

ELECTIVES, NON-TERTIARY/COMMUNITY, AND INTERPROFESSIONAL ROTATIONS (UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2020)

Each student must complete eighteen (18) weeks of elective rotations, made up of twelve (12) weeks of general Electives and six (6) weeks of Non-Tertiary/Community and Interprofessional rotations.

Electives

The objective of Electives is to provide flexibility and opportunities in order to:

- Gain experience in aspects of medicine not offered in the regular curriculum.
- Study particular areas of the curriculum in greater depth.
- Explore career opportunities.

Students are encouraged to be creative in their selection of electives. Electives in basic science, medical education, Bioethics, and Health Law are encouraged. Additionally, students should choose areas that are complimentary to the specialty of major interest (i.e., for an interest in Orthopaedic Surgery, an experience in Radiology and/or Anaesthesia would provide excellent complimentary experiences).

Agree in principle with the *Joint UGME/PGME Committee Policy on Electives* approved at the AMFC meeting on Sunday, April 20, 2006 that:

"Electives in Clinical Clerkship must be organized so that by December 1* of the final year each student has had an elective experience in a minimum of three disciplines** each of which shall take place for a minimum of two weeks",

With the modifications: *December 1 should read 'Academic Year' and the **interpretation of the word "Discipline" in the broadest possible term; with students encouraged to select diverse electives and to view the regulations of the Postgraduate Departments they are interested in.

CRITERIA FOR ELECTIVES

1. Electives should be two (2) consecutive weeks in one specialty with the same preceptor(s). **One-week electives are not permitted.**
2. Students must complete **twelve (12) weeks** of general electives, with a minimum of three (3) different specialties (defined as CaRMS PGY1 entry disciplines). In addition, students must complete six (6) weeks of IPE/Non-Tertiary electives, for an overall total of eighteen (18) weeks. Additional time in electives is not permitted.
3. No more than **eight (8) weeks** is permitted in any one CaRMS PGY1 direct-entry discipline.
4. For Canadian sites, each proposal must be submitted through one45 at least **four (4) weeks** prior to the start of the rotation.
5. For International sites, each proposal must be submitted through one45 at least **eight (8) weeks** prior to the start of the elective. If you are applying for an International rotation, please see the Med 4 Curriculum Manual for further instructions.
6. The Formative Assessment ITER must be completed by the preceptor through one45 within **one (1) week** of completion of the rotation.

Interprofessional (IPE)

The goals of the Interprofessional rotation are:

- To learn about the Interprofessional management of patient care.
- To have students work with an Interprofessional team (i.e., PT, OT, dieticians, nurses, etc.), and participate in decision-making and medical education of patients and their families.

- To have a focus on outpatient ambulatory care, when possible, and various inpatient services may be considered appropriate for this rotation. Please Note: Acute care services such as MTU, ICU, and Emergency Medicine are focused primarily on acute care, and the interdisciplinary nature of the care provided is not planned or consistent. For this reason, they are not generally considered appropriate for this rotation.
- To allow students to further their knowledge, skills, and attitudes related to Interprofessional teamwork.

Non-Tertiary/Community (NTC)

The goals of the Non-Tertiary/Community rotation are:

- For students to learn about the differences in healthcare delivery in a smaller community versus a tertiary-care setting (i.e., a facility that doesn't provide tertiary care services; examples of tertiary care services are specialist cancer care, neurosurgery, burns care, and plastic surgery).
- To allow students to broaden their clinical skills through their application in non-acute care settings, and community settings.

Rotations at the Victoria General, Halifax Infirmary, IWK, Nova Scotia Hospital, or Saint John Regional Hospital WILL NOT meet the criteria of a Non-Tertiary/Community Rotation.

Additionally, as one of the goals of these rotations is to learn about different health care systems, international placements tend to qualify for either the Interprofessional or the Non-Tertiary/Community component, depending on the specific site and elective.

CRITERIA FOR NON-TERTIARY/COMMUNITY AND INTERPROFESSIONAL ROTATIONS

Students must complete a total of six (6) weeks of electives in IPE and NTC categories; these may be two (2) weeks in IPE and four (4) weeks in NTC, or four (4) weeks in IPE and two (2) weeks in NTC.

These rotations must include active student participation in patient care. Each experience must have enough clinical density to ensure good learning and minimize unproductive time.

During these rotations students will be able to access a broad range of experiences in order to accomplish the global goals of the rotations. Overall, the experiences should allow a student to reinforce self-assessment, independent and lifelong learning skills.

1. Each rotation must be two (2) weeks in length, in one specialty with the same preceptor(s).
2. For Canadian sites, each proposal must be submitted through one45 at least **four (4) weeks** prior to the start of the rotation.
3. For International sites, each proposal must be submitted through one45 at least **eight (8) weeks** prior to the start of the rotation. If you are applying for an International rotation, please see the Med 4 Curriculum Manual for further instructions.
4. The Summative Assessment ITER must be completed by the preceptor through one45 within **one (1) week** of completion of the rotation.