Educating the Finest Doctors of Chiropractic Since 1897.

The Trusted Leader in Chiropractic Education
**What is Chiropractic?**

Chiropractic concerns itself with the relationship between structure (primarily the spine) and function (primarily coordinated by the nervous system) of the body and how that relationship affects the restoration and preservation of health.
The Trusted Leader in Chiropractic Education

PALMER COLLEGE OF CHIROPRACTIC IS RECOGNIZED AS THE WORLD’S LEADING CHIROPRACTIC COLLEGE.

Palmer College of Chiropractic is widely regarded as the world leader in chiropractic education. Since its inception more than a century ago, Palmer College has shaped the chiropractic profession and has educated and trained nearly one-third of the world’s chiropractors. Today, more than 26,000 proud Palmer graduates live and practice in 70 countries throughout the world and in every state in the U.S.

Palmer College’s focused blending of hands-on learning with teaching excellence offers students both the depth of knowledge and breadth of skills to become competent, high-quality primary contact healthcare providers. Through Palmer College’s graduate-level program, students learn from dedicated faculty members who are passionate about chiropractic and teaching, and who care deeply about student success. Within a learning environment that places a high value on collaboration and connection, Palmer students have the opportunity to stretch themselves and get involved in their communities, becoming highly capable doctors, engaged citizens and lifelong learners.

Palmer Mission Statement

The mission of Palmer College of Chiropractic is to educate and prepare students to become doctors of chiropractic qualified to serve as direct access, primary contact healthcare providers and clinicians, competent in wellness promotion, health assessment, diagnosis and the chiropractic management of the patient’s healthcare needs. Palmer College is committed to advancing the understanding of chiropractic through research; to providing service to the field of chiropractic, including continuing education; and to serving humanity through patient care and community education.

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From its inception, Palmer College has been a leader with vision. Critical thinking, combined with the study of human health and disease, inspired D.D. Palmer to perform the first contemporary chiropractic adjustment more than a century ago. Today, D.D. Palmer's legacy of questioning, exploring and research still drive the college he founded.

Palmer College continues to embrace the pioneering spirit of its founder. The Palmer Center for Chiropractic Research is the largest program in the world dedicated to chiropractic research. Palmer College is the first chiropractic college to pursue translational research (research that is translated into practical applications) and the first to be awarded federal funding to implement it. To help students successfully manage a chiropractic practice, the Palmer Center for Business Development—the first of its kind at any chiropractic college—was established in 2008 to offer students professional training, resources and programs in entrepreneurship, practice management, marketing and finance. Among Palmer College’s forward-thinking faculty are distinguished speakers, researchers and authors who help shape and lead the chiropractic profession.

At Palmer College, the focus is on health.

Palmer College supports the chiropractic philosophy that life is intelligent and the body has an innate intelligence to maintain a state of health and well-being. Because the body is a self-regulating and self-healing organism, the focus at Palmer College is on health rather than symptoms and disease. Central to the Palmer philosophy is the removal of barriers to health through the correction of misalignments primarily of the spine so that the body can obtain its optimal potential.

D.D. Palmer, who founded Palmer College in 1897, is credited with coining the term “chiropractic” more than a century ago.
Students throughout the world come to Palmer College because they want to learn from the leader in chiropractic education. The Palmer community is greatly enriched by the worldviews of students from a wide range of backgrounds. Regardless of background, students at Palmer College all share the same goal: to become a high-quality primary contact healthcare provider who is well prepared for the chiropractic profession.

An Academically Rigorous Learning Environment

Palmer students have real-world preparation for the chiropractic profession.

“We are not a cookie-cutter school. We challenge our students to ask questions, to think critically. It helps them to become highly capable diagnosticians and clinicians.”

Greg Snow | D.C., CCSP, Dean of Clinics

Palmer’s Phenomenal Faculty

Palmer’s learning community is anchored by its world-class faculty. Professors are keenly focused on student success and producing exceptional primary care clinicians. Palmer College’s educators are highly regarded scholars, many of whom continue to work in chiropractic practices and share their real-world experiences in the classroom. As distinguished speakers, authors, researchers and clinical experts, faculty help lead the chiropractic profession. Palmer College’s supportive learning environment revolves around community, collaboration and camaraderie. With a student-to-faculty ratio of 15:1 or lower, faculty get to know their students well and readily provide one-on-one attention within a welcoming open-door atmosphere.
Real-World Care-Giving

Through immersion in the Palmer learning environment, students experience a profound personal and professional transformation. Exposure to a wide range of hands-on, real-world care-giving experiences helps Palmer students gain skills and expand their understanding of the chiropractic profession’s character of compassion, purpose and service to community.

Clinic Abroad Program

The Clinic Abroad Program inspires students to step outside of their comfort zone and into a world where patients have limited or no access to health care. By caring for patients of all ages with wide ranges of health issues, Palmer students gain hands-on skills and an expanded worldview.

“Class sizes are small at Palmer, so I get to know my students well. And I remember them long after they graduate.”

William Sherrier | D.C., Associate Professor

Palmer’s Clinic System

Palmer’s clinic system is a network of state-of-the-art outpatient clinics and community outreach clinics that care for underserved patients. The Clinics provide students with direct patient care opportunities under the guidance of a faculty mentor.

Sports Council and Technique Clubs

Through Palmer Sports Council, students work
The science of chiropractic emphasizes the relationship between structure (primarily the spinal column and the nervous system) and how that relationship affects function and health. Palmer students become proficient at incorporating various diagnostic procedures into the patient examination (such as patient history, biomechanical functional assessment, spinal examination, physical examination, and laboratory and imaging studies). Chiropractic care focuses primarily on the chiropractic adjustment and may include some or all of the following:

- Exercise
- Extremity adjustments
- Nutrition
- Participation in coordinated care
- Patient education
- Physiotherapy/ancillary procedures
- Soft tissue techniques
- Spinal hygiene, including ergonomics and posture

If a Doctor of Chiropractic determines that a patient requires attention from another branch of the healthcare profession, that recommendation or referral will be made.

**STUDENT PROFILE**

**Jenelle Bourgeois**

*Hometown: Cornwall, Ontario, Canada*

*Undergraduate Degree: Honours Baccalaureate in Health Sciences, University of Ottawa, Canada*

“I am in chiropractic because it makes sense to me to find and treat causes for diseases and symptoms rather than to simply treat the symptoms. Chiropractic is portable. Simply with my hands, I can change people’s lives. Academics at Palmer College are rigorous. But students make it through because of the support system. Professors want students to succeed; they know what students are going through. At Palmer, I’m a Student Council secretary, a Campus Guide, the Palmer International Student Ambassadors president and a member of the Vogt Leadership Society. I also play on the women’s rugby team and teach swing dancing. These activities all have one thing in common: people. It’s all about people. Chiropractic is about people. These activities provide me with the opportunity to experience many types of people in different arenas and to become a better communicator.”
With campuses in Iowa, California and Florida, you may not need to travel far from home to learn at Palmer College. Each campus offers students the same high-quality, experience-based education, but with unique regional, recreational or cultural activities.

Davenport Campus
Located in the heart of Davenport, Iowa, within blocks of the Mississippi River, Palmer College was founded in 1897 on the site of today’s Davenport Campus. Davenport is part of a larger metropolitan area of 400,000 known as the Quad Cities. With two Palmer outpatient clinics and two community outreach clinics that provide care at no cost to low-income patients, senior Palmer students have ample opportunities to work directly with patients. From athletic teams to intramurals to club sports, Palmer students find various ways to keep fit and stay active. Community participation is also an important part of the Palmer experience. During the Bix 7 Road Race—one of many events staffed by Palmer students—Palmer Sports Council members offer hands-on care to athletes. Spending a day with kids at the Ronald McDonald House goes hand-in-hand with the caring spirit of the chiropractic profession.

West Campus
The West Campus in San Jose, California (pop. 894,943), is located in the hub of world-renowned Silicon Valley. Living in one of the safest cities per capita in the country, Palmer students have easy access to multicultural San Jose and nearby beaches and mountains. Senior students gain experience in the Palmer Outpatient Clinic as

STUDENT PROFILE

Darci Robertson
Hometown: Santa Cruz, California
Undergraduate Degree:
B.S. in Political Science,
B.S. in Kinesiology, and a
Master’s Degree in Kinesiology,
Cal Poly University, San Luis Obispo

“I believe it takes a special person to be any kind of medical professional. I have the utmost respect for medical doctors, but I made the decision to pursue a Doctor of Chiropractic degree, rather than apply to medical school, because I want to have a direct influence on my patients’ health and well-being. There is no substitute for the enriching feeling that comes from healing someone with your own two hands. Faculty and staff at Palmer genuinely care about the best interests and success of their students, which elevates the academic experience. Faculty members encourage students to exercise both their minds and bodies as they equip them with the knowledge and experience to become confident practitioners.”
well as in a network of five community outreach clinics that care for underserved patients. Palmer College’s active Sports Council members offer triage and care at numerous high-profile sporting events throughout the year, including the Kona Ironman in Hawaii, the Sea Otter Classic (the largest cycling festival in North America) and the National Senior Games. West Campus students delve into clubs and organizations such as the EPIC Business Club and the Nutrition, Philosophy and Triathlon clubs.

**Florida Campus**
The Florida Campus in Port Orange, located within minutes from Daytona Beach and about an hour northeast of Orlando, opened in 2002. Port Orange (pop. 56,067) is a quiet and affordable neighborhood community. The vibrant greater metropolitan area (with a population of 2.5 million) and nearby lakes and beaches offer students a wide range of entertainment and recreational activities. Senior Palmer students master their clinical skills in the Palmer outpatient clinic, as well as in two community outreach clinics, where they care for patients with substance abuse challenges. Palmer Sports Council students work directly with athletes in numerous events, including the Dew Action Sports tour. Florida students readily engage in local community events, such as a free spinal check clinic at a local YMCA and Port Orange Family Days. The Research and Writing Club and the Pediatrics Club are just two of the many clubs open to students.
The moment your education begins at Palmer College, you will feel the profound connection that comes from working side-by-side with other Palmer students. From the first time you palpate a fellow student’s spine to the first time you perform a chiropractic adjustment, you will regard your classmates as colleagues who are an integral part of your Palmer experience.

Community runs deep at Palmer College and extends from the classroom to the wider Palmer experience. Whether you’re learning in clubs or a lecture hall, playing on athletic or intramural teams, lending a hand in the community or simply having coffee with classmates, you will feel that you are a valued member of Palmer College’s tight-knit community. Within this community, bonds are forged that grow into friendships that endure long after graduation. It’s the reason why we have such a proud, dedicated and active group of Palmer alumni.

Palmer College’s engaged and intellectually curious students avidly explore interests, expand chiropractic skills, pursue leadership opportunities and readily volunteer in their local communities—communities that are pleased to have Palmer College in the neighborhood.

“I chose Palmer because of its great reputation and because it offers a complete academic experience. It’s an actual community of chiropractors, not just a place to go to school.”

Ryan Yates | LOGAN, UTAH

An Engaged, Professional Chiropractic Community

PALMER STUDENTS EXPLORE ALL OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED.
With a wide range of Palmer clubs, teams and organizations, students have many opportunities to challenge themselves. From leading in student government, contributing to the student newspaper, expanding skills in technique clubs and Sports Council, to keeping physically active in athletic clubs, Palmer students discover new passions, pursue interests and strive to keep balance in their own lives.

Student Clubs and Organizations
The following are some of the clubs and organizations offered on one or more campuses:

- Aikido
- Campus Guides Organization
- Golf
- Ice Hockey
- Intramural Sports
  - Basketball
  - Flag Football
  - Softball
  - Volleyball
- Palmer Student Alumni Foundation
- Rugby
- Soccer
- Student American Black Chiropractic Association
- Student American Chiropractic Association
- Student Council
- Student Government
- Student International Chiropractors Association
- Student Newspaper
- Student Patient Awareness and Knowledge
- Surfing
- Technique Clubs
- Women Student Chiropractors Alliance
- World Congress of Chiropractic Students
- Yoga

STUDENT PROFILE

Josh Meckle
Hometown: Lyons, Colorado
Undergraduate Degree: B.S. in Health and Exercise Sciences with an emphasis in Cardiac Rehabilitation Exercise Physiology, Colorado State University

“The experience at Palmer is what you make it. Knowledge is here for the taking. Resources are limitless, and the experience is priceless. But it’s individual drive and motivation that make the Palmer College experience worthwhile. For me, it’s ‘go big or go home,’ so I have taken advantage of everything available to enhance my chiropractic education. I have participated in most clubs offered—Sports Council, Motion Palpation, Graston Soft Tissue, Applied Kinesiology and several others. These clubs are all hands-on and offer a specialized focus in areas of interest. Participation in student government and the Campus Guides Organization has helped me improve my communication skills and my ability to educate people about the benefits of chiropractic.”
Palm er College is an institution that sets the highest standards for itself as well as its students. The overarching goal of Palmer College is to educate the finest doctors of chiropractic who are well prepared for both the clinical and business aspects of contemporary chiropractic practice. Your goal as a student is to be well prepared to embark on any chiropractic path you choose after graduation. At Palmer College, our goals align.

As a student at Palmer College, you will learn from top-quality faculty while being immersed in a challenging academic environment. This academic rigor, combined with a full array of hands-on, real-world clinical opportunities, enables our students to achieve remarkable success after graduation. The achievements of our alumni (not only as accomplished practitioners, but also as community, business and professional leaders) are a testament to the value of the Palmer College experience. And no matter where your path leads you, chiropractic will offer you a lifelong career with meaning that significantly contributes to the quality of people’s lives.

A Degree of Enduring Value
AN EDUCATION AT PALMER COLLEGE IS A SOUND INVESTMENT IN YOUR FUTURE.

A SAMPLING OF CHIROPRACTIC CAREER PATHS
> Solo practitioner
> Chiropractic group practitioner
> Researcher
> Multi-specialty group practitioner
> Administrator
> Educator
> Fitness facility chiropractor
> Hospital staff
> Sports team chiropractor

According to the U.S. Department of Education, Palmer graduates’ low student default rate of less than 1 percent is lower than the national average of 6.7 percent for all colleges and universities in 2007.

FAST FACT! Chiropractic was recently rated among the top 25 best jobs, according to Fast Company magazine.
Visit Palmer College

EXPERIENCE THE PALMER COMMUNITY.

We can tell you about the outstanding learning opportunities at Palmer College, but there’s just no substitute for experiencing the college yourself. We invite you to visit our campuses to determine if Palmer College is right for you. While you are always welcome to schedule a campus tour, for a complete visit experience, we encourage you to attend our Campus Visit Program. During this program—which runs virtually year round—you will hear presentations about student clubs, financial aid and admissions; visit a Palmer outpatient clinic; take a comprehensive campus tour; and more.

“When I stepped on campus, I knew this was the place I wanted to be. In order to be a doctor you have to be able to give. At Palmer, I noticed people were actually smiling, and it felt right to me.”

Rachelle Mulford | LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

To Schedule a Visit

DAVENPORT CAMPUS
Phone: (800) 722-3648
E-mail: admissions.ia@palmer.edu
Web: www.palmer.edu/davenportcampus

WEST CAMPUS
Phone: (866) 303-7939
E-mail: admissions.ca@palmer.edu
Web: www.palmer.edu/westcampus

FLORIDA CAMPUS
Phone: (866) 585-9677
E-mail: admissions.fl@palmer.edu
Web: www.palmer.edu/floridacampus

Stay in Touch with Palmer

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Sign up to receive a periodic Palmer e-newsletter at www.palmer.edu/eenews.
Academic Programs

Doctor of Chiropractic

Palmer College offers a graduate-level professional degree, the Doctor of Chiropractic (D.C.). Due to Palmer’s year-round schedule, students can receive their D.C. degree in three and one-third calendar years, rather than in five academic years. The Davenport Campus is on a trimester system; students can earn a Doctor of Chiropractic degree on this campus in 10 trimesters. Students can enter the Davenport Campus in March, July and November. The West and Florida campuses follow a quarter system; students on these campuses can earn a Doctor of Chiropractic degree in 13 quarters. Students can enter the program on these campuses in January, April, July and October.

Additional degrees offered at the Davenport Campus:
• Master of Science in Clinical Research

Prerequisite Requirements
• A minimum of 90 semester hours (135 quarter hours) leading toward a baccalaureate degree at an institution accredited at the college level by an accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education.

A minimum of 48 semester hours included in the 90 total hours must be completed in sciences, social sciences and humanities (go to www.palmer.edu/prereqs for further detail about these required courses).
• A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.50 is necessary in the required prerequisite courses as well as the 90 semester hours.

Due to the rigor of Palmer College’s chiropractic program, we recommend students complete a bachelor’s degree prior to entering the program. Several states, including Florida, require students to earn a bachelor’s degree in order to be licensed by the state.

States/Territories that Require a Bachelor’s Degree to be Licensed
• Alabama
• Florida
• Kansas
• Louisiana (as of January 2011)
• Maryland
• Montana
• North Carolina
• Ohio (as of June 2010)
• Rhode Island
• South Dakota (as of January 2011)
• Tennessee
• West Virginia
• Wisconsin
• Virgin Islands

About State Boards and Licensing
All states and the District of Columbia regulate the practice of chiropractic and grant licenses to chiropractors who meet the educational and examination requirements established by the states. Chiropractors can practice only in the states where they are licensed. Many state boards require at least two years of undergraduate education; an increasing number are requiring a four-year bachelor’s degree.

All boards require the completion of a four-year program at an accredited chiropractic college leading to the Doctor of Chiropractic degree.

Palmer College’s Doctor of Chiropractic Curriculum
The Doctor of Chiropractic curriculum on each Palmer campus focuses on teaching and subsequent evaluation of student performance in 14 areas of clinical competency required by the Council on Chiropractic Education, plus six additional areas defined by Palmer College. These six additional areas include:
• Business management issues
• Chiropractic history and philosophy
• Information literacy
• Nutrition
• Patient education
• Patient wellness and public health issues

The curriculum includes extensive coursework in the basic sciences, chiropractic technique, chiropractic philosophy and business management. During their last year, students work under the supervision of a doctor in a public Palmer clinic and actively care for patients.
**Current Enrollment:**

**Davenport Campus**
Total enrollment: 1,278  
65% Male  
35% Female  
Student-to-faculty ratio: 15:1  
International students: 88 students from 19 countries  
Average student age: 26  
Average class size:  
Large lecture: 128  
Technique and lab courses: 36

**West Campus**
Total enrollment: 278  
66% Male  
34% Female  
Student-to-faculty ratio: 8:1  
International students: 44 students from 5 countries  
Average student age: 28  
Average class size:  
Large lecture: 21  
Technique and lab courses: 12

**Florida Campus**
Total enrollment: 741  
62% Male  
38% Female  
Student-to-faculty ratio: 13:1  
International students: 13 students from 1 country, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico  
Average student age: 27  
Average class size:  
Large lecture: 57  
Technique and lab courses: 19

**Chiropractic Care at Palmer College**
Palmer College maintains that a chiropractic examination incorporates the use of diagnostic procedures, including some or all of the following: patient history, biomechanical functional assessment, spinal examination, physical examination, laboratory and imaging studies. At Palmer College, care focuses primarily on the chiropractic adjustment and may also include exercise, physiotherapy/ ancillary procedures, patient education, participation in coordinated care, nutrition, extremity adjustment, case management and spinal hygiene (including ergonomics and posture).

**The Palmer Center for Chiropractic Research**
The Palmer Center for Chiropractic Research (PCCR) spans across all three campuses and is the largest program dedicated to chiropractic research in the world. Funding comes primarily from grants distributed by the National Institutes of Health, the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine and the Health Resources and Services Administration. The PCCR supports programs in research education, clinical science, translational science, experimental biomechanics, neurosciences and health services.

**Research Honors Program**
Students enrolled in the Doctor of Chiropractic Program may expand their educational experience by working with a faculty mentor to participate in research projects. Such projects not only foster an appreciation for research, but also offer engagement in research methodologies, encourage scholarship and offer exposure to a possible career in scientific research.

**Chiropractic Specialties**
Chiropractors can focus their interests in specialties such as pediatrics, geriatrics, sports rehabilitation, neurology, orthopedics or radiology.

**FAST FACT** Palmer College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE). Palmer College also is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA). Both the CCE and NCA are accrediting bodies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.
Palmer College of Chiropractic is an Equal Opportunity Institution. For more details, please read our Equal Opportunity Policy at www.palmer.edu.