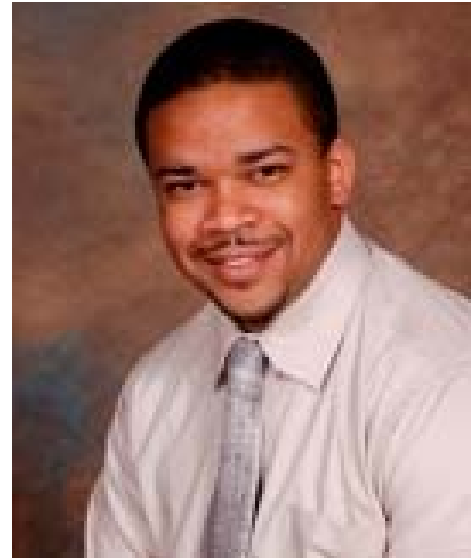


## Meet Levi N. Gause, MD . . .

In his second year of college, Levi N. Gause applied to a Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP) at the University of South Alabama (USA). Though Levi was considering a career in medicine, he wasn't sure what to expect from medical school. Through the HCOP program, he had the opportunity to familiarize himself with the coursework and lifestyle that lay ahead. With a better idea of the commitment he would be making and confident of his choice, Levi applied and was accepted to the USA College of Medicine. Today, Dr. Gause is completing a residency in orthopaedic surgery at the University of Cincinnati. Looking back, the father of three credits his experience in the HCOP program as helping to prepare him for his medical career.



*“Through the program, I was exposed to various fields of medicine and introduced to the medical basic sciences before my matriculation into medical school.”*

### About the HCOP Program

- HCOP is authorized under Title VII of the Public Health Service Act. Together with the Centers of Excellence (COE), HCOPs function to increase the representation of minority and disadvantaged students in the health professions.
- The USA operates the Biomedical Enrichment and Recruitment HCOP program, which offers an intense and rigorous summer preparatory curriculum in the basic medical sciences, and an additional opportunity for underrepresented students to enter medical school at USA.
- More information on the program activities, such as coursework, clinical rotations, and other activities, is available on the program website:  
<http://www.southalabama.edu/com/bear.shtml>

### According to Dr. Gause ...

I was fortunate enough to be accepted into the BEAR HCOP program during the second year of my undergraduate education. Prior to matriculating through the program, I was completely unaware of the commitment required in a decision to pursue a career in medicine.

Ultimately, the BEAR program aided me in my pursuit of such a career by equipping me with the necessary tools to be successful during medical school. Through the program, I was exposed to various fields of medicine and introduced to the medical basic sciences before my matriculation into medical school.



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