

## San Juan Bautista School of Medicine Profile



San Juan Bautista School of Medicine (SJBSM) joined HETS as a member institution in May 2024. The SJBSM is a private, non-profit institution, incorporated as such with the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, founded in 1978 with the mission to advance the health of the community by focusing on community medicine and the need for having more physicians serving vulnerable and medically underserved populations.

The School was first located in San Juan, the capital of Puerto Rico, which was originally named San Juan Bautista by the Spaniards. In 1998, it moved its facilities to the city of Caguas, one of the most important urban centers in Puerto Rico, with an approximate population of 130,000. Caguas is located in the East-Central region of the island, 18 miles south of San Juan, the capital of Puerto Rico. The School is licensed by the Puerto Rico Council on Education, accredited by Middle States Commission on Higher Education and the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME).

The SJBSM academic offer is comprised of graduate and undergraduate programs: Medical Doctor (MD), Master in Public Health, Doctor Nurse Practitioner-Gerontology and Bachelor in Science of Nursing (BSN).

In 2024, 95 percent successfully matched to residency programs (43% in Puerto Rico, 57% in the USA). They matched in programs such as Radiation Oncology, Anesthesiology, Internal Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Surgery, Psychiatry, Neurology, Pediatrics, OB/GYN, and Pathology

Public Law 136 (July 17, 2006) created the Central Regional Academic Medical Centers (CRAMC) in Puerto Rico. CRAMCs are organized to support accredited medical schools in providing clinical experiences to students and assure compliance with the corresponding accreditation standards. Under PL 136, a medical school in partnership with other hospitals or affiliated healthcare organizations, structure and oversee a regional academic medical center. The San Juan Bautista School of Medicine and the Mennonite Health System ensures the availability of teaching sites for clerkships in settings with diverse patient populations with varied medical conditions. At the same time, CRAMC's and their surrounding communities and medically underserved have access to quality healthcare services.

A great deal has changed in the years since the SJBSM was founded, however, the commitment to serve the community and the medically underserved has not changed.

**President: Yocasta Brugal, M.D.**