



UNDERREPRESENTED IN MEDICINE VISITING ELECTIVE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Medical students are encouraged to apply to the Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine Underrepresented in Medicine Visiting Elective Scholarship Program that supports fourth-year medical school experiences. The program is designed to increase awareness of opportunities for residency training at the medical school and encourage students from diverse backgrounds to apply to our residency programs.

Questions about the scholarship program should be sent to Cheryl Dickson, MD, associate dean for Health Equity and Community Affairs, at Cheryl.Dickson@med.wmich.edu

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- Housing is provided. The maximum accommodation is 12 students per rotation. Housing fills up fast so it is advisable to submit your completed application as soon as possible for the elective you are requesting!
- In addition, the program provides a scholarship of \$1,000 per student to cover the cost of transportation, food, and additional expenses.

MENTORING AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

- Assignment of a faculty mentor in the student's area of possible interest for the duration of elective.
- Meeting with the program director, faculty, and residents in the program.
- Meeting with other medical students with an invitation to student group meetings and events.
- Attending educational events.
- Access to student resources including the library and medical school wellness activities as scheduled.
- If applying to a residency program, possible financial support for interviewing as determined by each program.



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Must be a full-time fourth-year medical student, or third-year medical student that has completed required core clinical clerkships, and is in good academic standing at an accredited medical school in the United States.
- Must identify as American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander.

ELECTIVES

Electives are four weeks in duration and subject to availability. Additional information about each elective is available on the medical school website. Electives are available in:

- Orthopedic Surgery
- General Surgery
- Internal Medicine
- Psychiatry
- Family Medicine
- Emergency Medicine
- Pediatrics

Electives may be selected from all electives in the discipline, which are listed in our electives [catalog](#) online. Electives and housing fill up fast so it is important to submit your completed application as soon as possible for the elective you are requesting!

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Complete the URM Visiting Elective Application. This includes a personal statement of your interest in the program (no more than a single page).
2. Complete the Visiting Student Learning Opportunities Application (VSLO) and submit all required documentation. **Select the box on the application that indicates that you are interested in applying for this special program - elective.**
3. The application packet must include one letter of recommendation to support your participation.

PROGRAM TIMELINE

The application for [this elective](#) program should be submitted 3 months prior to the elective start date. If you submit your application later than the suggested 3 months prior to start date may result in the elective and housing non-availability. After the application is received, you will be notified of acceptance into the program based on eligibility and availability of the desired elective for dates requested, housing, and funding.



STATEMENT ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVENESS

At WMed, we recognize and encourage the continuous expression, development, and representation of the uniqueness of all individuals. Inclusiveness is defined as valuing diversity and fostering respect for all individuals and points of view without judgment, bias or stereotype. WMed is committed to fostering an environment that is inclusive, trusting, and open and draws upon the collective strength of the diversity of our students, residents, fellows, faculty, and staff. We are dedicated to a culture that facilitates the increased understanding of – and appreciation for – the diverse backgrounds, inherent worth and dignity of each and every individual. We strive to promote and recognize the strength that comes from individuals working together to achieve worthy goals and the medical school seeks always to remove any barriers that may exist to achieving our culture of inclusiveness.

WMed is committed to fostering a learning environment that:

- Values diversity and inclusiveness as being integral to the humanistic practice of medicine, an enriched educational environment, discovery and scholarship that addresses the needs of diverse communities, and meaningful community service
- Welcomes a diverse body of faculty, students and staff from all segments of society to enhance the learning experiences of all learners
- Celebrates human diversity and cultural pluralism through inclusiveness, acceptance, mutual respect, and empowerment
- Delivers excellent clinical care with equity
- Appreciates diversity of experiences, perspectives, ideas, contributions, talents, and goals



Underrepresented in Medicine (URM) Visiting Elective Program Application

FIRST NAME: _____ **LAST NAME:** _____

CURRENT MEDICAL SCHOOL: _____

RACE/ ETHNICITY:

(select all that apply)

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White
- Other

GENDER:

- Male
 - Female
 - Non-binary
-

Proposed Dates (Provide 3 choices):

(4-week rotation)

#1 From _____ To _____

#2 From _____ To _____

#3 From _____ To _____

Please briefly describe your interest in an elective at Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine and your career goals. Please include your commitment to promoting the health of diverse patient populations: