



**BEYOND FLEXNER STUDY SCHOOL FACT SHEET:
AT STILL UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE IN ARIZONA**

- **Community Campuses:** ATSU-SOMA students spend the second through fourth year in one of eleven community campuses nationwide based in community health centers. This is a departure from traditional Flexnerian medical education and capitalizes on the apprenticeship model. Students obtain both significant primary care exposure and specialty rotations linked with their assigned community.
- **Admissions:** ATSU-SOMA has a unique admissions process which encourages the recruitment of students who have shown dedication to their local community health center. These are often students that have worked in the health center and when trained would be the community minded physicians they would like to employ. These applicants receive an endorsement from the health center director which fast tracks them to the interview process but does not guarantee admission. Approximately 10% of the class has received this endorsement and it is called the “Hometown program.” Hometown students receive priority for their choice of community campus.
- **Emphasis on Community Service:** ATSU admissions process has a unique approach to weighing a student’s background, altruism, and community involvement with scholastic achievement. Competitive students have a minimum of 100 community service hours (average is over 500), come from a rural or underserved background, and express values consistent with the mission of the school. They do not have a minimum MCAT score for acceptance.
- **Regional Directors of Medical Education:** Each community campus has one or two Regional Directors of Medical Education (RDME) who serve as the primary contact person and mentor for the students during the second through 4th year. These are employed clinicians of the CHC and faculty of ATSU-SOMA that serve as mentors and facilitators for the students. Students are within these communities and their cohort of students which creates a miniature medical school and unique faculty and peer mentoring environment.