The Transitional Doctorate in Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine (tDACM) is intended for ACTCM graduates who have completed a first professional master’s degree at ACTCM at CIIS (Master of Science in Traditional Chinese Medicine, MSTCM) and wish to enroll in a program leading to a first professional doctorate. Graduates of the MSTCM program also have had the option of completing an advanced clinical doctorate in Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (DAOM). The DAOM program provides advanced training in women’s health and pain management, as well as the opportunity to develop a capstone thesis in an area of interest, but does not provide the same competencies as the first professional doctorate (DACM).
HIGHLIGHTS OF tDACM PROGRAM

The tDACM degree provides additional knowledge beyond the first professional master’s degree (MSTCM). Designed with a 43 percent online component, the tDACM allows practitioners who have graduated and are in the field to complete part of their program at home. The remaining curriculum is delivered in a convenient modular format, allowing students to complete their coursework while maintaining their practice or employment outside CIIS.

The tDACM program objectives:

- The program is designed to be taught in an integral manner, bringing in a variety of resources and paradigms to enhance the prior training of graduates with the MSTCM degree. The tDACM focuses on integrative care in the context of the broader health-care field. Integration involves patient-centered care and evidence-informed practice in collaboration with the broad range of health-care providers in a team context.

- The tDACM is designed to support prior training in acupuncture and Chinese medicine while bringing in advanced training in systems-based medicine, oncology, orthopedics, and advanced syndrome-based herbal study. The current configuration is designed to meet the goals of the first professional doctoral degree for students who are interested in the knowledge and skills in the DACM and already hold a MSTCM degree.

- The tDACM continues the history of respect for diversity, compassionate care, and an emphasis on harmony and balance. These are core values of both CIIS and ACTCM at CIIS. Harmony and balance are enshrined in philosophical and religious traditions throughout South and East Asia and represent key teachings in a variety of cultural and religious contexts. This includes Chinese medicine, as enshrined in theory associated with yin and yang (陰陽) and the wu xing (五行, five phases).

- New and innovative program delivery methods will be employed, including online, hybrid, and modular curriculum. Currently the DAOM degree program is modular in format. The same process for scheduling and managing DAOM modules will be used to manage tDACM modules. The tDACM online courses will be managed through CIIS’s online learning system Canvas.

Please contact the ACTCM admissions office at admissions@actcm.edu or 415-401-0464 for more details.

Admissions requirements:

- Online application form
- Application fee, $65
- Personal statement
- Résumé
- Other official transcripts (if applicable)
- Two letters of recommendation

*International applicants may not be eligible—please contact the ACTCM Admissions office before applying.