



M3/M4 Coursework Information

This guide is intended to assist students in selecting and scheduling courses based upon their specialty of interest.

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ANESTHESIOLOGY

- I. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - Cardiology
 - Pulmonary Medicine
 - Critical Care Medicine (Intensive Care)
 - General Medicine
 - Emergency
 - Otolaryngology
 - Anesthesiology: Pain Management
 - Anesthesiology: Anesthesia for Trauma and Emergencies
 - Anesthesiology Acting Internship

- II. Other early course suggestions for obtaining **letters of recommendation**:
 - Clinical Anesthesiology
 - Cardiac Anesthesia
 - Anesthesiology
 - Obstetric Anesthesia
 - Advanced Anesthesia
 - Research-Cardiovascular and Respiratory Regulation
 - High Risk Anesthesia Consultation
 - Anesthesiology: Pain Management
 - Anesthesiology: Anesthesia for Trauma and Emergencies
 - Anesthesiology Acting Internship

- III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application: Not required

- IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty: Not required
 - Contact the course coordinator if the rotation you are interested in is filled. We will put you on the waitlist or we might be able to have an additional student on the rotation.

- V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: Not required, but recommended



CHILD NEUROLOGY

- I. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - Child Neurology (ideally acting internship in child neurology)
 - Medical subspecialties: Pediatric Cardiology, Pediatric Rheumatology, Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine (PM&R)
 - Inpatient Acting Internship: Pediatrics, Pediatric Intensive Care, Neonatal Neurology
 - Neurology

- II. Other early course suggestions for obtaining **letters of recommendation**:
 - Child Neurology, Pediatrics Acting Internship, Neuroscience Specialty (Child Neurology, Neurosurgery, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation)

- III. **A chair letter is not required** unless they know the applicant well.

- IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty: Helpful if you haven't had significant experience in the area otherwise.

- V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: Step 2 CK is not currently a requirement for Child Neurology as of 2021.

- VI. **Additional Information**:
 - If you are interested in a career in Child Neurology, we encourage you to contact Matthew Harmelink, MD (mharmelink@mcw.edu) or Leah Pape (lpape@mcw.edu) to discuss the application process.

DERMATOLOGY

- I. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - Dermatology
 - Rheumatology
 - Allergy/Immunology
 - Infectious Diseases
 - Oncology
 - Pathology
 - Plastic Surgery

- II. Other early course suggestions for obtaining **letters of recommendation**:
 - MCW dermatologists

- III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application:
 - Not required chair letter

- IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty:
 - An additional away rotation in dermatology is helpful.

- V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: Strongly encouraged.

- VI. **Additional Information**:
 - If you have a strong interest, it is good to meet with and get to know faculty for individual counseling and advice.

EMERGENCY MEDICINE

- I. **M4 EM Elective**
 - a. *Should be taken by every student applying for EM residency*
 - b. Rotation must be taken in summer/early fall, prior to programs reviewing ERAS applications
 - c. After your rotation, you **must request** a departmental LOR to add to your ERAS application
 - d. Emergency medicine programs use a standardized format for these LORs called SLOE (Standardized Letter of Evaluation)

- II. **Away Rotations**
 - a. Away rotations will provide a similar LOR/SLOE to the one you receive from MCW's M4 elective
 - b. Follow MCW guidelines regarding student travel and away rotation policy
 - c. Letters of recommendation from away rotations are important parts of the application (due to COVID-19, none occurred in 2020).
 - d. Due to continued effects of COVID-19, not all students may be able to complete an away rotation.
 - e. No student should do more than one away elective.

- III. **EM Subspecialty Electives**
 - a. There are specific SLOEs available upon request for students completing an elective in an EM subspecialty
 - i. EMS
 - ii. Toxicology
 - iii. Ultrasound
 - iv. Wilderness Medicine
 - v. Population Health

- IV. **Other recommended elective courses:**
 - a. Trauma surgery (if not already completed)
 - b. Critical Care Medicine/Surgery
 - c. Pediatric EM
 - d. Cardiology
 - e. Orthopedics/Sports Medicine
 - f. Radiology
 - g. Ophthalmology
 - h. The EM Council of Residency Directors has created (new for 2020) a LOR template for non-EM rotations called an O-SLOE

V. **Summary of LOR Recommendations**

- a. Three LORs are required for your application to be complete.
- b. It is expected that every student applying into EM has a departmental SLOE from their home M4 EM rotation
- c. The other letters can come from:
 - Individual EM faculty (SLOE format)
 - EM subspecialty rotation (subspecialty SLOE format)
 - Non-EM rotations (O-SLOE format preferred over narrative format)
 - Research mentor, advisor, etc.
- SLOE templates and instructions can be found at:
<https://www.cordem.org/resources/residency-management/sloe/>

VI. **Additional information:**

- a. Students are responsible for scheduling an elective that ends prior to the submission of ERAS applications.
- b. Students must submit the appropriate LOR request to the elective director in order to receive a LOR/SLOE.
- c. The start/stop dates for the rotation are not flexible; students are responsible for scheduling Step 2, away rotations, and other activities around their MCW rotation.

VII. **Step 2 CK:** With few exceptions, we recommend that students have taken Step 2 prior to submitting their residency applications. Please discuss your situation with your advisor.

VIII. **M3 Elective:**

- a. Only available during Blocks 5-11 (October to May).
- b. The M3 elective is geared toward all students, not just those considering EM for residency.
- c. In some circumstances, M3 students can take the M4 elective during block 12, but this is dependent on receiving approval from the registrar and department and the space limitations of the elective.
- d. Students pursuing a residency in EM who take the M3 elective will still need to complete the M4 elective for a letter of recommendation (SLOE).

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE

I. Recommended **elective courses**:

- One or more M4 course experience in Family Medicine. Options include:
 - Courses at a MCW Department of Family and Community Medicine (DFCM) affiliated Family Medicine residence programs.
 - Courses on campus with MCW DFCM faculty
 - Away electives in family medicine (residency /community-based)
- Courses in broad content areas pertinent to scope of Family Medicine (2 or 3 courses)
 - Medical experiences (mostly office-based): Adult and Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Dermatology, Cardiology, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Sports Medicine, Radiology, Adolescent Medicine, and Infectious Diseases.
 - Surgical experiences (office-based may be more helpful): Ophthalmology, Orthopedics, Urology, Otolaryngology.
 - Women's health experiences: Inpatient OB/GYN and/or office-based GYN.
 - Courses in areas of special interest to you, e.g., International Health.

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

- At least one letter of recommendation should be from a family physician. Additional clinical letters from other specialties are welcomed (and typical). Suggestions for obtaining letters of recommendation from family medicine:
 - Family Medicine M3 Clerkship
 - Acting Internships in Family Medicine
 - M4 Ambulatory Clerkship
 - Family Medicine Residency Electives
 - Rural Ambulatory Medicine Elective
 - Away Clinical Elective in Family Medicine

III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application: **Not required**.

IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty: **Not required**.

V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: **Required**.

VI. **Additional Information**:

- Courses taken with DFCM faculty will provide students with one-on-one faculty interaction that may facilitate a letter of recommendation. Courses with significant clinical faculty interactions are best suited to secure letters of recommendation.
- Elective or core rotations during July, August, and September of your M4 year are the best timing in the M4 year to obtain letters of recommendation.



- Please contact us if you have any questions. We can get you connected!
Please contact our Co-Directors of Medical Student Education in the DFCM: Becky Bernstein, MD MS (rbernstein@mcw.edu) or Leslie Ruffalo, PhD MS (lruffalo@mcw.edu). Or, contact our Manager of Medical Student Education, Stephanie Shaw, MSM MBA (sshaw@mcw.edu).

INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY

- I. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - Surgical Intensive Care
 - CV ICU
 - Transplant ICU
 - Multi-Disciplinary Management of Vascular Disease
 - Vascular Surgery
 - Orthopaedic Surgery
 - Urology
 - Radiation Oncology
 - Medical oncology
 - Surgical Oncology
 - Gastroenterology
 - Diagnostic Radiology

- II. Other early course suggestions for obtaining **letters of recommendation**:
 - Interventional Radiology
 - Surgical or Medical Oncology

- III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application:
 - A chair letter is not absolutely necessary.
 - At least one letter should be obtained though from an IR physician that knows you well.
 - The goal is to find letter writers that know you the best. These will be the most effective and personal letters and have the greatest impact to those reviewing applications.

- IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty:
 - Recommend completing at least one Interventional Radiology Away Rotation. This gives better insight into the varying practice types in IR.
 - The optimal time to seek out away electives is the end of 3rd year or beginning of 4th year before the interview season.

- V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: No

MEDICINE

- I. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - Ambulatory Internal Medicine
 - Medicine Acting Internship
 - Second Acting Internship in one of the medical subspecialty options (MICU, Cardiology, BMT, Hospital Medicine, or Geriatric Medicine), on a surgical subspecialty (e.g. Transplant Surgery), or significant intensive care unit experience (e.g. Cardiothoracic Surgery).
 - Combination of one or two electives within a subspecialty division of Internal Medicine (Hospital Medicine, Cardiology, Infectious Diseases, Geriatrics, Nephrology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Hematology/Oncology, Pulmonary, MICU, etc.) as well as 2 or 3 electives sponsored by other departments that might include:
 - Dermatology
 - Emergency Medicine
 - Adult Neurology
 - Diagnostic Radiology
 - Psychiatry
 - Orthopaedics (esp. office-based or sports medicine)
 - Synecology (esp. office-based)
 - Surgical subspecialty rotations (ENT, ophthalmology, urology)
 - Physical medicine and rehabilitation
 - Electives that allow students to pursue particular interests (research, medical humanities, teaching, advanced physical exam, international health)
- II. Other **early course suggestions** for obtaining **letters of recommendation** (completed by July or August if possible):
 - Medicine Acting Internship
 - Ambulatory Internal Medicine
 - Second Medicine-based Acting Internship
- III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application:
 - Contact DOMChairLetters@mcw.edu to arrange an appointment with a faculty advisor. You will also need to schedule a meeting with the Chair to discuss the Department of Medicine Chair Letter, which is required by most IM residency programs.
- IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty: This is program-dependent.
- V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: This is program dependent. Some programs may require the Step 2 CK exam for the purposes of ranking.



VI. **Additional Information:**

- All students interested in Medicine are strongly encouraged to meet with a Department of Medicine faculty member for individual counseling and advice during the M3 year. This is arranged by writing DOMChairLetters@mcw.edu.

NEUROLOGY

- I. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - Neurology
 - If Adult Neurology - Medical subspecialties (esp. cardiology, renal medicine, rheumatology, pulmonary medicine, or infectious diseases)
 - If Child Neurology - Pediatric subspecialties (esp. cardiology, child development or neonatal medicine)
 - Neuro-radiology
 - Neurosurgery
 - Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
 - Consultation/Liaison Psychiatry

- II. Other **early course suggestions** for obtaining **letters of recommendation**:
 - Neurology elective, Neurology sub internship, Psychiatry, Medicine

- III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application: Chair letters are not something that is required for application in Neurology.

- IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty: Away rotations are not required in Neurology.

- V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: While Step 2 CK is not currently a requirement for Neurology as of 2021, the majority of applicants (in our applicant pool) **did** have a Step 2 score at the time of application.

- VI. **Additional Information**:
 - If you are interested in a career in Neurology, we encourage you to contact with Chad Carlson, MD, FAAN (ccarlson@mcw.edu) or Ashlie Schaffner (aschaffner@mcw.edu) to discuss the application process.

NEUROSURGERY

- I. **Required elective courses** (special exception will require student discussion with and approval by Clerkship Director):
 - Neurology
- II. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - Radiology
 - Neurocritical Care/ICU rotation
 - Trauma
 - Rehabilitation Medicine
- III. Other **early course suggestions** for obtaining **letters of recommendation**:
 - Any Neurosurgeon with whom you have rapport/who can speak to your qualities/qualifications – MCW or otherwise
 - Research mentor, if applicable
 - COVID requirements of 2020fall included GenSurg attending - look for any updates on the Senior Neurosurgery Society website, neurosurgerymatch.org
- IV. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application:
 - Chair and / or Program Director for each NS rotation location
- V. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty: **Required** (unless PHE precludes)
- VI. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: Not required for submission of application in ERAS
- VII. **Additional resources/details**:
 - MCW policy updates
 - AAMC Coronavirus (COVID-19) Resource Hub
 - <https://neurosurgerymatch.org>

*If planning on a Neurosurgery residency, student should apply via ERAS to Neurosurgery only (it is not recommended to apply to two different specialties in one match cycle)

OBSTETRICS/GYNECOLOGY

- I. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - Ambulatory Internal Medicine or Family Medicine
 - Internal Medicine Acting Internship
 - ICE (Medicine or Surgery)
 - Emergency Medicine

- II. Other **early course suggestions** for obtaining relevant experience and/or **letters of recommendation**:
 - Adolescent Medicine (Department of Pediatrics)
 - Advance Clinical Human Anatomy
 - Anesthesiology (esp. Obstetric)
 - Cardiology
 - Consult Psychiatry
 - Dermatology
 - Female Urology
 - Genetics
 - Infectious Diseases
 - Master Clinician: Adv. Skills for Residency and Beyond
 - Medical Consults
 - Medical Endocrinology
 - Multi-disciplinary Management of Breast Disease
 - Neonatology
 - Nephrology
 - Radiology
 - Surgical Pathology
 - Away elective in Obstetrics and Gynecology

- III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application: Program-dependent. OB/GYN programs require a chair letter OR supplemental letter recommendation.

- IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty: Not required.

- V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: Not required but program may ask for status after interviewing.

- VI. **Additional Information**:
 - A broad schedule with a variety of courses in different disciplines is recommended

OPHTHALMOLOGY

I. Recommended **elective courses**:

- Ophthalmology M4 elective or M3 4-week elective
- Multidisciplinary Applications such as infectious diseases, radiology, allergy/immunology
- Conditions that Overlap with Ophthalmic disease such as otorhinolaryngology, dermatology, endocrinology, rheumatology, and neurology.

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

- Three letters of recommendation are required for San Francisco (SF) Match residency application.
- At least one letter of recommendation should be from an ophthalmologist. Additional clinical letters from other specialties are welcomed.
- Broad-based medical experiences
- Clinical and research experiences through subspecialty areas of ophthalmology

III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application: No, ophthalmology programs do not require a chair letter.

IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty: Away rotations are not required for ophthalmology. Decision to pursue away rotation may be discussed further with advisor/medical student education director.

V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: No.

VI. **Additional Information**:

- Students should contact their advisor/medical student education director as early as possible for a curriculum planning discussion as ophthalmology residencies participate in a separate match program (SF Match) with an earlier application deadline than the National Residency Match Program.
- Interested students are recommend to enroll in 4-week electives during the months of July through October as interviews for ophthalmology residency programs are usually held in November and December.

Contact the Ophthalmology Department Coordinator for additional information.

ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

- I. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - Orthopaedic Surgery (2 months)
 - Intensive Care Unit or Emergency Medicine (1 month)
 - Anesthesiology, Plastic Surgery, or Radiology (1 month)

- II. Other **early course suggestions** for obtaining **letters of recommendation**:
 - Sub-Internships and electives at Froedtert East Clinic and Children's Hospital of Wisconsin
 - Integrated elective courses

- III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application:
 - Electronic Standardized Letter of Recommendation (eSLOR) is required by a substantial portion of orthopaedic residency programs in the United States and Canada. It replaces a separate narrative letter of recommendation.
 - Some Orthopaedic Programs require a Chair Letter- our program does not

- IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty: It is strongly encouraged to perform an additional away rotation to gain insight to other programs and the possibilities of different letters of recommendation.

- V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: Step 2 CK is required for our program.

- VI. **Additional Information**:
 - The Sub-Internship and 4-week elective at Froedtert from August through mid-October are used as MCW students interview for the Match to our Orthopaedic Surgery Residency Program.

OTOLARYNGOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION SCIENCES

I. Recommended **elective courses**:

- Adult and Pediatric Sleep Medicine
- Anesthesiology
- Emergency Medicine
- Critical Care Medicine
- Neurology
- Neurosurgery
- Plastic Surgery
- Pulmonary Medicine
- Pediatrics
- Vascular Surgery

Any students who are interested in Otolaryngology should contact Dr. Jonathan Bock (jbock@mcw.edu) to discuss their strategy/plan for scheduling coursework.

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

- General Surgery

III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** required for residency application: Yes

IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty:

- Away Otolaryngology rotation (please contact Dr. Bock to discuss this further).

V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: No

PATHOLOGY

- I. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - Pathology Rotation at MCW (Anatomic Pathology, Clinical Pathology/Hematopathology, Blood Bank-Transfusion Medicine, Forensic Pathology, Advanced Anatomic Pathology, Pediatric Pathology)
 - Away Rotation in Pathology

- II. Other **early course suggestions** for obtaining **letters of recommendation**:
 - Away Rotation in Pathology
 - Medical Hematology/Oncology, Radiation Oncology, Orthopaedic Oncology or Gynecologic Oncology
 - Subspecialty surgical services: thoracic, colorectal, ear/nose/throat or transplant
 - Gynecology (non-oncologic)
 - Gastroenterology/Hepatology
 - Urology
 - Dermatology
 - General Surgery (beyond basic requirements)
 - Additional training in General Medicine

- III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application: A chair letter is not required for most Pathology residency applications. 3 letters of recommendation are required and having at least one letter from a pathologist is strongly recommended; more is even better.

- IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty: Away rotations in pathology are not required.

- V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: A passing Step 2 CK score is not required to apply, but must be passed and uploaded to ERAS before programs rank candidates.

- VI. **Additional Information**:
 - Our department welcomes students with a strong interest in Pathology to secure a faculty mentor or research advisor within the department.

PEDIATRICS

- I. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - No particular elective courses are recommended for students interested in applying to pediatric residency programs.
 - Even if you are set on pediatrics as a future career, you definitely can take electives outside of pediatrics.
 - Many students choose to take pediatric electives (or pediatric acting-internships) for these common reasons:
 - i. These experiences can help guide their decision on whether they would like to go into a pediatrics residency or care for pediatric patients.
 - ii. To prepare for pediatric residency (note this is not necessary)
 - iii. They really want to care for children/adolescents.

- II. Other early course suggestions for obtaining **letters of recommendation**:

Applicants to Pediatric residency often select letter writers from the following clinical rotations.

- Core clerkships (like Pediatrics or Internal Medicine)
- Pediatric Acting-Internships
- Internal Medicine Acting-Internship
- Any electives with sufficient face-to-face clinical work with an attending (so you can obtain a strong letter).

The goal is to have the strongest, most well-written letters from people that know you and your work best. You want the letter writer to be able to comment on the amount and level of your clinical work. In most cases, the letter writer will be an attending who you worked with for an extended amount of time—most of these interactions are in inpatient setting, but some letters come from work during ambulatory electives. It is ideal to have at least one letter that can comment on your ability to handle a busy inpatient service, even if that inpatient experience is not in pediatrics. Also, in some cases, the letter writer may be an attending or other research faculty that you worked extensively with on research projects.

- III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application:

- A chair letter as well as 3 other letters of recommendation are generally required for application to most pediatric residency programs. Generally, the chair of pediatrics will meet with each student applying for pediatric residency in the summer/early fall so the chair can personalize the chair letter's comments.

- IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty:

- Away rotations are not required when applying for pediatric residency. If an applicant really is interested in a program, they may choose to do an away rotation there. This can

help the applicant decide if they really want to join that program. It also provides the student a chance to demonstrate how they would fit into the residency program. Generally, most students would complete their electives prior to the residency interview season (which starts in November), but some students do away rotations during that time.

V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application:

- While not required by all programs, it is strongly encouraged to complete prior to rank day, so that lack of completion does not negatively affect your ranking. Further, it is recommended that you take Step 2 CK prior to application submission if you would like programs to have that score prior to interview invitations.

VI. **Additional Information:**

- Pediatrics residents decide at different times between pursuing a career in general pediatrics or doing a fellowship in a pediatric subspecialty (1-3 year of further training). In most cases the application for pediatric subspecialties is now in the 3rd year of residency training. This generally, means that you will have time to explore many areas of pediatrics prior to making a decision on whether to pursue fellowship training. Some students want to try and decide their career path sooner, and that is where taking more pediatrics electives as a M3/M4 can come in, but you will have time during pediatric residency as well to explore future career possibilities.

PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

- I. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - Neurology
 - Geriatrics
 - Orthopaedic Surgery/Sports Medicine
 - Medicine Sub-Internship
 - Neurosurgery
 - Urology
 - Rheumatology
 - Palliative Medicine
 - Cardiology
 - Plastic Surgery
 - Vascular Surgery
 - Radiology
- II. Other **early course suggestions** for obtaining **letters of recommendation**:
 - Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
- III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application: A letter from a Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation physician is required, it is not required to be from the chair.
- IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty: Not required but highly recommended if home institution does not offer a Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation rotation.
- V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: Required
- VI. **Additional Information**:
 - A comprehensive Guide to PM&R created by Carley Sauter, MD, is available here: https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.physiatry.org/resource/resmgr/docs/PMR_Application_Guide.pdf
 - It would be well-advised to discuss the specifics of their elective schedule with a member of the Department of PM&R so that the goals of the individual can be well served by the elective. Our department welcomes students with a strong interest in PM&R to secure a faculty mentor or research advisor within the department.
 - Interviews for PM&R residency applicants commonly occur November through January. If you are interested in applying to a PM&R residency program, there may be value in choosing an elective early, allowing time to procure a letter of recommendation.
 - Please contact us if you have any questions. We can get you connected!
Sue Abrahms, Course Coordinator sabrahms@mcw.edu

PLASTIC SURGERY

- I. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - Plastic Surgery Elective
 - General Surgery Sub-Internship
 - Emergency Medicine
 - Dermatology
 - Infectious Diseases
 - Radiology
 - Orthopaedic Surgery
 - Anesthesiology
 - Surgical ICU
 - Pediatric Surgery
 - Otolaryngology

- II. Other **early course suggestions** for obtaining **letters of recommendation**:
Plastic Surgery Elective

- III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application:
Chair letter not required

- IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty:
Recommend completing at least one Plastic Surgery Away Rotation (contact your mentor or Julie Salentine to discuss further).

- V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application:
Strongly encouraged

- VI. **Additional Information**:
We recommend taking the Plastic Surgery elective during the months July through October if pursuing Integrated Plastic Surgery residency.



PSYCHIATRY AND BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

- I. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - Consultation/liaison psychiatry at Froedtert Memorial Hospital
 - Emergency Department (ED) at Froedtert Memorial Hospital
 - M3/M4 Child and Adolescent and M4 Pediatric Psychiatry at Children's Clinic Bldg
 - Acting Internship at the Clement J. Zablocki Veteran's Administration Medical Center

- II. Other **early course suggestions** for obtaining **letters of recommendation**:
Addiction psychiatry, the Recovery Model at the VAMC, Adolescent Residential Treatment at Rogers Oconomowoc, Psychotherapy for Future Physicians online

- III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application: Not required but recommended. Four LOR are required. The most useful LORs are from someone with whom you've worked clinically, who can comment on your interpersonal skills, professionalism, care for patients, etc.

- IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty: NA

- V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: Yes/and No – not required for the application but recommended that it has been completed. We require Step 1 (or COMLEX 1) and expect you to have passed Step 2 CK and CS before graduation from medical school.

- VI. **Additional Information:**

Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

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RADIATION ONCOLOGY

- I. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - General Medical (including Medical Oncology)
 - Surgery (particularly surgical subspecialties such as Surgical Oncology, Otolaryngology, Urology and possibly Neurosurgery or Thoracic Surgery)
 - Radiology (including Nuclear Medicine)
 - Gynecology (particularly Gynecologic Oncology)
 - Pathology
 - Pediatric Oncology

- II. Other **early course suggestions** for obtaining **letters of recommendation**:
 - Radiation oncologists

- III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application: Not required.

- IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty: Not required but recommended.

- V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: Not required but recommended.

- VI. **Additional Information**:
 - Research in the field of radiation oncology is also extremely important in order to be a competitive applicant.
 - The vast majority of applicants for radiation oncology do a rotation outside their own institution. Given the competitive nature of the specialty, this is essential to improve chances of matching. Most students do this early in their senior year so that they can get letters of recommendation.

RADIOLOGY-DIAGNOSTIC

- I. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - Gastroenterology
 - Medical oncology
 - Neurology
 - Neurosurgery
 - Orthopaedic surgery
 - Otolaryngology
 - Pathology
 - Pulmonary medicine
 - Radiation oncology
 - Surgical oncology
 - Urology
 - Vascular surgery
 - Diagnostic Radiology
 - Gynecologic Oncology

- II. Other **early course suggestions** for obtaining **letters of recommendation**:
 - Diagnostic/Interventional Radiology
 - Pediatric Radiology

- III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application: Not required

- IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty: Not required

- V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: Not required



SURGERY

- I. Recommended **elective courses**:
 - Surgical Intensive Care
 - Multi-Disciplinary Management of Vascular Disease
 - Multi-Disciplinary Management of Breast Disease
 - Multi-Disciplinary Management of Inflammatory Bowel Disease
 - Multi-Disciplinary Management of Morbid Obesity

- II. Other **early course suggestions** for obtaining **letters of recommendation**: None.

- III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application:
 - Students may receive letters of recommendation from the Department of Surgery Chair. Please contact Wendy Behrs (wbehrs@mcw.edu) to request a letter of recommendation

- IV. Additional **away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty: N/A

- V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: Step 2 CK not required for residency application but recommended if Step 1 score is not considered competitive.

- VI. **Additional Information**:
 - Senior students interested in a career in surgery should complete a surgical acting internship early in the 4th year, preferably before October. This will allow students to gain relevant experience and have the opportunity to obtain letters of recommendation.
 - It is also highly recommended that students gain experience in the management of patients in the ICU by taking an acting internship or elective on a critical care service. Other valuable rotations for a surgical career include: Radiology, Anatomic Pathology, and Cardiology. Other valuable rotations to consider are: Anesthesiology, Radiology, Critical Care, Emergency Medicine and Surgical Pathology



UROLOGY

I. Recommended **elective courses**:

- MCW Urology Sub-Internship
- Away Urology Sub-Internship
- Radiology
- Surgical ICU or surgery rotation
- Nephrology
- Anesthesiology
- Internal medicine
- Emergency medicine

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

III. A **chair letter** or **supplemental document** for residency application:

A chair letter should be requested from the Department chair during your sub-internship. Additional letters from the department should be requested at this time as well. At least 3 of your letters should come from urologists and should include at least one letter from a urologist in a department where you participated in an away rotation.

IV. **Additional away rotation** (in-person or virtual) for this specialty:

Away rotations are highly recommended in the field of urology. This is a small subspecialty with a large volume of applicants. Performing an away rotation is one of the best ways to get letters of recommendation and to also introduce and distinguish yourself to a program you may be interested in matching at.

V. **Step 2 CK** exam required for residency application: Not currently