VSLO (VSAS) and the Away Elective Process

Class of 2021
Today’s Meeting Agenda

- Quick Review of Distribution of Requirements
- Extramural (Away) Electives Process – VSLO Brief Overview
- Questions???
Distribution Requirements

- No more than 12 weeks of clinical electives in any one subspecialty discipline will count towards the 16 week elective graduation requirement.

- No more than 8 weeks of away (extramural) clinical electives will count towards the 16 week elective graduation requirement.

- No more than 8 weeks of research electives will count towards the 16 week elective graduation requirement. Research elective credit only gets counted as research — it does NOT get counted toward the subspecialty or extramural maximums.
Distribution Requirements

- No more than 4 weeks of advanced clinical course credit will be granted for **non-clinical** based electives.
  - Specifically, students may not exceed taking 4 weeks of History of Medicine, Biomedical Ethics, Curriculum Dev., Literature and Medicine, Medical Toxicology, Medical Ethics and Morals, etc…

- With permission, ICU Requirement (2 weeks) can be completed at another U.S. LCME accredited medical school; PC2 (Geriatrics) can also be taken at select medical schools with permission.

- All other required coursework must be completed at SUNY Downstate.

*Please note: Students are permitted to register and take additional electives over and above the 16-week elective requirement.*
Extramural & Other Special Electives

- Extramural (Off-Campus) Electives
  - Purpose
    - “Audition Electives”
    - Obtain Letters of Recommendation
    - Be exposed to different clinical experiences
  - Timing of application and actual rotation
  - Away Elective Instructions for Obtaining Credit
    https://sls.downstate.edu/registrar/class_mtg/index.html
  - AAMC Website Information
    https://students-residents.aamc.org/attending-medical-school/article/visiting-student-learning-opportunities/
  - AAMC Compendium – Listing of ALL LCME Accredited Schools
    https://services.aamc.org/eec/students/
Extramural & Other Special Electives

- Process to receive credit, liability coverage issues

- Research Electives, International Electives, Global Health in Developing Countries
Extramural & Other Special Electives Application

- Three Step Process –
  - Identify where
    - Through VSLO
    - Through AAMC Extramural Electives Compendium
    - Individual Institution website
  - Apply either through VSLO or outside of VSLO through individual institutions
  - Submit paperwork & acceptance letter to receive credit
Extramural & Other Special Electives

- Process to receive credit, liability coverage issues
  - Review list of current Agreements in the Office of the Registrar.
    - If not listed, send contact information to Office of the Registrar and we will do our best to secure an agreement.
  - See instructions for background check/drug testing http://sls.downstate.edu/student_affairs/CBCDT.html
VSLO (VSAS) OVERVIEW

- Mid-January - Receive email from AAMC with instructions for access for academic year 2020-2021
- Basic VSLO instructions can be found at https://students-residents.aamc.org/attending-medical-school/article/how-use-vslo-application-service/
- Video instructions for using VSLO can be found at https://www.aamc.org/ You will need to LOG in using your AAMC ID and password (your AMCAS log in info).
Applying for Away Electives

- Use the 4:3:2 Rule
  - Apply to 4 institutions
  - Select 3 date blocks
  - Plan on getting 2 electives

- The School can only certify you once you have submitted your application and applied for electives. You MUST hit submit.
Applying for Away Electives

- **You must** request your Medical School transcript in order for the Office of the Registrar to upload it.
- Upload your Immunization form(s) only after you apply.
  - If the Host school does not have a template, use the AAMC version posted in VSLO
- VSLO will notify you each time something has been uploaded/updated/etc.
Applying for Away Electives

IMPORTANT: MAKE SURE TO READ THE INDIVIDUAL INSTITUTION REQUIREMENTS CAREFULLY AS THEY VARY FROM INSTITUTION TO INSTITUTION.
Visiting Student Learning Opportunities™

VSLO® Global Network

Adriane López
alopez@aamc.org
How Do I Use the VSLO Application Service?

1. Receive Invitation to VSLO Application Service
2. Complete Application Profile
3. Search for Electives
4. Review Host Requirements
5. Upload Documents and Apply to Electives
6. Track Applications
**Step 1: Receive Invitation to VSLO Application Service**

You will receive an email from your Home Administrator with an access code.

Once you claim the access code, you will be able to log in to the VSLO application service.

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Dear App Two,

Welcome to VSAS! You have been invited to use this service by your institution and, in order to access it, you will need an AAMC account. Please follow the steps below when logging in for the first time:

- **Redeem your VSAS access code**
  This is a one-time access code and expires on 10/16/2019.

- If you have an AAMC Account:
  Sign in using your AAMC username and password, you do not need to create a separate account.

  Use the 'Forgot your Username' or 'Forgot your Password' links if you're unsure of your account. Please keep in mind that if you reset your password after clicking on the access code link, you must complete the process of setting a new password, return to the access code link again, and then proceed to sign in.

- If you do not have an AAMC Account:
  Follow the instructions to create an AAMC account by selecting 'Create AAMC Account'.

After your first login, you may access VSAS directly.

Please contact VSAS Support at vsas@aamc.org or 202-478-9878 if you have any questions about this process.

Thank you,
VSAS Support

vsas@aamc.org | (202) 478-9878
Monday - Friday, 8am - 6pm Eastern Time
Log in to VSAS
Access VSAS Training Resources
Frequently Asked Questions
Application Fee

- $40 for up to three applications submitted (to any institution in the U.S. or Global Networks)
- $15 for each additional application
- Application fees are per elective regardless of requested dates for that elective
How Do I Know What I’m Responsible For?

**Application Requirements:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement Name</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N95 Fit Test and Training Certification (using Brown’s form)</td>
<td>Applicant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USMLE Step 1 or COMLEX Level 1 Score Report</td>
<td>Applicant</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Brown’s Immunization Form</td>
<td>Applicant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete Background Check</td>
<td>Applicant</td>
<td>Required after offer acceptance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proof of Personal Health Insurance Coverage</td>
<td>Applicant</td>
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<tr>
<td>CV/Resume</td>
<td>Applicant</td>
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<td>Transcript</td>
<td>Home School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Photograph</td>
<td>Applicant</td>
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</tbody>
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**Description:**

Please see the webpage link for more information.
Housing

- Dependent on the host institution – some institutions provide homestays

Planning Your Elective

Housing and Accommodation

The AAMC does not endorse any of the housing platforms below, but provides resources for students who may use them.

- Rotating Room
  RotatingRoom.com is a student-run website that helps medical students find and post sublets while doing away rotations at hospitals around the country. It provides google-mapped results, public transportation directions, panoramic street views, and more.

- Livesity
  Livesity's mission is to create a marketplace for students to simplify short term housing. It works to fill the gap in resources focused on short term housing and helps connect students seeking comfortable housing with those students who want to offload their places on a short term basis.

- Housing Anywhere
  Housing Anywhere is a housing platform where people can rent out rooms to international students. It originally started as a platform where outgoing exchange students could rent out their rooms when they went abroad. Incoming exchange students can rent these rooms.
Student Resources
Click here for VSLO Student Essentials document.
Student Resources By Destination

Students in the U.S. Pursuing Electives in the U.S.
For students enrolled in a U.S. medical school and interested in away rotations.

Students in the U.S. Pursuing Electives Abroad
If you are enrolled in a U.S. medical school and interested in clinical, research, or public health opportunities abroad.

Students Outside the U.S. Pursuing Electives
Students enrolled in medical schools outside the U.S. that are interested in going abroad.
Contact Us

- **Email:** visitingstudents@aamc.org
- **Website:** aamc.org/vslo
- **Phone:** (202) 478-9878
- **Client Technical Support Team hours:**
  Monday - Friday 8:00am-6:00pm ET
Away Electives Process Summary

1. Apply for the Elective(s)
2. Complete Application/Select Elective(s)
3. Receive Acceptance(s)
4. Submit signed Extramural Proposal Form with copy of the acceptance letter to the Office of the Registrar at least one month prior to start date
What’s Coming Up?
TIMELINE

- Feb 18  Spring 2020 Registration Opens for all
- Feb 25  Time Tickets Released for Fall 2020/Spring 2021
- Mar 2-13  On-Line Registration Opens for Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 According to Time Tickets
What’s Coming Up?

TIMELINE

- March 13  
  Clinical Schedule Planner DUE  
  Signed by your Clinical Advisory Dean

- May 4  
  Schedule changes for Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 begin
Need Help?

- Assistance with your individual senior schedule, some resources:
  - Your Clinical Advisory Dean
  - Specialty Advisors
  - Any of us
  - Upperclass students