

Canadian Elective Clinical Clerkships: *An Introduction*



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This guide is intended to be an introduction to the process of scheduling elective clinical rotations in Canada. It is not a complete and comprehensive guide but rather it is intended to inform AUC's Canadian students on some of the options available to them. All students should perform their due diligence when contacting any clinical training sites. The information contained herein is subject to change at any time.

Below please find listed the clinical sites and the electives AUC students have completed at them in the last three years:

Medicine (Elective)	Dalhousie University Faculty of Med	NS
Medicine (Family Practice)	Dalhousie University Faculty of Med	NS
Medicine (Gastroenterology)	Dalhousie University Faculty of Med	NS
Medicine (Hematology/Oncology)	Dalhousie University Faculty of Med	NS
Medicine (Oncology)	Dalhousie University Faculty of Med	NS
OB/GYN (Elective)	Dalhousie University Faculty of Med	NS
Surgery (Cardiovascular)	Dalhousie University Faculty of Med	NS
Medicine (Emergency)	McGill University Facultie of Med.	QC
Medicine (Family Practice)	McGill University Facultie of Med.	QC
Medicine (Gerontology)	McGill University Facultie of Med.	QC
Medicine (Elective)	McMaster Univ Faculty of Health Sciences	ON
Medicine (Gastroenterology)	McMaster Univ Faculty of Health Sciences	ON
Medicine (Infectious Disease)	McMaster Univ Faculty of Health Sciences	ON
Medicine (Intensive Care Unit)	McMaster Univ Faculty of Health Sciences	ON
Medicine (Nephrology)	McMaster Univ Faculty of Health Sciences	ON
Medicine (Neurology)	McMaster Univ Faculty of Health Sciences	ON
Medicine (Pulmonary)	McMaster Univ Faculty of Health Sciences	ON
Pediatrics (Hem/Onc)	McMaster Univ Faculty of Health Sciences	ON
Psychiatry (Elective)	McMaster Univ Faculty of Health Sciences	ON
Surgery (Sub-I)	McMaster Univ Faculty of Health Sciences	ON
Pediatrics (Infectious Diseases)	Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland	NL
Psychiatry (Emergency)	Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland	NL
Medicine (Family Practice)	Northern Ontario School of Med	ON
Medicine (PM&R)	Peterborough Regional Health Centre McMaster University	ON
Medicine (Emergency)	Royal Inland Hospital	BC
Medicine (Emergency)	Rural Ontario Medical Center	ON
Pediatrics (Neurology)	The Hospital for Sick Children	ON
OB/GYN (Reproductive Endocrinology)	Toronto West Fertility Center	ON
Medicine (Anatomical Pathology)	Univ of Manitoba	MB
Surgery (Orthopedics)	Univ of Manitoba	MB
Medicine (Dermatology)	Univ of Ottawa School of Medicine	ON
Medicine (Radiology)	Univ of Ottawa School of Medicine	ON
Medicine (Emergency)	Univ of Saskatchewan Regina General Hospital	SA
Medicine (Endocrinology)	Univ of Saskatchewan Regina General Hospital	SA

Medicine (Family Practice)	Univ of Saskatchewan Regina General Hospital	SA
Medicine (Hematology)	Univ of Saskatchewan Regina General Hospital	SA
Medicine (Oncology)	Univ of Saskatchewan Regina General Hospital	SA
Medicine (Ophthalmology)	Univ of Saskatchewan Regina General Hospital	SA
Medicine (Radiation/Oncology)	Univ of Saskatchewan Regina General Hospital	SA
Medicine (Radiology)	Univ of Saskatchewan Regina General Hospital	SA
Medicine (Rural Family Medicine)	Univ of Saskatchewan Regina General Hospital	SA
Pediatrics (Elective)	Univ of Saskatchewan Regina General Hospital	SA
Surgery (Anesthesiology)	Univ of Saskatchewan Regina General Hospital	SA
Surgery (Orthopedics)	Univ of Saskatchewan Regina General Hospital	SA
Surgery (Pathology)	Univ of Saskatchewan Regina General Hospital	SA
Medicine (Family Practice)	Univ of Toronto Faculty of Medicine	ON
Medicine (Rheumatology)	Univ of Toronto Faculty of Medicine	ON
Medicine (Sub-I)	Univ of Toronto Faculty of Medicine	ON
Psychiatry (Child/Adolescent)	Univ of Toronto Faculty of Medicine	ON
Surgery (Anesthesiology)	Univ of Toronto Faculty of Medicine	ON
Medicine (Cardiology)	Univ of Western Ontario	ON
Medicine (Endocrinology)	Univ of Western Ontario	ON
Surgery (Anesthesiology)	Univ of Western Ontario	ON
Surgery (Orthopedics)	Univ of Western Ontario	ON
Surgery (Pathology)	Univ of Western Ontario	ON
Medicine (Emergency)	Univ. of Western Ontario	ON
Medicine (Family Practice)	Univ. of Western Ontario	ON
Surgery (Elective)	Univ. of Western Ontario	ON
Medicine (Family Practice)	University of Windsor	ON
Medicine (Radiology)	Vancouver Hosp & Health Science Ctr Univ of British Columbia	BC
Medicine (Rural Family Medicine)	Weeneebayko General Hospital	ON

The best place to begin your search for electives in Canada would be the [Association of Faculties of Medicine \(AFMC\) Student Portal](#). It is the centralized application service for visiting electives for all Canadian faculties of medicine. The services are offered for Canadian medical students as well as international medical students, also known as Canadians Studying Abroad (CSA).

AUC currently has an affiliation agreement in place with only one program in Canada, the University of Saskatchewan College of Medicine. You may contact them directly:

Yvonne Bloos

Clinical Clerkship Elective Program

College of Medicine – Regina Site

Regina General Hospital

Room 1B14, 1440 14th Avenue

Regina, SK S4P 0W5

medicine.internationalelectives@usask.ca

(306) 766-3791

Following is a list of programs in Ontario that accept CSAs:

Northern Ontario School of Medicine

Marie Prpic

Clinical Placement Coordinator

International Visiting Electives

Tel: 807-766-7322

Fax: 807-766-7518

Email: mprpic@nosm.ca

NOSM invites Canadians and Canadian Permanent Residents studying medicine abroad to experience the exciting work environment and unparalleled quality of life in Northern Ontario during their final or second-last (penultimate) year of study. You may submit an application for up to 8 weeks of electives in each of your final two years of study.

As you proceed through the application process, you will be prompted to select between 4 and 8 weeks of placement opportunities in areas of specialty and in practice environments that are of interest to you. We are sure that once you have had the Northern Ontario experience, we will be seeing you again and again. You will not be able to apply for placements in July or August

Queens University School of Medicine
Dana Halladay,
Student Support Assistant
Undergraduate Medical Education
80 Barrie Street
Kingston, Ontario K7L 3N6
613-533-2542
medelect@queensu.ca

Please be mindful when selecting your electives that the dates fall within the appropriate time periods. Any choices that have requested dates beyond 26 weeks from the date of submitting your application will not be considered.

Every effort will be made to accommodate your request.

Please select 3 DIFFERENT choices with only one set of dates for all 3. Please indicate additional availability in the student comments section.

Applications are accepted 17 - 28 weeks in advance of the elective. No exceptions will be made.

McMaster University - Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine
Emma Whitford,
Visiting International Electives Coordinator
mdelect@mcmaster.ca

1280 Main Street W., Hamilton, Ontario
Phone: (905) 525 – 9140 ext. 20256
Fax: (905) 546 - 0349

ONLINE REGISTRATION DATES:

Open from June 30 - July 29, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. for January - June 2017 electives

Open from December 2 - 22, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. for July- December 2017 electives

University of Ottawa – Faculty of Medicine
Geneviève Touzin,
Electives Administrative Clerk
Undergraduate Medical Education Office
451 Smyth Road, Room 2046, Ottawa, Ontario K1H 8M5
Phone: 613-562-5800 x3459
Facsimile: 613-562-5651
uoportal@uottawa.ca

RANDOM LOTTERY ALLOCATION PROCESS

Elective registration and application period for January 16, 2017 until April 30, 2017 is now open from July 4th 2016 to July 15th, 2016 at 3:00pm Eastern time.

University of Toronto – Faculty of Medicine

Sue Romulo
Visiting International Electives Coordinator
Visiting Electives Office
Undergraduate Medical Education
Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto
1 King's College Circle
Medical Science Building Rm. 2256
Toronto, ON M5S 1A8
medicine.intelective@utoronto.ca

VISITING INTERNATIONAL ELECTIVES PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Visiting students currently enrolled in FAIMER/ IMED-accredited international undergraduate medical programs (including Canadians Studying Abroad) in their second to last or final year of studies (not including post-graduate training) seeking clinical placements with the University of Toronto Visiting International Electives Program. Please see International Policies, International Eligibility, and Random Allocation for Visiting Students from International Medical Schools on the University of Toronto institutional profile for more information about the Visiting International Electives Program.

Western University School of Medicine

Jen Foxcroft,
Visiting Electives Coordinator
Medical Sciences Building,
Room M100,
London, Ontario, N6A 5C1
electives@schulich.uwo.ca (please note we only communicate via email and no phone calls or voice messages left will be responded to)

International School applicants: Application process for students registered at non-Canadian medical schools is now CLOSED. Applicants can submit applications again starting November 7, 2016 (9am EST) until JANUARY 28th, 2017 at 3pm EST for elective start dates from May 1st, 2017 ending no later than August 27th, 2017 - there will be no exception to these dates.

The Royal College, the College of Family Physicians of Canada, and the Collège des médecins du Québec maintain national standards for the evaluation and accreditation of Canadian residency programs. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.royalcollege.ca/rcsite/education-strategy-accreditation/pgme-training-programs/accreditation-residency-programs-e>

Two-week elective rotations in Canada are a lot more common than they are in the United States. The ability to schedule four-week rotations will depend on the availability of the various programs you will contact.

In addition to sitting for the USMLE Step 2 CK, those students applying for Canadian residency are also required to take the Medical Council of Canada Evaluating Examination (MCCEE) and the National Assessment Collaboration (NAC) Exam, which closely resembles the USMLE Step 2 CS Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE), to apply for residency in Canada. AUC recommends that you write the MCCEE no later than six months to one year after the start of your clinical rotations. Students MUST write both the MCCEE and the NAC in order to be eligible for the Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS) match. Make sure you give yourself enough time to study and write both exams. Students applying to the US National Resident Matching Program® (NRMP) only are no longer required to write the MCCEE in order to obtain the Statement of Need letter from Health Canada. However, if you plan to come back to Canada someday to practice, it would be wise to write the MCCEE while everything is still fresh in your mind.

For Canadians, the pathway to Canadian (or USA) residency looks like the following:

- Basic Medical Sciences-St. Maarten
- USMLE Step 1
- Core rotations
- Physicians Apply (MCC credentials verification)
- USMLE Step 2 CS
- USMLE Step 2 CK
- MCCEE
- NAC
- Elective rotations
- CaRMS match (Canada)
- NRMP match (USA)
- Statement of Need Health Canada (for USA residency, MCCEE/NAC not required)

Please note: Applicants to the CaRMS R-1 Residency Match who complete the November MCCEE will not have their exam score available as part of the CaRMS application until AFTER first iteration file review opens, as the results will not be available until late December.

In order to qualify for the first iteration of the CaRMS Match, applicants will need to have completed the MCCEE in the year prior or before. Applicants scheduled for the January MCCEE of the match year are NOT eligible for the first iteration, but will be able to register for the second iteration of the match.

To simplify the process, you may want to consider applying for a NEXUS Card. NEXUS is a joint Canada–United States program designed to let pre-approved, low-risk travelers cross the US/Canadian border in an expedited manner. Members of the program can avoid long waits at border entry points by using self-serve kiosks at airports, reserved lanes at land crossings, or by phoning border officials when entering by water.

There is an official Government of Canada website for NEXUS applications. The NEXUS fee is \$50 (CAN or US). Third party service providers may offer services for submitting your application and may charge an additional processing fee. This additional fee is not part of the official NEXUS application fee and is retained by the third party service provider. Expedited services offered by such parties will not assist in expediting your application process.

JOIN NEXUS

The steps for becoming a member, from start to finish, can be found at <http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/prog/nexus/menu-eng.html>. There is a non-refundable processing fee of \$50 (Canada/US dollars) per applicant for a five-year membership card. This card will prove invaluable as you travel frequently between Canada and the USA.

RESIDENCY AND THE BRIDGE BACK TO CANADA

Canada is facing a significant shortage of physicians. As a result, significant efforts are being made to repatriate Canadians who graduate from international medical schools (referred to as a Canadian Studying Abroad – CSA) as the country recognizes that many of its citizens who are studying abroad wish to return to Canada to fulfill their residency requirements.

Be sure to visit the CaRMS website (www.carms.ca) for all the information you need to apply for a residency position in Canada, including a listing of every postgraduate program with contact details.

The CaRMS process is generally the same each year with a slight variation in dates. CaRMS always occurs the week prior to the US NRMP Match. The website is user-friendly and students have reported that the CaRMS staff are excellent to deal with. The whole application flows neatly and logically from beginning to end. It usually takes about 6 months or so to complete.

Applications for a Statement of Need (SoN) in support of postgraduate training programs (residency) can be submitted after the results of the National Residency Matching Program (NRMP) are released on March 17, 2017 at 1 p.m. EST. Do not submit your SoN package until after 1:00 pm EST. SUBMISSIONS PRIOR TO 1:00 PM EST WILL BE DELETED.

1. Complete and sign the PDF version of the [application form](#).
2. Proof of Canadian Citizenship/Permanent Residency
3. Provincial Letter of Endorsement from the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux - applicants must be residents of Quebec intending to return to Quebec to practice medicine after US training. (All other applicants are subject to the List of Needed Specialties). Contact Information: See [Provincial and Territorial Ministries of Health](#).

4. Confirmation of ACGME-Accreditation

Provide a copy of **one** of the following documents.

- letter issued by the ACGME to the training program
- training program information from the [ACGME website](#)

5. Letter of Offer/Training Contract/US Match Webpage

6. Consent to the Disclosure of Personal Information to Provincial and Territorial Governments for Recruitment Purposes (Optional)

Submissions shall be made by email. Attach all required documents in an email and send to j1visa@hc-sc.gc.ca. If your email contains more than 20 megabytes, please send a zip version.