

HISTORY

Founded in 1860 by a group of civic leaders that included poet and abolitionist William Cullen Bryant, New York Medical College (NYMC) is one of the nation's oldest private medical schools. The College's affiliation with Metropolitan Hospital Center, which began in 1875, is one of the oldest continuing affiliations in the nation between a private medical school and a public hospital.

NYMC was the first medical school to own its own teaching hospital, the Flower Free Surgical Hospital, which was built for the College in 1889 with funds donated by Roswell P. Flower, who later became governor of New York. Philanthropists John D. Rockefeller, Sr., and David Dows also contributed funds that enabled NYMC to purchase the land on which Flower was built. The College was among the first medical schools to admit women (1863) and, in 1928, was the first medical school in the nation to establish a scholarship program specifically for minority students.

Based in New York City for 108 years, the College marked a milestone in its history when, in 1968, it accepted an invitation from Westchester County to develop a campus in Valhalla and to join the County in creating the Westchester County Medical Center. In 1978, the College was strengthened through the establishment of a relationship with the Archdiocese of New York. This relationship broadened the College's range of clinical affiliations through the Catholic-sponsored hospitals in New York City and the metropolitan region. Known today as "a health sciences university in the Catholic tradition," New York Medical College affirms its concern for the care of the poor, respect for the worth and dignity of human life, and a commitment to excellence.

New York Medical College is also charged with preparing master's and doctoral candidates for careers in the basic medical and health sciences.

With 20 affiliated hospitals, New York Medical College maintains a presence in settings that range from large urban medical centers to small suburban hospitals. The College can be identified as the only academic biomedical research institution on a clinical campus between New York City and Albany, extending from the city to Westchester County and the Mid-Hudson Valley in New York State and to Fairfield County, Connecticut.