



## MEDICAL PRACTICUM JANUARY 2025

- Vista Hermosa, Guatemala
- 16 Undergraduate students
- From the US: 5 physicians, 2 dentists, 1 physician assistant, 1 nurse midwife, 2 pharmacists, 1 medical student, 1 resident, 1 laboratory technician
- From Guatemala: 3 dentists, 6 Fundenor partners, 2 Mayan-speaking nurses, 2 Mayan-speaking auxiliary nurses, 7 English to Spanish translators, 7 Mayan to Spanish translators
- 1559 Medical consultations
- 22839 Prescriptions filled
- 454 Tooth extractions
- 3323 Lab tests
- \$28,556 Used for reduced price medicines and medical/dental supplies



[medicalpracticum.manchester.edu](http://medicalpracticum.manchester.edu)



# GUATEMALA

## Medical Practicum NASC-310



**A Short-Term Experience  
in Global Health**



***Celebrating 45 years***

## AN EMBODIMENT OF MISSION

This short-term experience in global health exemplifies Manchester's mission to graduate persons who lead “principled, productive, and compassionate lives that improve the human condition,” and is a testament to Manchester’s distinguished reputation in the sciences and commitment to excellence in preparation for health care careers. Providers pay their own travel expenses, but it takes donations and grants to purchase medical and dental supplies.

## MEDICAL PRACTICUM HISTORY

Founded in 1981 by Dr. Ed Miller, the practicum turned 45 in January 2025, with the most recent trips led by Dr. Jeff Osborne; previous years went to Nicaragua, Guatemala, Panama, Honduras, Dominican Republic and Costa Rica. 468 Manchester students, along with 151 different health care providers and 72 other staffers have served more than 50,000 patients since its inception. Over half of practicum alumni have entered health care careers, including 104 physicians, 36 pharmacists, and 27 dentists. 37 students have returned on the trip as providers.

The Medical Practicum at Manchester University is more than a three-credit class – it's a life-changing experience for students. While the nearly three-week-long excursion to Guatemala is excellent for anyone who is motivated, it's probably most useful for those with a future in health care who have yet to apply to professional and graduate schools. It often helps students to discover their true passions and steer their next steps. The faculty-guided practicum partners students with a team of U.S. physicians, dentists and other health professionals to accompany a local development organization and health care providers in serving patients of all ages in Guatemalan communities, where care is in short supply. The practicum team travels through mountains by bus and 4-wheel-drive vehicles to remote villages – without much running water or electricity. Besides serving hundreds of patients with medical and dental needs, practicum students experience a culture different from their own and observe first-hand the challenges faced by the people of this developing area. It's about improving the world by thinking generally about equity and social justice.

