



PIHMA
COLLEGE & CLINIC

PHOENIX INSTITUTE OF HERBAL MEDICINE & ACUPUNCTURE





PIHMA College & Clinic

Letter from the President



WELCOME TO THE PHOENIX INSTITUTE OF HERBAL MEDICINE & ACUPUNCTURE

Phoenix Institute of Herbal Medicine & Acupuncture (PIHMA), College and Clinic, was founded by a team of highly motivated teachers, students and administrators who sought to bring the ancient practice of acupuncture and Oriental medicine to Arizona through the creation of Arizona's first educational program designed to meet nationally recognized standards in these fields. PIHMA was awarded candidacy for accreditation in 2001, accreditation in May of 2004 and 5-year re-accreditation in 2007.

PIHMA is built on two major themes: quality and professional excellence. PIHMA's faculty reflect these themes by bringing their expertise to teaching and demonstrating the highest professionalism. PIHMA's innovative curriculum and the high caliber of students that PIHMA attracts are also representative of these themes.

The phoenix bird was selected as the emblem of PIHMA's vision for several reasons. The phoenix is the bird in Egyptian mythology that lives for five centuries and then consumes itself by fire, later to come back to life renewed from its ashes to live another 500-year cycle. It is a symbol of continuity, strength, determination, wealth, immortality, hope, and reborn idealism. It also stands for unsurpassed excellence and beauty, as well as restoration. PIHMA believes that the mythology of the phoenix represents many of the concepts found in Oriental medicine and healing: the cycle of life, the goal of longevity, the rebirth of good health and balance after illness or disharmony, and the honoring of one's inherent worth and majesty. Understanding the cycles of life in nature creates a better understanding of the cycles in one's health and gives genuine hope for achieving a state of balance and wholeness. The phoenix also reflects the return of our culture to values of healing that take into consideration the *whole* person, that seek achievement of good health and longevity by *prevention* of disease or disharmony, and maintain *respect* for a person's dignity. Upon completion of the graduate program at PIHMA it is believed that students will maintain these superior values of professionalism, competence and excellence in the field of Oriental medicine.

You are invited to join PIHMA in the study of Oriental medicine. Your education will be well-grounded in the practical and theoretical concepts of this ancient and effective system. Just as the fiery nature of the phoenix embodies the Oriental concept of the Heart/Fire element, PIHMA opens its doors to you to become a compassionate facilitator of healing, serving others with an open heart.

Catherine Niemiec, J.D., L.Ac.
President & Founder

"Join PIHMA in the study of Oriental medicine. Your education will be well-grounded in the practical and theoretical concepts of this ancient and effective system."

~PIHMA President and Founder, Catherine Niemiec, J.D., L.Ac.

Mission and Vision



Statement of Purpose

The purpose of Phoenix Institute of Herbal Medicine & Acupuncture (PIHMA) is to educate and train students to be healing facilitators in the art, science and philosophy of acupuncture, herbal and Oriental medicine.

Mission Statement

PIHMA's mission is to prepare students to meet the national and professional certification standards prescribed for the practice of acupuncture and Oriental medicine.



Vision Statement

PIHMA's ongoing vision is:

- To promote higher standards in the practice of acupuncture and herbology.
- To facilitate research and advance public awareness as to the benefits and usefulness of acupuncture and herbology.
- To provide community service through health clinics and other community projects.
- To promote the rights of acupuncturists to practice the Oriental arts and sciences as an independent practitioner.





A Career in Acupuncture

Careers in *Acupuncture & Oriental medicine* are exciting & rewarding.

Acupuncture and Oriental medicine is one of the fastest growing professions in the field of medicine. Our PIHMA graduates successfully run independent private practices as well as shared facilities with healthcare providers in integrated practices, hospitals, and spas. Notably, our graduates were among the first acupuncturists at Valley-wide Banner Hospitals and the Phoenician Resort.

A typical day . . . for a professionally licensed acupuncturist includes:

- ❖ Diagnosing and treating patients
- ❖ Emotional and lifestyle counseling
- ❖ Nutritional guidance and recommendations
- ❖ Many acupuncturists also train others in qi gong and tai qi



Compensation for Services: Depending on the type of practice (single or multiple patient workloads) and sale of related products, graduates can expect to earn anywhere from \$35,000 to \$200,000 annually. The median yearly salary* for professional licensed acupuncturists in years 1 - 4 is \$45,000, with those employed by a hospital earning an average of \$49,000. After three to five years in practice, one's income should approach \$100,000. More and more acupuncturists are joining group practices that also include other medical practitioners.

*salary information retrieved from www.payscale.com on November 18, 2008

"From the start, I felt like a valued member of the PIHMA community. The Staff and Instructors create an environment that enables students to focus deeply on their studies and to develop into a facilitator of healing."

-PIHMA Student Shana Deneen, ND

Convenience & Flexibility



Convenient Schedule

PIHMA College classes are held on *alternating weekends* between the hours of 8am - 6pm. Students also attend classes 1 or 2 evenings during the week.

This unique schedule allows students to balance their education while supporting their current lifestyles.



Flexible Payment Options

At PIHMA, students pay only for the classes they are attending. This allows students to tailor their schedule according to individual financial needs. Students are able to work throughout their time at PIHMA thereby reducing their financial investment. Students at PIHMA are also eligible to participate in a variety of federal and non - federal student aid.





Herbal Medicine



*U*nique... and Innovative Herbal Program



PIHMA integrates its herbal training, teaching single herbs and formulas in the context of various syndromes. Herbal students complete approximately 200 hours of clinic experience in creating customized herbal formulas for patients.

"PIHMA' instilled a solid foundation in Oriental medicine that will be a springboard for many avenues of healing." -MSOM Student Krissi Holder



PIHMA College & Clinic

actively continues to raise awareness of Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture within the community by facilitating research, promoting the rights of independent practitioners, conducting presentations and providing an affordable, safe and effective Clinic.



PIHMA Clinic

offers members of the surrounding community the opportunity to receive Acupuncture treatments and Herbal Medicine consultations at a reduced rate while providing our student the opportunity to hone their skills. Our clinic continues to serve the community by providing educational presentations to the public about Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine. PIHMA participates actively in state and national politics, endeavoring to increase opportunities for its practitioners and availability for the general public. PIHMA's community service program for students also provides opportunities for students to get involved with health fairs, presentations and events through time donated to nonprofit organizations in the community.





Degree Options

PIHMA Degree candidates learn to effectively handle the health issues for which Oriental medicine is noted. Both degree programs provide future practitioners with the unique skills of a comprehensively trained practitioner in Oriental medicine.

PIHMA's program builds from knowledge to skills to analysis, from one class to the next so a student feels more confident from the start. Adult learning theory is embedded into our program to ease the students with memory retention and simplifying the complex. Our courses are rigorous, demanding and fun.

Students will experience, learn and practice the arts of Acupuncture, Chinese Herbology, Acupressure/TuiNa, Tai Chi, Qi Gong, and Oriental Nutrition.

Master of Science in Oriental Medicine (MSOM)

The Chinese Herbology courses for the Oriental Medicine degree cover:

- A review of syndromes and practical diagnosis related to the herbs and formulas presented.
- A thorough discussion of individual herbs and formulas, providing both practical and clinical use
- Major Chinese patent formulas and American-made Chinese herbal products.
- How to modify basic formulas according to differentiation of symptoms and signs.
- Case studies to illustrate and clarify through examples.
- Home review exercises for optimal learning.

At successful completion, students are eligible to sit for the national certification exams in Acupuncture and Chinese Herbology.

Master of Science in Acupuncture (MSAc.)

This degree program focuses primarily on the major dimension of Oriental medicine: Acupuncture. Courses are the same as the Master of Science in Oriental Medicine, except that Acupuncture students do not take the herbal courses. Students taking this degree program will be prepared to use Acupuncture, Cupping, Moxibustion, TuiNa, and Oriental nutritional counseling in their practice. The foundational theory for Oriental medicine is integral to these skills and students are prepared to achieve competency in all of these areas. This degree program takes three - four years to complete if attending full-time. At successful completion, Students are eligible to sit for the national certification exam in Acupuncture.

“Although class schedules and subject matters were challenging, they were made enjoyable by everyone at PIHMA given their cheerful accommodating and understanding kindness.”

-PIHMA Alumni Cho Woohyung



Requirements

All applicants must have satisfactorily completed 60 semester credits / 90 quarter credits of education at the baccalaureate level that is appropriate for graduate level work, or the equivalent, from an institution, or institutions, accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (U.S.D.O.E.).* A grade of "C" (2.0), "Pass," or better must have been earned in each course. The 60 semester credits / 90 quarter credits should include a minimum of 3 credit hours or higher of general or introductory level coursework in the following classes:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- English
- Psychology



What if I haven't taken these courses before applying to PIHMA?

That's okay. You can be accepted on conditional acceptance and you still have your first year to complete the courses.

Can I transfer classes to PIHMA?

YES, we accept transfer students. Students with a background in health care, biomedical sciences and related fields (as well as those who have started at another accredited OM College and wish to move to Phoenix) may be eligible to transfer in academic coursework thereby reducing the duration of the program.





Applying to PIHMA

Rolling Admissions

Applications may be submitted at any time. Semesters start in January, May and August. Prospective students are encouraged to apply for admission well in advance of the anticipated entrance date, particularly if also applying for Financial Aid.

**Space is limited for individuals accepted prior to the priority deadline.
To reserve your seat in the upcoming semester, remember to:**

- Speak with an admission representative regarding your interest in enrolling at PIHMA by emailing info@pihma.edu.
- Schedule a tour of the campus so you can become familiar with PIHMA's environment.
- Apply at least two months prior to the semester start date.

Submit a complete application packet that includes the following:

- Official transcripts from colleges you have attended.
- Resume or listing of previous occupations, positions held
- Brief personal statement (see guidelines on application for details)
- 2 letters of recommendation from different businesses or health care professionals who know you well, but are not family members
- 2 recent passport photographs of yourself (one photo will remain in your student file; the other will be used for your student I.D. card)
- Application fee

"PIHMA's unique schedule allows me to continue my career while furthering my education and deepening my knowledge of Chinese Medicine. It is a perfect balance." -PIHMA Student Lauren Daem



Phoenix Institute of Herbal Medicine & Acupuncture

Organization

Phoenix Institute of Herbal Medicine & Acupuncture is owned and operated by PIHMA Health & Education Network, LLC, a limited liability company. The corporate office is located at 301 East Bethany Home Road, Suite A-100, Phoenix, Arizona 85012.

Accreditation

Phoenix Institute of Herbal Medicine & Acupuncture is fully accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM), Maryland Trade Center 3, 7501 Greenway Center Drive, Suite 820, Greenbelt, MD 20770, (301)313.0855. Phoenix Institute of Herbal Medicine & Acupuncture has conditional approval to offer the Master of Science in Oriental Medicine and Master of Science in Acupuncture by the Arizona State Board for Private Post-Secondary Education, 1400 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, (602)542.5709.

State Licensure

For information about the requirements for state licensure, and the practice of acupuncture, please contact the State of Arizona Acupuncture Board of Examiners, 1400 West Washington, Suite 230, Phoenix, AZ 85007, (602)542.3095.

Equal Opportunity

It is the policy of PIHMA to provide equal opportunity in employment and educational programs and activities. Equal employment opportunity includes, but is not limited to, education, tuition assistance, recruitment, hiring, promotion, termination, compensation, benefits, transfers, PIHMA sponsored training, and social and recreational programs. In the administration of educational policies, admission policies, financial aid, or any other program of activity, PIHMA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, citizenship, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, special disabled veteran status, other eligible veteran status, or Vietnam era veteran status.

PIHMA College & Clinic

301 E. Bethany Home Road, Suite A-100
Phoenix, Arizona 85012

www.pihma.edu email: info@pihma.edu

ph: (602)274-1885 fax: (602)274-1895

Approved for Veterans





PIHMA
COLLEGE & CLINIC



PIHMA College & Clinic
301 E. Bethany Home Road Suite A-100
Phoenix, Arizona 85012
www.pihma.edu email: info@pihma.edu
ph: (602) 274-1885 fax: (602) 274-1895

Approved for Veterans