M4 SCHEDULING STEPS

1. Using the “2017 Career Guides” (found either in D2L from the January 4 class meeting or the OASIS Course Catalog), make a list of recommended courses that support the specialty you have chosen. Include the course numbers and locations on your list.

The samples provided below are for a student who has chosen to go into Medicine.

### Department Information for 2016-2017

**Medicine**

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**Recommended Rotations for a Career in this Field**

In addition to the Medicine Acting Internship, students planning careers in general internal medicine or one of the medicine subspecialties should consider taking additional senior rotations that will make them well-rounded physicians. To fulfill other graduation requirements, students are encouraged to consider taking the Ambulatory Internal Medicine course and their second Acting Internship in one of the medical subspecialty options (MICU, Cardiology, BMT, Hospital Medicine, or Geriatric Medicine), on a surgical subspecialty service that cares for patients with complex medical issues (like Transplant Surgery), or offers a significant intensive care unit experience (like CardioThoracic Surgery).

A typical senior year schedule might include a combination of one or two electives within a subspecialty division of Internal Medicine (Hospital Medicine, Cardiology, Infectious Diseases, Geriatrics, Nephrology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Hem/Onc, Pulmonary, MICU, etc.) as well as two to three electives sponsored by other departments. Examples of the latter are listed below:

- Dermatology
- Emergency Medicine
- Adult Neurology
- Diagnostic Radiology
- Psychiatry
- Orthopedics (especially office-based orthopedics or sports medicine)
- Gynecology (especially office-based gynecology)
- Surgical subspecialty rotations (ENT, ophthalmology, urology, etc.)
- Physical medicine and rehabilitation

Additionally, electives that allow students to pursue particular interests (research, medical humanities, teaching, advanced physical exam, international health) may also be productive uses of valuable M4 time. Other than international health electives, away rotations are not typically recommended.

Because the field of internal medicine is so broad and diversified, all students are strongly encouraged to meet with a Department of Medicine faculty member for individual counseling and advice during their M3 year. Contact the M3 Clerkship Coordinator to make an appointment for this and also to facilitate an appointment to meet with the Chair to discuss the Department of Medicine Chair Letter, which is required by most Internal Medicine residency programs.

**Other early course suggestions for obtaining letters of recommendation:**

One of your letters of recommendation for residency should be from an Internal Medicine faculty who directly supervises your care of patients on a fourth-year rotation. Examples of courses during which students typically ask for letters include the Medicine Acting Internship, Ambulatory Internal Medicine course, a second Medicine-based Acting Internship. We recommend completing at least one of these courses in July or August if possible (September at the latest).

2. Review course descriptions in the course catalog (instructions for viewing the course catalog are found in OASIS under “There are new notices”). Make a list of additional courses you might be interested in taking that were not on the “recommended” list above.
3. Keeping graduation requirements in mind, (see “Senior Overview 2016-2017” from January meeting), prepare a simple spreadsheet that reflects your ideal schedule. Include the four required courses: Acting Internship, Ambulatory, Medically-Oriented Acting Internship and Neurology (if not taken as an M3), 3 to 5 electives (depending on the number of 4-week electives you took as an M3) and 2 or 3 vacations.

4. Create an expanded spreadsheet that shows what courses you’d try to schedule as backups to your ideal schedule. This list will be essential when adding courses to your lottery selections list and will assist you in the ranking process. It will be referenced a number of times in the OASIS Lottery Selections List Instructions.
5. February 11, 2016 - Begin creating your lottery selections list. See Step 2 of the Oasis Lottery Selections List Instructions found in OASIS under “There are new notices”. Start working on this as soon as possible.

6. Meet with your advisor and discuss the courses you have selected. Does your advisor have additional suggestions to be included in the list? You may also want to ask if your advisor has any vacations or conferences scheduled from February 11 – March 4. If they do, will they have access to OASIS while they’re gone? You might have to work around their schedule for them to approve your list by the March 4 deadline. BE PREPARED!

7. When courses have been added, request your advisor’s on-line approval of the list. See Step 3 of the Oasis Lottery Selections List Instructions. Your advisor only approves the courses you are taking. **The list of courses does not have to be in any particular order for the advisor to approve it.** Keep in mind that they may not get to this task immediately so (again) plan ahead!

8. **Start ranking…this can be a lengthy process.** You can start ranking your course selections before your advisor approves the list. (See Step 4 of the Oasis Lottery Selections List Instructions).