



Penn Visiting Clerkship Program

The Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia | Penn Medicine



Frequently Asked Questions

1. Are there general visiting student opportunities outside of this program?

General visiting student rotations are available through the Perelman School of Medicine's (PSOM) Registrar's Office. If you are interested in rotating at Penn regardless of acceptance to our program, then you may want to move forward and apply for a general rotation slot now. PSOM uses VLSO for both this URIM Visiting Clerkship program and general visiting student rotations. You can find more information at the following website:

<https://www.med.upenn.edu/student/application-and-dates.html>

2. Are students from non-US medical schools eligible for this program?

Non-US Medical Schools do not usually have agreements with Perelman School of Medicine that will cover visiting students' necessary insurance for a visiting rotation and, as such, are not eligible for this program. Medical students who attend schools in US territories (such as Puerto Rico) are eligible. Otherwise please look for opportunities through Penn's Center for Global Health:

<https://www.med.upenn.edu/globalhealth/international-trainees-scholars.html>

3. Is there rolling acceptance for this program?

In past years, we have reviewed all applications by specialty after a specific deadline. For the 2024 Clerkship cohort, some specialty programs will review applications as they come in and make rolling acceptance decisions (see list on page 1). If you have a particular need to know earlier than the deadline, please contact the appropriate Clerkship Coordinator or reach out to Dr. Jessica Fowler (fowlerj@chop.edu).

4. Are the rotation dates flexible?

We know that the PSOM rotation dates do not always line up with the rotation dates for visiting students' medical school schedules. We occasionally have flexibility with this and would encourage you to still apply. If accepted, we do our best to adjust the dates to accommodate your medical school schedule.

5. What if I am already scheduled for a rotation at Penn and now want to apply to this program?

That is no problem at all, but we still need you to complete the specific PSOM VSLO application for this program (sometimes there are a few additional items required, and often a different selection committee). If you are accepted for this funded visiting clerkship program, then we'll take care of things internally to switch you over.

6. Does my letter of support have to come from an attending physician in a specific field?

Students are encouraged to have an attending physician in the specialty to which they are pursuing complete the letter. We also know that some students have not yet rotated in a specific field or may not have connected with a faculty member who can write a letter by the time of the application deadline. If that is the case, please have an attending who knows you and who can speak in support of you write the letter.

7. Am I only allowed to apply the program for which I am pursuing the match?

We encourage students to only apply to the program in which they are hoping to match. Preference will be given to students whose match plans align with the specialty to which they applied as that is the priority for this program. If additional space remains, then considerations will be given to those looking to fulfill away rotation requirements through rotations not in their field of interest.