

University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

Family and Community Medicine Medical Student Scholars Program

Program/Track

Family and Community Medicine Scholars Program

Synopsis/Background

The Family and Community Medicine MSSP is a special 4-year longitudinal curriculum for selected medical students. This track will provide highly motivated students with a unique opportunity to engage in preceptor-supervised educational experiences that will expand upon their fund of knowledge and skill set with the mentorship of our Department of Family and Community Medicine. These students will participate in an array of unique activities such as monthly didactics about relevant topics; guidance for accomplishing your research goals; and service-learning opportunities. Our MSSP will supplement the required curriculum at UCCOM. Our MSSP will support students interested in exploring the different aspects of Family Medicine including outpatient primary care, sports medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics, inpatient based care, urgent care, geriatrics, etc. There is also a special focus for caring for patients in urban and rural settings in the US and globally (which mirrors the focus of our department). Our primary goal is to help you explore if you could find a home in career within Family and Community Medicine. Many of our students have matched at their #1 choice of Family Medicine residency. Some of our students have matched in other specialties that are similar to Family Medicine such as Internal Medicine, Ob/Gyn, Pediatrics, and Psychiatry.

Goals and Objectives

- Provide mentoring and support to students interested in Family Medicine as a career.
- Increase awareness of the principles of Family Medicine.
- Expose students to the breadth of career options for Family Medicine physicians.
- Facilitate community engagement discussions and opportunities.
- Provide opportunities for clinical based research experiences.
- Increase exposure to caring for patients in urban and rural health settings.

Program Personnel

Program Director: Anisa Shomo, MD

Program Coordinator: Mckenzie Breig

UCCOM Departments of Family and Community Medicine physicians, staff and Cincinnati community family physicians will be included in teaching, mentoring and precepting of the Family and Community Medicine MSSP students.

Financial Support

- Department of Family and Community Medicine
- Urban Health Project for summer experience between M1/M2
- Ohio Academy of Family Physicians' Leroy Rogers Scholarship Fund
- AHEC Rural and Underserved Scholars Track (RUST)

Enrollment/Admission Criteria

Applications are due at the end of September through the centralized Medical Student Scholars Program Application. Applicants will be interviewed in October and official candidate selection and notification will be at the end of October. Selection is based on student interest in Family Medicine as a career choice, commitment to community service, and ability to maintain interpersonal relationships with our group of students. We will offer positions to up to 8 students.

Application Process

Interested students should complete a Medical Student Scholars Program (MSSP) Application.

Criteria for Ongoing Participation

Since the Family and Community Medicine MSSP is an optional opportunity with a significant time commitment, all students must remain in good academic standing with the College of Medicine to participate. Students are encouraged to be forthcoming and disclose problems early on with the Program Director. Students that fall out of good academic standing will be suspended from program activities until academic performance improves. Failure to improve academic performance may result in dismissal from the program, however we will continue to support you as opportunities arise. Professional misconduct will not be tolerated and will result in dismissal from the program. Students must meet time commitment requirements as laid out in the curriculum section. Students who met all requirements will be designated as a Family and Community Medicine graduate in the MSPE, receive a Certificate of Completion, and be recognized at the Honors Day Celebration.

General Description & Curricular Overview (please address clinical, didactic, advising, research, mentorship, project, leadership, service)

Students will meet with UCCOM Family and Community Medicine faculty on campus and with selected primary care preceptors at their clinical sites throughout the community. Monthly dinner didactic meetings will be held either on campus or at a faculty member's home during the academic year. These mandatory didactic meetings will serve as an opportunity for all four years of students of our MSSP to discuss relevant Family and Community Medicine topics. The number of required meetings vary by year in school. We also require a "Summer Experience" between M1/M2 that is either scholarly research (through our Research Division, MD/PhD program, etc.) or service-learning research (Urban Health Project, etc.)

- Year 1
 - Exploration: exposure to different aspects of Family Medicine through monthly didactic sessions, November through April. Must attend at least 4 of 6 sessions.
 - Clinical shadowing experiences: minimum 4 half days
 - FMIG: attend at least 70% of the activities
 - Mentor preferences: submit a list of mentoring needs for us to pair you with a mentor
 - Volunteer/Community Service: at least 10 hours
 - Attend Grand rounds when able: 2nd Tuesday of the month 7:30 – 8:30 at Christ Hospital Classroom 1 & 2 (virtually during the pandemic)
- Summer Experience: between M1 and M2
 - Complete Summer Experience: minimum of 200 hours
 - Urban Health Project, Rural Health Experience, Family Medicine Research, MD/PhD Research, Global Health Experience are the preferred options for achieving hours
 - Present a poster related to this experience at the UC Research and Service Symposium in November
 - Attend Grand rounds when able: 2nd Tuesday of the month 7:30 – 8:30 at Christ Hospital Classroom 1 & 2 (virtually during the pandemic)
- Year 2

- Monthly didactics: October through May. Must attend 6 of the 8 sessions.
- Clinical shadowing experiences: minimum 6 half days
- FMIG: attend at least 70% of the activities
- Mentor guidance: meet with mentor at least once a semester
- Volunteer/Community service: at least 20 hours
- Attend Grand rounds when able: 2nd Tuesday of the month 7:30 – 8:30 at Christ Hospital Classroom 1 & 2 (virtually during the pandemic)
- Year 3
 - Attend minimum of 2 didactic sessions
 - Meet with mentors for assistance with residency applications and scheduling year 4 electives: at least once a semester
- Year 4
 - Complete at least 4 weeks of a FM elective or AI (if you are planning to apply to match in Family Medicine)
 - Complete at least 2 weeks of a FM Elective (if you are not planning to apply to match in Family Medicine)
 - Monthly didactic sessions: attend a minimum of 4 sessions. Present at one session.
 - Meet with mentor at least once a semester regarding residency application process.
 - Participate in the mock interview process.

Evaluation

The student's progress will be evaluated based on participation in the educational lectures, participation in the clinical experience, and progress on their summer research project. Students will meet with the Program Director regularly to evaluate their goals and progress in the program. This meeting will cover the following:

- Criteria for ongoing participation
 - Verification of good academic performance in the COM
 - Attendance at program meetings
 - Attendance at FMIG activities
 - Clinical Participation logs
 - Scholarly project completion

- Student feedback regarding the Family and Community Medicine MSSP
- Faculty feedback regarding student performance

Withdrawal Procedure

Students are encouraged to complete the program even if their career interest changes. Students who wish to leave the program should meet with the Program Director, Dr. Anisa Shomo, to discuss reasons for leaving. They must then notify Dr. Shomo in writing of their final decision to withdraw from the program.