**DESCRIPTION OF MERCER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

**Mercer University School of Medicine** (MUSM) is a community-based medical school with a mission to educate physicians and health professionals to meet the primary care and health care needs of rural and medically underserved areas of Georgia. Mercer trains community responsive physicians and health care providers to meet the changing demographic and health care needs of the state.

The main campus located in Macon, GA and a regional campus in Savannah, GA are full four-year campuses and admit a total of 120 students in each class. A two-year clinical campus operates in Columbus, GA with other clinical affiliate partners in Macon and Savannah.

MUSM is recognized for its problem-based learning and integrated system-oriented basic science curriculum during the preclinical years, an accelerated track program in family medicine and internal medicine, and a recognized focus on the community. As a demonstration of the commitment to community-based practice, medical students complete 10 weeks of required rotations in rural and/or medically underserved areas as a key component of their education. MUSM accepts only Georgia residents into the undergraduate medical education program. Upon completion of residency, approximately two-thirds of students return to Georgia to practice; 80% of these physicians practice in a rural or underserved area.

In addition to medical education, MUSM offers three graduate programs: a Master of Family Therapy through the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and a Master of Biomedical Sciences and a Master of Preclinical Sciences through the Department of Biomedical Sciences.