

MS4 Away Rotation Policy for the Academic Year 2021-2022

Related LCME Standards

The School of Medicine considers the completion of away rotations during the 4th year of medical school imperative to the student's transition from undergraduate medical education to graduate medical education. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, significant disruptions have created nationwide concern related to away rotations, learner safety, and equal access opportunities. In accordance with the recommendations of the Coalition of Physician Accountability, published by the AAMC on January 25, 2021 in the *Updated Recommendations on Away Rotations for Medical Education Institutions of LCME-Accredited, U.S. Osteopathic, and Non-U.S. Medical School Applicants*, the LSUHSC-Shreveport School of Medicine has designed a revised MS4 Away Rotation Policy for the Academic Year 2021-2022.

For the academic year of 2021-2022:

- For the **2021-22 academic year**, away rotations resume no earlier than August 1, 2021, with the following guidance:
 - After April 15, learners may begin applying for and scheduling in-person away rotations with a start date of August 1, 2021, or later.
 - Given the compressed timeline – paired with an inadequate quantity of electives available for completion – medical schools are encouraged to limit approved away rotations in any specialty **to one per learner**. Two approved away rotations are allowed in any specialty program not offered at our institution: i.e. Dermatology, PM&R, Plastic Surgery.
 - Residency programs are encouraged to take into consideration if a learner exceeded the one-away-rotation limit during the residency selection process.
 - The working group will continue to monitor the information and plans to provide an update to the community **no later than April 15, 2021, either confirming that August 1 remains an acceptable start date, or creating a new start date.**

Please note: students may not participate in virtual aways for academic credit. If a student chooses to participate in a virtual away, they must do so during their online courses or during vacation. The Office of the Registrar will not provide any documentation for a student to participate in a virtual away.