



Admissions Information Packet Doctor of Acupuncture and Integrative Medicine

Campus & Academic Offices	2215 W Mission Rd Suite 280, Alhambra, CA 91803
Clinic	28 South Palm, Alhambra, CA 91801
Mailing Address:	55 South Raymond Avenue, Suite 105, Alhambra, CA 91801
Contact	626.289.7719
website email	www.amu.edu start@amu.edu
Learning Management System	acustudy.instructure.com

Distance Education

Due to public health requirements related to the Covid-19 pandemic, Alhambra Medical University is offering both didactic and clinical training under the ACAOM emergency distance education waiver. Effective Nov 2020 and during the period of COVID19 interruption, ACAHM is extending its current flexibilities until further notice subject to any Federal, State and/ or local limitations.

Accreditation and Approval

Alhambra Medical University and its Master's in Traditional Asian Medicine programs (in English and Chinese) are accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine (ACAHM). Institution/program accreditation history, notes, and dates of review may be viewed at: <http://acaom.org/directory-menu/directory/>

The Alhambra Medical University (AMU) professional doctoral (DAIM) program, approved to begin enrolling students, is not yet accredited or pre-accredited by ACAHM. Graduates of this program are not considered to have graduated from an ACAHM-accredited or pre-accredited program and may not rely on ACAHM accreditation or pre-accreditation for professional licensure or other purposes.



This program is eligible for ACAHM accreditation, and AMU is currently in the process of seeking ACAHM pre-accreditation/accreditation for the program. However, AMU can provide no assurance that pre-accreditation or accreditation will be granted by ACAHM.

Alhambra Medical University is a private institution and licensed to operate by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE). Approval to operate means compliance with state standards as set forth in the Education Code. As a prospective student, you are encouraged to review this catalog prior to signing an enrollment agreement. You are also encouraged to review the School Performance Fact Sheet, which must be provided to you prior to signing an enrollment agreement.

www.bppe.ca.gov

Change of Educational Objectives Application for the Doctorate in Acupuncture and Integrative Medicine program is approved by BPPE.

Any questions a student may have regarding this catalog that have not been satisfactorily answered by the institution may be directed to the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education at:

1747 North Market, Suite 225 | Sacramento, CA 95834
P.O. Box 980818, West Sacramento, CA 95798-0818
Toll-free telephone number (888) 370-7589 or by fax (916) 263-1897

www.bppe.ca.gov

Several states, including California, have a governmental agency that governs, supervises and controls the licensure and practice of acupuncture. In California, the Acupuncture Board is responsible for such duties.

The Master's program is approved by the California Acupuncture Board. Graduates who have successfully completed all graduation requirements are eligible to sit for the California Acupuncture Licensing Examination (CALE). Graduates who have successfully completed all graduation requirements are eligible to sit for the California Acupuncture Licensing Examination (CALE). The DAIM program is currently not accredited or pre-accredited from ACAHM and graduates from DAIM program are not yet eligible to sit for the California Acupuncture Licensing Examination (CALE) and therefore prospective students are encouraged to graduate from MSTAM program prior to enroll DAIM program to be eligible for sitting in the CALE.

The Acupuncture Board is an autonomous body under the umbrella of the Department of Consumer Affairs, which licenses and regulates acupuncturists in California. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4925 et seq., the board administers an examination that tests an applicant's ability, competency, and knowledge in the practice of an acupuncturist; issues licenses to qualified practitioners; approves and monitors students in tutorial programs; approves acupuncture schools and continuing education providers and courses; and enforces the Acupuncture Licensure Act.

www.acupuncture.ca.gov



If you desire to practice in another state, it is recommended that you contact that state's medical board or other appropriate agency, for licensure requirements. The NCCAOM's website provides information regarding the various degree and other certification requirements for all fifty states. The Master's program graduates are eligible to sit for the NCCAOM certification examinations.

The National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM®) is a non-profit 501(c)(6) organization established in 1982. The NCCAOM is the only national organization that validates entry-level competency in the practice of acupuncture and Oriental medicine (AOM) through professional certification. NCCAOM certification or a passing score on the NCCAOM certification examinations are documentation of competency for licensure as an acupuncturist by 43 states plus the District of Columbia which represents 98% of the states that regulate acupuncture.

Graduate from the Master of Science in Traditional Asian Medicine program of Alhambra Medical University is eligible to register for NCCAOM certification examinations.

2001 K Street, NW, 3rd floor
North | Washington DC 20006
Tel (888) 381-1140, www.nccaom.org

Use of “Doctor” or “Dr.” in the Practice of Acupuncture

An acupuncturist can only use “Doctor” or “Dr.” in connection with the practice of acupuncture if he or she possesses a license that authorizes the use or possesses an earned doctorate degree which is in acupuncture, oriental medicine, a biological science, or is otherwise related to the authorized practice of an acupuncturist from an accredited, approved, or authorized educational institution. An acupuncturist must further indicate the type of license or degree which authorizes that use of the title “Doctor” or the abbreviation “Dr.”

The Master's program prepares the students to be employed as Acupuncturist (Standard Occupational Code (SOC) for Acupuncturists from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) as SOC – 29-1291). The professional doctorate program (Doctor of Acupuncture and Integrative Medicine) is currently not an accredited or pre-accredited program from ACAHM and may not be recognized for some employment positions including but not limited to positions with the state of California. The DAIM program equips the student's knowledge in more advance with regards to the patient care and professional practice on top to what they have already achieved in the master's program (Master of Science in Traditional Asian Medicine) to be an acupuncturist. Detail information about the list of Standard Occupational Code (SOC) can be looked at: https://www.bls.gov/soc/2018/major_groups.htm#29-0000



Alhambra Medical University publishes a checklist information to guide the graduates from the program related with the information of the acupuncturist licensure checklist and eligibility across the states in the U.S. once they have graduated from the AMU Master's program. This checklist can be accessed in [here](#) (this checklist maybe updated according to the current available information). Prospective and current students may inquire to the Dean of Students for more information or advice regarding licensure to practice acupuncture and traditional medicine in the state of California or outside of California. The list of states for which AMU Master program curriculum meets, does not meet or unable to determine to meet each state educational requirements can be inquired as well to the Dean of Students. Graduates are required to directly inquire to the local governing state board to acquire more accurate and detail information regarding eligibility, requirements and procedures to practice acupuncture and traditional medicine in the related state.

Academic Operational

The University operates on a quarter system and applications are accepted for program four times a year in January, April, July and October.

Admissions Requirements

Admissions for doctoral program is the satisfactory completion of at least three (3) years of undergraduate-level education (defined as 90 semester credits or 135 quarter credits) from an institution accredited or pre-accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education. Prerequisite undergraduate-level education must include chemistry, biology, and psychology or completion of chemistry, biology, and psychology from the master's program.

In considering the acceptance of education and training obtained in foreign countries, credits earned at a foreign educational institution must be validated by a recognized educational credentials evaluation service.

A separate enrollment agreement that outlines when a master's degree is awarded is simultaneously executed at the date of initial enrollment when the master's degree is awarded as part of the doctoral program.

The admissions for the doctoral completion program requires graduation with a master degree in acupuncture with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization from an ACAHM accredited/pre-accredited program or institution.

Upon the admissions process, you are required to submit the following documentations:

1. A completed and signed application form along with the non-refundable application fee (\$100).
2. Provide Official Transcript(s) from all colleges and/or universities attended. If the

transcripts are from a country where English is not the primary language, they must be translated into English and must be sent to a reputable foreign credentials evaluation agency to evaluate equivalent levels of educational achievement in the U.S.

3. Acceptance to a doctoral degree completion track is furthered conditioned upon satisfactory completion of ACAHM's masters' core curriculum requirements acupuncture with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization typically evidenced by official transcripts of master degree in acupuncture with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization issued by an ACAHM accredited/pre-accredited program or institution.
4. Two recommendation letters.
5. A personal essay describing yourself and your interest in medicine.
6. Two recent 2"x2" color headshot photos.
7. An interview with a member of the Admissions Team.
8. The University is authorized by the US Department of Homeland Security to issue an I-20 and enroll non-immigrant international students into the Master's Program Only.

Language of Study in DAIM Program

The didactic part of the DAIM program is currently offered in two languages: English and Mandarin Chinese. Clinical training is taught in English only.

English Language Proficiency Requirements

English language competency is required in accordance with the Admissions requirements. English language competency must be demonstrated by all students prior to admissions through the completion of one of the following:

1. Four (4) years at a U.S. high school demonstrably delivered in English;
2. At least two-years (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) of undergraduate- or graduate-level education in an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education;
3. At least two-years (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) of undergraduate- or graduate-level education demonstrably delivered in English;
4. High school or two-years (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) of undergraduate- or graduate-level education in an institution in one of the following countries or territories: American Samoa, Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Botswana, British Virgin Islands, Cameroon, Canada (except Quebec), Cayman Islands, Christmas Island, Cook Islands, Dominica, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, The Gambia, Ghana, Gibraltar, Grenada, Guam, Guyana, Ireland, Isle of Man, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Montserrat, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norfolk Island, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Pitcairn Islands, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, South Sudan, St. Helena, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St.

Vincent & the Grenadines, Swaziland, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, United Kingdom, U.S. Virgin Islands, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

- a. In all cases, English must have been both the language of instruction and the language of the curriculum used
5. Completion one of the following assessments at the required level:
 - a. Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT) - acceptable score: total score 61
 - b. International English Language Testing System (IELTS), academic format - acceptable score: overall band score 6.0
 - c. Duolingo English Test - acceptable score: 90
 - d. China Standard of English Language (CSE) - acceptable score: CSE 6
 - e. Cambridge First Certificate in English (FCE) - acceptable score: C
 - f. Cambridge English Advanced (CAE) - acceptable score: C
 - g. Common European Framework Reference (CEFR) - acceptable score: B2
 - h. Occupational English Test (OET) - acceptable score: 250, C
 - i. Pearson Test of English (PTE), academic - acceptable score: overall score 45

Doctoral Completion and Master's Program Relationship

This professional doctorate a graduate program leading to a doctoral degree and commonly focus on skills and knowledge necessary for professional practice and as often required for licensure. This professional doctorate provides additional knowledge and skills beyond the master's requirements for certification and licensure to practice acupuncture and Oriental medicine.

This Professional Doctorate program has a track that enable master's graduates to achieve doctorate competencies and earn the Professional Doctorate degree. The professional doctorate completion track for graduates of an ACAHM accredited/pre-accredited master's program is a component of the overall professional doctorate, not a separate distinct program.

All students, including Master's graduates enrolling in a Professional Doctorate program, must meet the admissions requirements in effect at the time of their official matriculation.

There are three routes for completion of a Professional Doctorate program:

1. Enroll in professional doctorate program as a new student

This institution offers a dual-degree Master's and Professional Doctorate option, upon completing your admission requirements for both Master's and Doctorate programs, you enroll in both programs in the beginning. You will have signed an enrollment agreement for the Master's program and an enrollment agreement for the Doctorate program. For students who intend to earn their Masters prior to, or together with, the Doctorate, the program will execute separate enrollment

agreements for each degree program simultaneously at the date of initial enrollment.

2. Transfer into professional doctorate Program

Transfer into Professional Doctorate Program from a Master's program at the same institution or transfer from Masters and/or Professional Doctorate program at another institution. You may start in the Masters programs at AMU and decide later to also enroll in the Professional Doctorate program. While some courses shared by the Masters and Professional Doctorate programs may be the same, they cannot be considered toward Professional Doctorate graduation requirements until you have officially enrolled. Once an enrollment agreement is executed, the previous Masters classes may be transferred into the Professional Doctorate program in accordance with transfer credit limits.

You start in the Masters or Professional Doctorate at Institution A and then transfer to Institution B. Once an enrollment agreement is executed for each program, Institution B may evaluate your credits from Institution A to determine transferability. The transfer credit limits apply.

To avoid repetition of curricular content and additional tuition expense, decisions to transfer are best made within the first 1-2 academic years of study. If a student transfers into a Professional Doctorate program from Master's program, at the same or from a different institution, they may receive transfer credit for up to 50% of the total accepting Professional Doctorate program credit requirements. They must complete at least 75% of the accepting program's clinical training requirements. If a Masters student has completed greater than 50% of the Professional Doctorate program, the recommended approach to avoid repetition of curricular content is completion of the Master's degree and subsequent enrollment in a Professional Doctorate program with a completion track for Master's graduates. (see Option 3)

3. Doctoral completion track

Complete a Master's program and then enroll in a Professional Doctorate completion track. The admissions for the doctoral completion track program requires graduation with a master degree in acupuncture with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization from an ACAHM accredited/pre-accredited program or institution.

In considering the acceptance of education and training obtained in foreign countries, credits earned at a foreign educational institution must be validated to be equivalent to a master's degree by a recognized educational credentials evaluation service.



A comprehensive transcript analysis that demonstrates that all applicable master's-level coursework completed is equivalent to doctoral requirements in terms of content, rigor, and credit hour requirements will be conducted. Credits earned more than five (5) years prior to admission may only be accepted for transfer credit by an institution after validating that the student has retained the content knowledge and competencies of the respective course(s) for which transfer credits are being assessed.

Acceptance to a doctoral degree completion track is furthered conditioned upon satisfactory completion of ACAHM's masters' core curriculum requirements acupuncture with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization typically evidenced by official transcripts of master degree in acupuncture with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization issued by an ACAHM accredited/pre-accredited program or institution.

Subject to relevant state regulations and licensing agency rules, applicants may receive transfer credit for up to 50% of the total program credit requirements. Of that 50%, no more than 25% of the program clinical training requirements may be accepted as transfer credit.

Admissions Review Process

Once all application packages and all supporting documents have been received, the applicant will be contacted for a personal interview with one of the members of the admissions team. Following the interview, the application file will be reviewed by the admissions. The applicant will be notified in writing once a decision has been made by the admissions. Students who are fully admitted are expected to commence enrollment in the quarter they are admitted.

All new students admitted into the program will be provided with the new student orientation and registration session. The orientation reviews the institution and program related curriculum, policy and procedures. Please contact the admissions office for assistance prior to orientation for assistance (start@amu.edu).

Transfer Credit

The program accepts transfer credits towards its program that it judges to be equivalent to its requirements for graduation. Before transfer credit will be awarded, all official transcripts containing the coursework for which the prospective student seeks credit must be received by the Office of Admission. The following guidelines apply:

- Only transfer credit for actual coursework successfully completed at a college or university accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education or, in the case of foreign institutions, recognized by the appropriate government agency.

- Credits earned more than five (5) years prior to admission may only be accepted for transfer after validating and documenting that the student has retained the content knowledge and competencies of the respective course(s) for which transfer credits are being assessed.
- For institutions approved by the California Board of Acupuncture, 100% transfer credit may be awarded, provided that the actual coursework to be transferred has been successfully completed and is equivalent to the relevant required coursework.
- For candidates applying from institutions not approved by the California Board of Acupuncture, but are accredited by ACAHM or from foreign institutions which are evaluated as the equivalent of a regionally accredited college in the U.S., the following guidelines will apply:
 1. Up to 100% transfer credit may be awarded for courses completed successfully in basic sciences, clinical medicine, case management, practice management, public health, and professional development if the actual number of hours completed is equal to or greater than that required.
 2. Up to fifty percent (50%) credit, by transfer or challenge exam, for clinical practice and instruction in acupuncture and Oriental medicine principles, theories and treatment procedures may be awarded. The actual number of hours completed must be equal to or greater than that required by Alhambra Medical University. At least 50% of the course hours in the above individual subjects must be taken at Alhambra Medical University.

After a careful course-by-course evaluation of the contents of the Official Transcript(s), a written evaluation will be sent to the student indicating what coursework will be applied as transferable credits against the graduation requirement, and the entire record of the evaluation and award of the student's transfer credit will be included in the student's academic file.

Initial transcript evaluation for transfer credits performed is free. A \$100 transcript evaluation fee per term for each institution from which courses were taken will ensue after full admission or two quarters of enrollment.

Under Title 5. Education Division | 7.5. Private Postsecondary Education | Chapter 3. Institutional Operating Standards | Article 2. Admissions and Academic Achievement Standards | 5 CCR § 71770 | § 71770. Admissions Standards and Transferred Credits Policy.

(2) No more than 20% of graduate semester units or the equivalent in other units awarded by another institution may be transferred for credit toward a Master's degree. An institution may accept transfer credits only from the institutions of higher learning described in subsection (1)(A).

(3) No more than 30 graduate semester credits or its equivalent awarded by another institution may be credited toward a doctoral degree.



“This subdivision does not apply to graduate programs that lead to a profession or an occupation requiring state licensure where the licensing agency has a regulation permitting a different standard.”

This subdivision does not apply because our graduate program lead to a profession or an occupation requiring California Acupuncture Board licensure and the California Acupuncture Board regulations permit a different standard.

Tuition and Fees

Master’s program didactic course tuition: \$160 per Unit
Master’s program clinical internship tuition: \$12 per hour
Doctoral Completion Tuition: \$2500 per quarter
DAIM Program Completion Program Total: \$10,000

***Please see detail of tuition and fees in the program catalog**

Estimate Cost of Living for Studio or single bedroom apartment near the school is approximately \$1200/month.

Financial Aid Eligibility

Federal Title IV Financial Aid is currently only available for the Master’s Program, NOT the DAIM.

Length of Program

The maximum time a student has to complete this four year program is six years (24 quarters). All students in attendance at Alhambra Medical University must maintain a quarter-to-quarter, as well as a cumulative minimum GPA of 2.0 and passing at least 67% of the registered courses. The course work shall extend over a minimum of 3 academic years or 12 quarters, with the average units earned per quarter of 12 for full time students and 6 for part time students. In addition, all students will also have to pass the institutional exams conducted by AMU. AMU institutional exams include Level 1 Entrance Exam, Level 1 Exit Exam, Level 2 Exit Exam, and Level 3 Exit Exam.

***Please see detail in the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) information in the program catalog.**

Coursework

Didactic Curriculum		Units	Hours
Courses Similar to MSTAM Program	Basic Sciences	36 units	360 hours
	Traditional Chinese Medicine	39 units	390 hours
	Acupuncture	27 units	270 hours
	Herbal Medicine	45 units	450 hours
	Adjunctive Therapies	9 units	90 hours
	Western Medicine	27 units	270 hours
	Professional Development	27 units	270 hours
	Electives	6 units	60 hours
DAIM Completion Courses	Integrative Applications	18 units	180 hours
	Integrative Case Management	3 units	30 hours
	Evidence Based Medicine	3 units	30 hours
	Total Didactic	240 units	2,400 hours
Clinical Curriculum			
Clinical Hours Similar to MSTAM Program	Orientation and Herbal Dispensary	4 units	80 hours
	Clinical Observation	6 units	120 hours
	Assisted Practice	16 units	320 hours
	Guided Practice	22 units	440 hours
DAIM Completion Clinical Hours	Integrative Case Studies	3 units	60 hours
	Total Clinical	51 units	1020 hours
DAIM Completion Lab Hours	Professional Development Portfolio (Lab Hours)	3 units	60 hours
Total Curriculum		294 units	3,480 hours

Graduation Requirements

The Doctorate in Acupuncture and Integrative Medicine (DAIM) degree is awarded upon satisfactory completion of the following:

- Completion of the core curriculum with a minimum of 2,400 hours of didactic instruction (240 units that consists of 234 required didactic units and 6 required elective didactic units) plus 1,020 hours of clinical internship (200 hours observation plus 760 hours of supervised clinical internship and 60 hours of DAIM integrative case studies which comprises 51 quarter units) and 60 lab hours (DAIM professional development portfolio that comprises 3 quarter units). A total of 294 quarter units are required for graduation.
- Completion of all clinical requirements
- Successfully passing all required AMU institutional exams
- Fulfillment all financial obligations to the University
- In terms of residency, a quarter is defined as twelve (12) units or more. The minimum residency is 12 quarters. The minimum residency is 12 quarters. For transfer students, the minimum residency requirement is 45 quarter units of classroom instruction.