



TUFTS UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
SACKLER SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL EDUCATION

Our Med into Grad program:

MERGE-ID (Medical-oriented Research in Graduate Education - Infectious Disease)

- A track within the Molecular Microbiology and Immunology graduate programs
- 4 entering students/year (pays most of 1st year stipend)
- Med education and experience continuous throughout graduate training period
- Emphasis on medically-oriented thesis research
- Model for future graduate research training areas at Tufts

Major goals of MERGE-ID program:

While retaining training in basic microbiology and immunology of pathogens and host...

- Learn pathogenesis, diagnosis, prevention, treatment and epidemiology of infectious diseases
 - Learn/use best sources of medical knowledge
 - Guided patient contact
 - Exposure to/participation in clinical studies
 - Complete a medically-oriented dissertation
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- Bring in even better students, and train them to better produce and compete

Achieving our goals...

Part 1. A Unique Curriculum

New courses and requirements:

1. Introduction to Infectious Diseases
 - medical microbiology tutorial
 - infectious diseases-PBL
 - teaching clinic (4 on 1 rounds)
 2. Biostatistics
 3. ID journal club
 4. ID rounds (2nd year and beyond)
 5. Medically-oriented qualifying exam
 6. Clinical Practicum (3rd year)
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Achieving our goals...

Part 2. Co-mentored thesis

- Physician-scientist co-mentor
- Medically-oriented thesis
- Clinical Practicum

Extra benefits...

- Recruiting (undergraduate interest is high)
- Invigorate curricula
- Boost ties with ID physician-scientists