

# DILLON GASPER

## Targeted Rural Underserved Track

WWAMI  
**TRUST**  
UW MEDICINE

Eastern Washington—Newport

Entering Class of 2015

*TRUST seeks to provide a continuous connection between rural, small city underserved communities, medical education, and health professionals in our region. Our goal is to create a full-circle pipeline by guiding qualified students through a special curriculum that connects continuity communities in WWAMI to the University of Washington School of Medicine and its network of affiliated residency programs in an effort to help meet the workforce needs of the region.*

Hello Newport Community!

My name is Dillon Gasper and I am excited to be the new TRUST medical student here in Newport. I grew up in the farming community of Ellensburg. Living out “in the sticks,” I spent my days negotiating ceasefires between myself and my four siblings as we played war and other outdoor games in the fields surrounding our home. In high school, I found a passion for exercise and sports, particularly football. Between football, academics, and life-guarding, I kept busy.

After graduating from Ellensburg High School, I jumped on a plane for Waco, Texas to go to Baylor University. In my coursework, I enjoyed the sciences, and specifically medicine. I became interested in how to improve the access to and the quality of health care for specific groups, particularly people in low-income and rural areas. My goal is to be a primary care physician for an under-served area.



In college when I was not studying, I kept physically active by joining the triathlon team. I was able to race on the Baylor team at Triathlon Nationals in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. As a result of my love for exercise, I joined the bone marrow registry at a race. Only a few months later, I was a match for a man fighting a tough battle with leukemia. A year after I donated my bone marrow, I was able to meet him and he was on his way to recovery and health. This confirmed my desire to pursue medicine for it can truly save lives.

Now I am returning to my roots in the beautiful Pacific Northwest to serve in the Newport community. I am very excited about this new adventure and the opportunity to learn from the physicians here in Newport.

### Contacts

#### **Geoff Jones, MD**

Primary Preceptor  
Family Health Center Newport  
714 W. Pine  
Newport, WA 99156  
509.447.4885

#### **John McCarthy, MD**

UWSOM  
Assistant Dean for Regional  
Affairs - Eastern & Central  
Washington  
310 N. Riverpoint Blvd.,  
Spokane, WA 99210  
509.358.7795

