The 4th Year: Planning

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4th Year Musts

- Must successfully complete ALL 3rd year clerkships before beginning the 4th year (includes taking and passing all NBME Subject Exams and sitting for Step 1)
- Must take USMLE Step 2 CK and Step 2 CS
- Must successfully complete Intersession 2: Transition to Clinician
4th Year Requirements

- Emergency Medicine SUB-I
- Required SUB I: Pediatrics, Surgery, Medicine, OB/GYN
- +/- Pathway Requirement
- Transition to Clinician
- MUST complete 36 credit weeks (34 calendar weeks)
Academic Calendar

- Block 10 of Year 3 ends on 4/23/2021
- Block 1 of Year 4 begins on 6/7/2021
- There are 6 weeks between the end of Year 3 and the start of Year 4

- Block 0- optional block begins on 5/10/2021
- If you deferred a block of Year 3- Block “11” begins on 4/26 and ends on 5/21/2021
● Step 1 Complete without deferral of block
  – 2 weeks to study and sit for Step 2 CK
  – Rotate in Block 0
● Step 1 Complete with deferral of block
  – Complete deferred block immediately following Block 10
● Step 1 Pending
  – 6 weeks to study and sit for exam
Transition to Clinician

- Mandatory two-week experience focused on skills needed to make the transition to residency
- March 14-25, 2022
- Online Assignments - week one
- Onsite Sessions, Queen Lane - week 2
- The first week will coincide with SOAP Week
USMLE Step 2 CK and CS

- Successful completion is required:
  - For Graduation
  - For DUCOM to certify you for the Match
  - To start residency

- **DUCOM deadline for Step 2CK**
  - October 31, 2021

- **DUCOM deadline for Step 2CS**
  - NBME working on a phased process to revise and “revitalize” the exam
  - Unlikely Class of 2022 will need to take the exam, but await updates from NBME
- **Recommended Step 2 Sit Time**
  - Step 2 CK: July- August
  - Step 2 CS: more information to follow

- **Results Reporting**
  - Step 2 CK: 3-4 weeks
  - Step 2 CS: 2-4 months
4th Year Scheduling Requirements

- Must complete a minimum of 36 weeks of senior-credit rotations (34 calendar weeks)
- Maximum scheduled weeks in 4th Year is 46
- Maximum unscheduled weeks in 4th Year is 12
  - Residency Interviews
  - Step 2 Study
  - Vacation (in addition to winter break)
  - “Extra” (non credit) rotations
    - Enhance education and/or residency competitiveness
    - MUST schedule any rotation through Division of Clinical Education - this includes ANY research or clinical experience even if not expecting credit: Malpractice and general liability coverage
Scheduling Considerations

- **Early Blocks**
  - Sub-I’s and rotations that help in your decision-making process
  - Rotations that may allow for specialty specific letters of recommendation

- **Step Study Time**

- **Leave time open for Interviews**
  - Early Match: September- December
  - Regular Match: November-January
Time off for Interviews

- You should be using unscheduled “vacation” time for interviewing
- A maximum of THREE days absence in a FOUR week rotation is permitted for residency interviewing
- NO days off allowed for a TWO week rotation
- The student is responsible for obtaining faculty approval for interview absences before they occur- forward the interview invitation to the course director.

Interview Time does NOT need to go through DUCOMpass - all other time off does.
The Legends of 4th Year

- **Myth:** Some rotations are “easy” with short hours
  - You heard a rotation was from 10am-2pm so you take it thinking you can study for Step 2

- **Reality:** You arrive and they want you to be there every day from 8am-6pm
Myth: Some rotations don’t mind giving you extra days off to interview
   - You choose one of these rotations during interview season and schedule multiple interviews

Reality: College of Medicine Policy: You are allowed a maximum of 3 days off from a four-week rotation
   - We expect YOU to follow policy
   - Professionalism Letter of Concern, Honor Court Violation
   - May result in withdrawal from rotation
• Myth: Some rotations will allow you to make up missed time in the evenings or on weekends

• When on Emergency Medicine you can schedule shifts around your interview schedule

• Reality: You get there and find out this is not the case
  – Contact Course Director well in advance
  – DO NOT violate 3 day interview time-off policy
Away Rotations – it will be determined in the spring what the status of Away rotations is

- Why do them?
  - Audition
  - Feel for program; what you are looking for in a program
  - Geography

- Who should do them?

- How to choose them?

- When to do them?
AWAY ROTATIONS

- 70-75% of the class over the past few years applied for AWAY rotations
- 55-60% of the class over the past few years completed AWAY rotations
VSLO

- Visiting Student Learning Opportunities
- Run by the AAMC
- There are 200+ schools/sites that use (VSLO).
- Instructions are on-line for this process. E-mail clinicaleducation@drexel.edu for authorization to apply.
VSLO Statistics

- Of the Drexel students who apply,
- Drexel students applied to 3+ institutions
- Drexel students applied for 4+ rotations at each of those 3 institutions

- Nationally, more than half of applicants apply to 2+ institutions
- Apply to 4+ electives at each of those 2 institutions
Information- Away Rotations

- **AAMC Extramural Electives Compendium**
  - [https://www.aamc.org/students/medstudents/electives](https://www.aamc.org/students/medstudents/electives)

- **Start gathering information**
  - Deadlines
  - Immunizations, titers, clearances, BLS, etc…
  - Some will require a physical exam or drug testing- do this over winter break

- **Upperclass feedback**
  - Career Advising website
  - Talk to 4th years, but seek advice from Pathway Directors
Away Rotations continued…

Process application through DCE  
(detailed informational link on website)
- Immunizations must be up-to-date
- TB Maskfitting documentation
- DCE will do Letter in Good Standing, proof of liability insurance
- You must provide copy of health insurance card

- Additional information may be requested by away school (transcript, photo, BLS, Step I, LOR, OSHA, HIPAA, Drug Screen, additional background clearance, etc.)
Away Rotations- Special Electives

- Must be a medical school approved rotation (i.e. published in another school’s catalogue) – documentation required

- If not published in a medical school catalogue, must be submitted for approval to the Special Electives Subcommittee (this is an LCME requirement) a minimum of **8 weeks prior** to start of rotation.

- Some away sites will require a legal contract which takes time to review…and some cannot be reconciled.
Away Rotations continued…

Process application through DCE (continued…)

When application is complete
- Copy of all documentation will be maintained in student file
- Information is sent as complete packet from DCE (if not a VSLO application)

*Once you receive approval from away institution, submit Away Elective Approval form to DCE*

Submit a Special Elective Application if necessary- as soon as you are accepted
4th Year Lottery - Must Schedule

- Emergency Medicine Sub Internship

- Required Sub Internship - based on Pathway
  - Internal Medicine
  - Surgery
  - OB/GYN
  - Pediatrics

- Pathway Required Rotation
Timeline and Lottery

- Information about the lottery will be posted in December
- The Office of Student Affairs will be providing additional 4th year information at their December meeting
- The lottery will start in February
  - Meeting on February 3, 2021 - Pathway Breakout Sessions
- Schedules will be available in early April
Things to Remember

- ALL rotations you do must be on your schedule before you start
- 16 weeks of AWAY rotations for credit (max)
- 16 weeks of SAME discipline for credit (except medicine)
- Research electives do count toward maximum discipline and away time.

- Be mindful of Rotation Categories
Contact Information

- **Division of Clinical Education**
  - clinicaleducation@drexel.edu

- **Office of Documentation Surveillance**
  - immsurv@drexel.edu