medicine, pharmacy, etc).

Let's take a closer look at a loan balance of $\$ 418,000.00$
Loan Interest Rate: 6.80\% Loan Term: 20 years Minimum Payment: \$2,000.00
Monthly Loan Payment: \$3,190.76 Number of Payments: 240
Cumulative Payments: $\$ 765,782.02$
Total Interest Paid: \$347,782.02
The job functions are similar for many specialties.

ALL of these, depending on specialty,
diagnose and treat injuries or illnesses, evaluate patients' medical histories, update records to show current findings and treatments,
order diagnostic tests and examinations for nurses or other healthcare staff to perform and review results to identify any abnormal findings, recommend, design, and prescribe plans of treatment, address concerns and answer questions that patients
have about their health and well-being,
provide guidance to patients about maintaining and improving their health by discussing proper nutrition, habits, and more.

