10 QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR PROSPECTIVE ACM SCHOOL
Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine

1. What type of environment will I be learning in and does it have the resources I need to have a positive and beneficial educational experience?

At NWHSU we offer:

- Extensive opportunities for ACM students to interact and build their professional network with students and faculty from other programs including chiropractic, massage therapy, pre-med, and other healthcare fields.
- An extensive library with many resources, study rooms, and printers.
- Student support resources in multiple offices (Admissions, Financial Aid, Registrar and Student Counseling).
- Breakfast and lunch at our onsite cafeteria and coffee shop.
- Peer tutoring programs.
- Accessible, full-time faculty with flexible weekly office hours, dedicated to helping you succeed.
- Support for students with special needs or disabilities.
- Free chiropractic and acupuncture services, as well as reduced-price massages, for students and their immediate families.
- A workout room with a variety of exercise equipment, a gymnasium, and pool, all free for student use.
- Opportunities to work in one of the largest herbal dispensaries in the area, right on campus.
- Free high-speed WiFi available throughout the campus.
- A campus store offering course materials as well as health supplements, gifts, snacks, and more.
- Access to course information and communication with faculty through web-based course management platforms.

2. How will you prepare me to practice Traditional Chinese Medicine in a modern medical facility?

At NWHSU, we help you develop a deep understanding of classical Chinese medicine practices while learning to apply the knowledge in modern clinical settings.

- We ensure your clinical opportunities include options to practice in hospitals and a variety of western medicine settings, such as community clinics, in-patient centers, fee-for-service clinics, and more.
- We provide anatomy and physiology training with access to an onsite cadaver lab.
- We teach you how to effectively communicate Traditional Chinese Medicine to physicians and allied healthcare providers.

3. Is your school accredited?

NWHSU is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). This regional agency accredits degree-granting post-secondary educational institutions in 19 states.

The Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine programs are accredited under applicable Master's Degree Standards, by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM), the recognized accrediting agency for programs preparing acupuncture and Chinese medicine practitioners.

4. Why does accreditation matter?

- The rigorous accreditation process ensures that we meet well-defined standards for quality education.
- At an accredited school, you have access to federal financial aid, scholarships, and military benefits.
5. Is your university for-profit or not-for-profit?
   - NWHSU is a private, not-for-profit institution.

6. Does your university offer flexibility around start dates and student schedules?
   - We understand each student has unique needs and offer flexibility with three start dates for your convenience – fall, winter, or summer.
   - Our academic advisors are fully committed to working with each individual student’s schedule needs to help you meet your educational goals.
   - We provide a wide variety of clinical internship hours and days at various locations.

7. What are the student life and campus activities like?
   - At NWHSU, we offer a variety of opportunities for our students to connect and network including:
     - Student Senate – help shape the student experience
     - Clubs and Organizations – Get involved! We offer over 50 clubs and organizations to join. These include Mandarin Club, Yoga Club, Herb Club, Student Acupuncture Association, and more.
     - We offer sponsored trips to the state capitol and Washington, D.C. to lobby elected representatives on acupuncture issues.
     - The opportunity to join students and faculty on a trip to China.
     - We offer Student Leadership Awards hosted by the University.
     - Students participate in multiple campus-wide gatherings including the Great River Symposium and trips to vendor partners to learn about their products and services.
     - We believe in giving back and serving others. We annually organize a campus-wide Service and Appreciation Day, allowing students and faculty to give back at multiple local volunteer opportunities.
     - We have numerous locations on campus for students to relax or study including the Fireside Lounge, Healing Garden, Courtyard, and Library among other places.
     - Free parking!

8. What clinical opportunities and business classes will I have to prepare me for success after graduation?
   - Depending on your interest, your clinical experience may range from traditional outpatient clinics to modern hospital and other integrative settings.
   - Extensive varieties of internship opportunities are available because of our strong reputation and relationships with community providers.
   - Students are trained on using state-of-the-art electronic health record systems.
   - We offer business classes to prepare you for managing a practice.
   - Many of our internships provide valuable networking opportunities.
   - We ensure you have the necessary framework needed beyond your program when you graduate by incorporating the University Learning Outcomes (ULO) into your coursework. As a graduate of NWHSU, you will be able to demonstrate skills in communication, civic engagement, critical thinking, health and wellness, and ethics and professionalism.

9. Does your university provide acupuncture to specialized or underserved communities? Will this be part of my training?
   - NWHSU has a large network of clinics students can elect to work with. This includes care for:
     - patients living with HIV/AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses
     - patients with spinal cord and brain injuries
     - professional athletes
     - pregnant women and women dealing with fertility issues or postpartum depression
     - the elderly population
     - cancer patients
     - homeless or low-income populations

10. Is financial assistance available for me as an Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine student?
    - Many of our students are eligible for financial aid.
    - We have scholarships, grants, and loans to help you fully fund your student experience.
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As you consider your education and career in Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine (ACM), be sure to ask the right questions.

Selecting the right university will give you confidence in knowing you are at the forefront of this rapidly advancing profession and poised for future career growth. These are common questions to guide you in your decision making.

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