

WWAMI Student Profiles

The Wyoming Medical Society is proud to introduce the next class of first-year Wyoming WWAMI medical students. WWAMI stands for the five states that participate in the four-year medical education program: Wyoming, Washington, Alaska, Montana and Idaho. Each year, the program reserves 20 seats for qualified Wyoming residents, who spend 18 months on the University of Wyoming campus, followed by two years at clinical sites throughout the WWAMI region.

This year we asked them just one question: What is the best thing about being a medical student? Find their answers below.

Shayna Bauer

Thermopolis

The best thing about being a medical student is getting to experience learning medicine with all my classmates. Sometimes it's challenging, difficult, and just straight up hard but being able to do it with 19 amazing other people—and faculty who support us endlessly—is the best part.



Trent Bronnenberg

Cody

My favorite part about being a medical student is the relationships I have built with my classmates and the physicians in the Laramie community. I love the ability to further explore the medical field through our education and continuing to gain knowledge to find my future specialty.

Ross Cook

Lander

I feel proud and honored to be a WWAMI student because every day I get to grow with a group of peers and leaders who care about this place as much as I do at one of the best medical schools in the country. Our diverse educational team is made up of brilliant researchers, professors, physicians, pharmacists, and social workers who are infectiousy passionate about what they teach and are dedicated to helping us turn into good people and good doctors. All this on top of living in one of the most beautiful places in Wyoming where I have access to just about any sport or activity I can think of right out the back door. Why would I go anywhere else?



Jenni Ebersberger

Powell

The people you meet and the connections you make is the best part about being a medical student. From the teachers and administration, to classmates, and everyone in between, each person shines a unique and valuable light into your life. Year one is one of the most vulnerable times during the journey to a career in medicine, and the people that surround you help shape you and are invaluable.



Aaron Erickson

Cody

My favorite thing about being a medical student is being able to always learn new things and be challenged in a constructive way.

Brayden Feusner

Cody

The best part of medical school has been the opportunity to interact with and learn from amazing faculty, staff, classmates, and physicians. I feel very fortunate to be a part of WWAMI and look forward to continuing to grow in my journey to becoming a physician.



Cale Hinkle

Lander

My three favorite things about being in medical school are continually being in awe of my classmate's amazing abilities, feeling like I'm on a never-ending adventure, and sharing my medical school experiences with my family.

Caleb Hoopes

Sheridan

Medical school is a challenging environment, but it is very rewarding. The best part is the opportunity to meet people and the space to fail. Medicine is challenging. No one gets it right the first time. I have enjoyed being around such an incredible group of people who support me so that when I mess up, I can learn from my mistakes and grow.



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Hyrum Hopkin

Lovell

Though medical school is known for its long hours of studying and rigorous learning material, my favorite part of school has been noticing my knowledge increase. With a better and deeper understanding of the human body, I have already been able to help people both in my community and family better understand what is happening with their health. I have enjoyed seeing both myself and my classmates become caring physicians. I have also really appreciated all of the support and training shared with us by the best doctors, professors, and mentors in Wyoming.



Daphne Ma

Cheyenne

The best thing about being a medical student with WWAMI is the early integration of patient interaction, top notch education at home, and the mentoring from physicians, helping us to be the best providers for our future patients.

Hannah Mills

Powell

My favorite part of medical school so far has been the enormous amount of support I have received from faculty, classmates, and all the mentors who are pushing us to become the best physicians we can be. This experience would not be the same without all those people cheering us on and sharing all their knowledge and experience.



Casey Pikla

Lander

The best part of being a medical student is the challenge, the community and the pursuit of a truly rewarding career. Every single day I have the privilege of learning and growing through the immense demands asked of physicians-in-training. I share that experience with a group of passionate, dedicated peers with whom a special bond is formed. There are highs and lows, but there is also the knowledge that I am working to serve a special role in the lives of others.



Franklin Powell

Jackson

“Medical school is a marathon, not a sprint” sums it up well. The best part is getting to dive deeper into the puzzle every day from a different lens. I’m thrilled to be a part of WWAMI, where I get to learn on a very intimate scale with 20 of Wyoming’s best!

Madeleine Prince

Cheyenne

The connections I make with the generous members of the medical community in Wyoming are my favorite part of medical school. I am so grateful for their willingness to teach me and I am inspired by the significant, positive impact they have on their patients and communities.



Andrew Quinn

Big Horn

The best part about medical school so far has been building relationships with so many amazing individuals in the WWAMI community, whether it’s students, physicians, or faculty. It has been a privilege and will continue to be a privilege to constantly be around such great people throughout a career in medicine.

Thomas Robitaille

Casper

The coolest part of medical school has been having the opportunity to apply what we have learned in the classroom with what we see in real patients, especially so early on in our education. The best part of medical school, however, has been getting to learn and grow alongside all of my amazing classmates.



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McKenzie Stampfli

Cheyenne

The best part about being a medical student is making connections and fostering relationships with physicians around the state. Whether through mentorship, teaching, or primary care practicum, they have been generous with their time and expertise to make sure each of us has an enriching experience.



Heidi Taggart

Jackson

It is so gratifying to go to our clinical experiences and be able to directly apply the knowledge that we work to learn in the classroom for the benefit of the patients we see. Being able to spend my time learning about medicine and patient care is definitely the best part about being a medical student, and being surrounded by an amazing network of classmates and instructors while doing so only makes it more fun.

Galen Tribble

Cody

My favorite part of being a Wyoming WWAMI student is the phenomenal support in becoming a great physician from classmates, administration, and the Wyoming medical community. I'm incredibly thankful to be a part of such an incredible program.



Andrew White

Big Horn

My favorite part of being a medical student is having the help of local physicians to integrate the class work with clinical practice. This helps put everything into perspective and make everything we learn so much more meaningful.