

Meet Evelyn Simpkins, MD . . .

A graduate of Cass Technological High School in inner city Detroit, Evelyn Simpkins dreamed of being a doctor. She pursued a BA in biology from Hampton University, but needed to strengthen her science background before medical school. Determined to fulfill her goal, she enrolled in the ABLE Post-Baccalaureate Program, a Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP) at the Michigan State University (MSU) College of Human Medicine (CHM). The program allowed her to approach science in a more in-depth manner, and increased her confidence. Upon completing the program, she matriculated into the medical school, where the Center of Excellence (COE) offered a wide variety of academic support and educational enrichment activities that will continue to serve her as a physician. Dr. Simpkins received her MD in 2002, and was accepted into the pediatric residency program at the Morehouse School of Medicine. In 2006, she was invited back to MSU-CHM as a young distinguished alumnus. Currently, she is a second year Adolescent Medicine Fellow at Johns Hopkins Hospital.



“My entire educational experience at Michigan State University College of Human Medicine was enriched by the programs offered via the CHM-HCOP and COE initiatives.”

About the Program

- HCOP and COE are authorized under Title VII of the Public Health Service Act. Together, the programs function to increase the representation of minority and disadvantaged students in the health professions.
- Students beginning at middle school through post-baccalaureate studies participate in programs designed to prepare them for entry into the health professions.
- This exposure helps develop their awareness, increases motivation through career exploration, and strengthens their readiness and preparedness to pursue a pre-health professions curriculum.
- More information on the MSU HCOP and COE programs is available on the program website:

<http://www.msu.edu/~hcop/index.htm/>

According to Dr. Simpkins . . .

I am honored to be a second year Adolescent Medicine Fellow at Johns Hopkins Hospital. This is only possible because the ABLE program supported by HCOP provided me the opportunity to prove that I was capable of being a successful medical student and the COE supported retention services provided me the needed reinforcements and enrichment throughout my medical education.

The ABLE program provided the foundation I needed for medical school. It was an excellent experience for academic and professional preparation. In addition to the strong academic preparation, there was an opportunity to form relationships with other students and faculty in advance of the formal medical school experience. My cohorts of study partners are now a cohort of colleagues with whom I share questions and ideas about patient management. Former ABLE alumni were student mentors and now are colleagues and friends.

My medical school experience was enhanced because of ABLE. It was further enhanced through the academic retention services provided through the COE LEAP and training in research offered through the COE Cultural Diversity Research Experience. My entire educational experience at MSU College of Human Medicine was enriched by the programs offered via the CHM-HCOP and COE initiatives.



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