

Alicia Williams, M.D. CLAS '15 Fellow Vanderbilt University Medical Center

I was born and raised in Fort Payne, AL. I started with humble beginnings, raised by hard working parents with limited resources. Despite this, my parents instilled in me the values of passion and hard work, which inspired me to pursue a career in medicine to help children. I was honored to have the opportunity to come to Mercer where I played 4 years of NCAA Division I basketball and participated in an outreach trip to Ghana, where I worked with children and developed a passion for advocating for youth.

My experiences in college and medical school, especially volunteering with youth and mentoring urban teenage girls, fueled my interest in how early life events shape outcomes. This, combined with a fascination with the immune system during medical school, led me to pursue a career in Allergy and Immunology after completing my pediatric residency. My decision was solidified in residency

as I contributed to teaching medical students, using my experiences and my story to mentor and inspire future physicians.

Regarding my academic background, I graduated from Fort Payne High School in 2011 and went on to attend Mercer University, Auburn University, and the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). I earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Mercer University in 2015 and completed a Rural Health Studies program at Auburn University in 2017. In 2021, I obtained my Doctor of Medicine degree from UAB. Following medical school, I completed a Pediatric Residency at UAB, graduating in 2024. I am currently pursuing an Allergy and Immunology Fellowship at Vanderbilt University, with an expected completion in 2026.