

University of Pikeville - Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine

Strategic Plan

2023–2028

Vision Statement: KYCOM will be a leader in rural and primary care medical education, preparing physicians to promote wellness, lead in innovation, and serve with compassion in underserved communities.

Foundational Commitments

- A continued focus on training physicians to serve rural Appalachia and Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs).
 - Emphasis on primary care and health equity.
 - Accountability through consistent progress measurement and community involvement.
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Strategic Goals & Objectives

Goal 1: Transform Medical Education Through Curriculum Innovation

Objective 1.1: Launch a fully systems-based curriculum with clinical/medical integration.

Objective 1.2: Introduce structured early clinical engagement, including expanded use of case studies, simulation, and clinical skills training.

Objective 1.3: Establish a formal, on-campus testing center for secure assessments and OSCEs.

Objective 1.4: Enhance 3rd- and 4th-year learning opportunities through digital/distance-accessible platforms.

Objective 1.5: Expand low-stakes clinical assessments throughout the curriculum.

Objective 1.6: Shift primary care curriculum toward models of wellness, prevention, and patient-centered care.

Goal 2: Grow Research and Academic Programs to Broaden Impact

Objective 2.1: Identify, develop, and seek approval for at least one new academic program that enhances the research or clinical opportunities available to UPIKE students.

Objective 2.2: Increase external research funding by empowering faculty to pursue grants and reducing teaching loads for grant-supported time.

Objective 2.3: Hire research-only faculty to strengthen scholarly productivity.

Objective 2.4: Develop new graduate degree programs (MS, MPH, PhD) aligned with KYCOM's mission.

Objective 2.5: Establish a university-wide interprofessional clinic for education, care delivery, and research.

Objective 2.6: Use the clinic to launch studies in primary care interventions focused on wellness promotion

Goal 3: Foster a Thriving Campus Community for Wellness and Growth

Objective 3.1: Expand wellness services, including mental health support, through the KYCOM Wellness Hub and additional staffing.

Objective 3.2: Create an on-campus health clinic to serve students, faculty, and staff.

Objective 3.3: Accelerate outdoor recreational development at Bear Mountain to support physical health.

Objective 3.4: Explore childcare options and potential pilot programs for students and employees.

Objective 3.5: Conduct a feasibility study on student health insurance and implement based on findings.

Objective 3.6: Strategically increase KYCOM class size toward 200 students annually, supported by infrastructure and faculty planning.

Metrics & Accountability

- **Progress Reports:** Biannual updates to KYCOM leadership, faculty, and university administration.









- **Tracking Tools:** Dashboard with goals, timelines, and responsible parties.
- **Annual Review:** Strategic plan reviewed and refined annually based on performance and evolving needs.

Conclusion: KYCOM is committed to innovation, equity, and community service in medical education. By integrating academic excellence, research expansion, and wellness infrastructure, we aim to graduate physicians who not only practice medicine but also transform communities.

Together, we will grow KYCOM into a beacon for compassionate and forward-thinking care.












KYCOM Strategic Plan 2028

Reported as of April 2025

KYCOM Goal	Measures	Outcomes 2024-2025	Status
Goal 1 - Transform Medical Education Through Curriculum Innovation	Launch a fully systems-based curriculum with clinical/medical integration.	Year 1 implemented in Fall 2023 Year 2 implemented in Fall 2024	
	Seek to increase student satisfaction and engagement by utilizing available technology to enhance the student experience.	Students are very satisfied with Panopto recording software and Canvas LMS. Some courses are also live-streamed for real-time viewing.	
	Introduce structured early clinical engagement, including expanded use of case studies, simulation, and clinical skills training.	Integrated Case Studies were implemented in Fall 2023 for Year 1 and Fall 2024 for Year 2. Continue to increase and further improve clinical simulation. Clinical skills course and OPC are now combined into one overarching course.	
	Establish a formal, on-campus testing center for secure assessments and OSCEs.	This has yet to be set in motion. However, the local community college has been serving as a PearsonVue exam center, allowing students to take the COMLEX here in Pikeville.	
	Enhance 3rd- and 4th-year learning opportunities through digital/distance-accessible platforms.	The OST 750 and OST 751 courses are conducted via our Canvas LMS platform, along with Zoom meetings with our OPC faculty to go over cases for OPC. We have also added OnlineMedEd for our 3 rd and 4 th year students, which allows them to continue to increase their clinical knowledge and preparedness for COMATs and COMLEX Level 2	
	Expand low-stakes clinical assessments throughout the curriculum.	ICS courses include low-stakes quizzes. Weekly integrated quizzes (also low stakes) incorporate material from all courses. COMSAE is used to assess readiness for COMLEX.	
	Shift primary care curriculum toward models of wellness, prevention, and patient-centered care	The Appalachian Center for Preventive Medicine is scheduled to open in 2026, which will implement an Interdisciplinary, patient-centered approach to preventive medicine. Students will rotate through.	
Goal 2 - Grow Research and Academic Programs to Broaden Impact	Identify, develop, and seek approval for at least one new academic program that enhances the research or clinical opportunities available to UPIKE students.	Have increased summer research fellowships from 9 to 12 to 15 to 21 over the past four years.	

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	Increase external research funding by empowering faculty to pursue grants and reducing loads for grant-supported time	Dr. Simm received UPIKE's first-ever NIH grant this academic year. Dr. Han received the first AHA research grant in Eastern KY this year. KYCOM has increased the amount of intramural grant money available so faculty can start projects with the goal of applying for extramural funding based on that initial research.	
	Hire research-only faculty to strengthen scholarly activity.	This has not started yet.	
	Develop new graduate degree programs (MS, MPH, PhD) aligned with KYCOM's mission	We are in the preliminary stages of a Master's in Biomedical Science degree at UPIKE.	
	Establish a university-wide interprofessional clinic for education, care delivery, and research	As above, this is in progress with the Appalachian Center for Preventive Medicine	
	Use the clinic to launch studies in primary care interventions focused on wellness promotion.	This will be a later phase once the clinic is established.	
Goal 3- Foster a Thriving Campus Community for Wellness and Growth	Expand wellness services, including mental health support, through the KYCOM Wellness Hub and additional staffing.	We currently have two full-time counselors on campus. Our Director of Educational Support has also now completed her MSW and is working on her LCSW. UWill, an online 24/7 mental health service, is also provided to students at no cost.	
	Create an on-campus health clinic to serve students, faculty, and staff.	Currently have telemedicine available through a local hospital system. This is set up in our building. Hope to expand services beyond telemedicine in the future.	
	Accelerate outdoor recreational development at Bear Mountain to support physical health.	This will be a long-term process. However, UPIKE does maintain a free fitness center on campus.	
	Explore childcare options and potential pilot programs for students and employees.	This continues to be discussed, but no action has been taken yet.	
	Conduct a feasibility study on student health insurance and implement it based on the findings.	This has already been implemented as of now. HSAC manages our student insurance plan and ensures student compliance, with 100% of students having coverage.	
	Strategically increase the KYCOM class size toward 200 students annually, supported by infrastructure and faculty planning.	COCA denied an increase in size as COMLEX Level 1 scores fell below 2 SDs after submission of the application. We have put in place measures to hold students accountable,	





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		changed the curriculum, and increased board prep. We plan to resubmit once we have 3 years of COMLEX within COCA's requirements.	
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Performance Indicators

The indicator colors represent the level of performance in comparison to our goals, as follows:

-  — The objectives for this goal are being met exemplarily.
-  — The objectives for this goal are being met. 3.00
-  — The objectives of this goal are being partially met. 2.00
-  — The objectives for this goal are not being met. 1.00