

D.C. Curriculum

PALMER COLLEGE OF CHIROPRACTIC

Palmer College offers a first professional degree, the Doctor of Chiropractic, which is earned in just over three calendar years (10 trimesters on the Davenport campus or 13 quarters on the San Jose and Port Orange campuses).

The Doctor of Chiropractic curriculum on each campus focuses on the teaching and subsequent evaluation of student clinical competency. The Council on Chiropractic Education has identified mandatory meta-competencies that ensure the graduate will demonstrate attainment of the skills necessary to function as a primary care chiropractic physician. These meta-competencies, along with the Palmer Abilities, present our vision of the specific knowledge, skills and attitudes that will be demonstrated by all Palmer graduates in the Doctor of Chiropractic degree program.

Palmer's Davenport and San Jose campuses deliver the curriculum through lecture and lab-based courses. Both campuses have sectioned labs for a more hands-on approach and increased contact with the instructor. Palmer's Port Orange campus has curriculum mastery courses set up in "tracks," which focus on specific areas of instruction linked by common subject matter. For example, first quarter Structure is an 11-credit-hour course that covers the following subjects: Gross Anatomy, Embryology, Histology and Human Dissection. At Palmer's Davenport and San Jose campuses, this subject matter is covered in several individual courses.

All Palmer campuses have three phases of curriculum, beginning with a significant focus on the basic sciences (anatomy, embryology, pathology, physiology, etc.), adding in the clinical sciences (radiology, technique, diagnosis), and finally, the outpatient clinic, business management and professional development phase.

All three Palmer campuses offer immediate hands-on activity within the curriculum, such as taking a patient history and observing in the clinic setting, studying anatomy through cadaver dissection or learning palpation techniques—an important hands-on skill chiropractors use to detect subluxations. The student-to-faculty ratio for all three campuses is 15-to-1 or better.

TECHNIQUE

Technique education is a vital component of the Palmer Doctor of Chiropractic curriculum. Students learn the art of performing chiropractic adjustments from experienced, skilled faculty members through Palmer's extensive and carefully crafted chiropractic technique program.

Palmer College of Chiropractic is known for providing an extensive and carefully crafted program in chiropractic technique as part of its core curriculum. A wide variety of techniques have been developed by chiropractic innovators, and over the years since its founding in 1897, Palmer has developed what is known throughout the profession as the "Palmer Package." This is a group of chiropractic techniques that, once mastered, provide the Palmer graduate with the technique expertise needed to deal with practically any clinical situation that may emerge in practice.

PALMER COLLEGE CONTACT INFORMATION

DAVENPORT, IOWA CAMPUS
1000 Brady Street
Davenport, IA 52803
(800) 722-3648
admissions.ia@palmer.edu

SAN JOSE, CALIF. CAMPUS
90 East Tasman Drive
San Jose, CA 95134
(866) 303-7939
admissions.ca@palmer.edu

PORT ORANGE, FLA. CAMPUS
4777 City Center Parkway
Port Orange, FL 32129
(866) 585-9677
admissions.fl@palmer.edu

www.palmer.edu

The Trusted Leader in
Chiropractic Education®

D.C. CURRICULUM, CONTINUED

THE PALMER PACKAGE

The core curriculum courses in the Palmer Package are mostly organized by regions of the spine, including courses on cervical, thoracolumbar, pelvic and extremity adjusting technique and management. These courses include elements of the techniques developed by chiropractic innovators, such as Toggle Recoil (developed by Dr. B.J. Palmer), Diversified (developed by Dr. D.D. Palmer), Thompson (developed by Dr. J. Clay Thompson) and Gonstead (developed by Dr. Clarence S. Gonstead).

TECHNIQUE ELECTIVES

In addition to the required core curriculum technique courses, students on all three campuses may choose from a variety of elective chiropractic techniques. Elective technique courses vary from campus to campus and some may not be offered during a particular session. In general, the following elective technique courses are offered:

DAVENPORT CAMPUS

- Activator Methods
- Advanced Soft Tissue
- Atlas Orthogonal
- Blair
- Flexion Distraction
- Logan Basic
- National Upper Cervical Chiropractic Association (NUCCA)
- Pettibon
- Sacro Occipital Technique (SOT)
- Thompson

SAN JOSE CAMPUS

- Activator Methods
- Advanced Soft Tissue
- Craniosacral
- Flexion Distraction
- Gonstead
- Sacro Occipital Technique (SOT)
- Sports Chiropractic I Point
- Thompson-Terminal Point
- Upper Cervical

PORT ORANGE CAMPUS

- Activator Methods
- Diversified
- Flexion Distraction
- Gonstead
- Pettibon
- Pierce Pro-Adjuster
- Sacro Occipital Technique (SOT)
- Sports Elective
- Thompson-Terminal Point
- Upper Cervical

TECHNIQUE CLUBS

A wide variety of technique clubs are active on the Palmer campuses and vary depending upon the campus. These clubs give students an opportunity to explore different techniques outside the classroom with other students interested in a particular technique. For a list of clubs, visit www.palmer.edu/techniqueclubs.

THE PALMER CHIROPRACTIC ABILITIES

The Palmer curriculum prepares students for practice success by ensuring they graduate with a number of key abilities. These abilities are in the areas of effective communication, professional growth and lifelong learning, moral reasoning and professional ethics, critical thinking and problem solving, philosophy and history of chiropractic, integrating basic science into the practice of chiropractic, patient evaluation skills, patient management skills, health care in social and community contexts and business management. For a complete list of the Palmer Chiropractic Abilities, refer to the Palmer catalog, the student handbook or the Palmer website under “Who We Are,” “Our Mission, Vision and Values.”



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