

RE: Update on Clerkship Rotations

March 27, 2020

Dear Class of 2022,

We have been meeting with education leaders from the AAMC and all LCME-accredited medical schools on a regular basis to understand national trends and responses to clinical training during the COVID-19 pandemic. While every school has unique challenges, we have learned much and will be adopting polices that follow AAMC/LCME guidelines while maximizing student success.

We are constantly striving to balance your need for in-person clinical experiences and education with the need to graduate on time and achieve your personal goals. It is now clear to us that we will not be able to invite students back into the clinical environment in the near term. As such, we have worked out a plan that involves as much flexibility as possible.

In the short-term, all students will continue with their current clerkships or start their next clerkship through April 12. You will continue to earn credit. Due to accreditation requirements and more importantly for your education, you will complete an additional 2 weeks of in-person clinical education for your current clerkship at a later date. We will allow students to take the shelf exam, where applicable, at the end of the two-week period or delay the shelf until after you have completed the additional two weeks of in-person clinical training for your current clerkship. As per national recommendations, your current clerkship and its shelf exam will be graded Pass/Fail only. This will be appropriately explained in your MSPE and will not have a negative impact in your residency application. We will resume our usual grading structure when we are able to provide in-person clinical training.

As you know, COM – T leadership will be meeting with your class on Monday to further discuss this and answer questions. While our plans will not meet every student's wishes, please know that they are based on extensive experience, work, and communication with national leaders and the AAMC. We are all in this together and we will all succeed.

I hope you are well. This challenging time is certainly testing our resilience, and I hope you are connecting remotely/safely with your peers and loved ones. As always, we are here for you.

Best,

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