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## Medical school enrollment reaches all-time high

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## Quad 136

### Medical School Enrollment Reaches All-time High

[Previous](#) [Next](#)

## Medical School Enrollment Reaches All-time High



While there is much being written about the challenges in higher education and some graduate programs, like law, are seeing a sharp **decline in applicants**, medical school applications and enrollments **remain strong**.

Interestingly, there are roughly twice as many lawyers being trained each year as doctors, with about 40,000 first year law students compared to just over 20,000 first year medical students. These numbers certainly have something to do with the ease of starting a law school (see **UST's new law school**) versus the regulatory hurdles one must clear to start a new medical school. There are 203 ABA accredited law schools in the United States and dozens of unaccredited ones. There are 141 medical schools in the United States.

All of this is simply to note that despite many questions about the future of higher education, investing in human capital remains one of the best possible investments an individual can make, certainly at the undergraduate level and very often at the graduate level too. The continued strong interest in medical school is just one indication of this fact.

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Michael Hemesath is the 13th president of Saint John's University. A 1981 SJU graduate, Hemesath is the first layperson appointed to a full presidential term at SJU. You can find him on Twitter [at] [PrezHemesath](#).