



Yajaira Jimenez

MD + MS in Medical Science
Burroughs Wellcome Scholar
Hometown: Brownsville, TX
Undergraduate Institution: St. Mary's University
Undergraduate Degree: BS in Biology, Minor in Chemistry

Why do you want to be a physician?

I want to become a physician to help people in underserved communities and improve access to healthcare.

Why did you choose Texas A&M College of Medicine?

I enjoyed the positive and friendly environment at A&M. The College of Medicine offered tracks in different cities which allowed me to learn about medicine as it pertains to small communities like College Station and big metropolitan areas like Houston and Dallas. This diversity in education opportunities really stood out!

Why did you choose to pursue a graduate degree in addition to the MD?

Medicine to me means always staying up to date on the newest treatment strategies for our patients. Obtaining a masters degree and doing research for a year were an opportunity to begin exploring what it means to be a physician scientist by being an active part in developing treatments and diagnostic strategies that will help patients in the future. Through the Burroughs Wellcome Program and the Academy of Physician Scientists, I am guided through my project and studies by many physician scientists while having the opportunity to network with researchers from across the country!

What are your career goals and how do you feel the MD Plus Program will help you?

I want to provide care that is at the forefront of medicine to all my future patients. I am currently undecided as to the field of medicine I want to go into, but I hope that by including research into my specialty of choice, I will become part of the physicians who continue to expand current treatment knowledge to bring patients the best care possible.

The MD Plus Program with the Academy of Physician Scientists has made it possible to begin to explore what it means to be a physician scientist. The field of medicine is constantly evolving meaning that there is always too for growth through research. I am excited to help further our knowledge of treatment strategies and improve the lives of my future patients!