

2019 Intro to Patient Care Phase Q&A Session

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1. Will priority be given to minority students (POC, LGBTQ) for the GSO?
 - *Priority is given to Foundations students from each site for the track in their region, so Seattle Foundations students are given equal priority for GSO. In the past 2 years, all Seattle Foundations students who requested GSO have received it.*
2. Can you clarify when housing is covered for non-TRUST Seattle students interested in WRITE or a track? It was a little confusing in the recording.
 - *For WRITE, housing is covered when you are at your WRITE site (22 or 24 weeks site dependent); it is not covered when you are in Seattle for the portion of clerkships that will be in Seattle. For a track, housing is provided.*
3. Is housing covered for any 4th year non-required clerkships?
 - *Housing is **not** provided for 4th year **non-required** clerkships. Housing is covered for **required** clerkships during this phase (Neurology/Neurosurgery, Emergency Medicine, and 2 APC clerkships). Housing is paid for sites **outside** of your home base.*
4. When you are accepted to WRITE, do you know what community you are matched with before deciding whether to participate in the program?
 - *If you are selected for the WRITE program, you will receive a letter after the interview process. This letter will include your placement site as well as contact information for the regional clinical dean and regional administrator for that site. Additionally, you will be able to turn down your site in a given period of time. Students who do the best in WRITE tend to be flexible and able to roll with things as well as being a self-starter.*
5. Will there be more information about how to preference clerkships if you decide on the Safari Track?
 - *Information is given within the survey that is emailed in fall quarter. Safari students are asked to list their priority specialty. Best efforts will be made to place that rotation mid-way through Patient Care.*
6. Is there any effect on choices during Explore and Focus if you do a track or WRITE? (Is it harder to fulfill requirements for a pathway or get other desired electives)
 - *WRITE does not affect your choices during Explore & Focus scheduling. Some WRITE sites include a Family Medicine APC, Advanced Outpatient Clerkship, at the end of the experience. Completing this rotation during Patient Care Phase means you will only have 12 weeks of required clerkships to complete (Neurology, EM, and a Sub-I) instead of 16 weeks during Explore & Focus.*

7. Will picking an out of state track as my first choice make me less likely to be chosen for an in state track? For example, I'm an Idaho E18 and would most like to go to Spokane. However, Boise would be a very high second choice (much preferred over safari). I know as an Idaho student, I would normally be first in line for the Boise track, but would making that my second choice make me less likely to be chosen for Boise if Spokane doesn't work out? Essentially, I'm wondering if I might shoot myself in the foot by making Spokane my first choice and then end up not getting Boise either since it wasn't my first pick.
 - *The selection process for Tracks is carried out by the individual regional Dean's office. While priority is given to students from a region's Foundations site, it is probably best to check with the appropriate regional Dean's office for this question. But please note that the Spokane Track will almost assuredly be filled with students from the Spokane Foundation site.*

8. Let's say that I apply to the Greater Seattle Option and am accepted. Let's also say that I really want to do surgery at a specific Seattle location (ex. Harborview) at a specific time (i.e. not as the first rotation). How reasonable is it to expect that we could both get the GSO and be able to make 1 specific rotation's location and/or timing a priority and actually get that scheduling?
 - *It would be unlikely that a student would receive both the GSO and a popular rotation in the greater Seattle area.*
 - *Safari students are giving rotation/specialty preference. By selecting to participate in a Special Program such as Track, students are indicating that location is their priority.*

9. If we apply to the GSO and end up deciding to not do it, can we decide to do a safari at a later point (before rotations start)?
 - *After students accept WRITE, LIC, Tracks, and GSO and schedules are made students are allowed to trade with each other, but there is not the opportunity to be given a new schedule.*

10. How accommodating are housing options at most sites for those that have a spouse or children?
 - *Housing accommodations vary by site. The SOM cannot guarantee housing will be available for spouses and/or children and/or pets. Check with the [WWAMI Student Travel](#) for more information.*

11. Do the track options, Olympia LIC and WRITE all offer a 6 week free block where students complete electives?
 - *Olympia LIC does not offer a 6-week free block. The Olympia LIC program includes all required Patient Care Phase clerkships plus a 2-week Palliative Care Clerkship. This leaves a 4-week block for students to complete electives at the end of the LIC rotation.*
 - *At 22-week WRITE sites, students will take the 4-week Family Medicine APC, Advanced Outpatient Clerkship, during the 6-week free block leaving a 2-week*

block of free time for other activities. At 24-week WRITE sites, students will have OB/GYN as part of their WRITE experience, leaving a 6-week free block later in their Patient Care Phase schedule.

12. Are we required to own a car for clerkships? If so, are we expected to drive to the majority of the sites (Wyoming, Montana, Idaho etc.) from Seattle?
 - *In general you are responsible for transportation between your housing and clinical sites, but it is best to check with the department about specific sites and if a car is required at that particular site (it sometimes is). There is reimbursement for travel from one required site to another (for example, driving from Seattle to Wyoming).*
 - *The Olympia LIC requires students to have a car because of the various clinical sites in and around Olympia.*

13. How do we manage signing a lease for apartments this summer/fall when there is a possibility that we will be out of our foundations site for a majority of the time?
 - *You are responsible for housing at your “home base” (either your Track site or Seattle). Housing is provided for required rotations away from your “home base” to avoid the expense of paying for multiple housing simultaneously. For WRITE, housing is provided when a student is at their WRITE site, housing is not provided when students are in Seattle for the portion of clerkships that are completed in Seattle.*

14. What are the factors that allow you to have your foundations site be your main location for rotations?
 - *WRITE, Olympia LIC, and Tracks consist of a selection process. Please check with the WRITE program, Olympia LIC program, or appropriate regional Dean’s office for specific factors. GSO assignments are made based upon priority given to Seattle Foundations students. If there are additional openings in the GSO, assignment is made by random lottery.*

15. How much say do I have in selecting my sites and the order I go to them? For instance, if I am Idaho track do I get a list of all the sites in the state for internal medicine, and then I choose one and say I want to do that first. And then I have a list of all the surgery sites and I choose one for my second rotation? Or is it that I am Idaho site and everything is randomly assigned?
 - *Track students do not have an option in selecting their rotation order. Students in general do not have the option in selecting rotation order, however, only Safari students will be asked for their priority specialty and Registration will make every effort to place that specialty in the middle of their Patient Care schedule.*

16. Does the requirement to spend rotation in Seattle between 3rd and 4th year, or need to spend time there in both years?
 - *A minimum of 4 weeks will be assigned in Seattle (the required hospitals) during Patient Care. If the requirement is not met during Patient Care phase then students are required to complete the rest during Explore and Focus.*

17. How much control (in track) do we have of which rotations we do at track site and where we go for other ones?
 - *None.*
18. Can we apply to 2 tracks and choose between them? Can we put one as a preference?
 - *You can apply to multiple Tracks and rank them.*
19. Concerns between scheduled rotation tests and the test schedule for WRITE.
 - *WRITE tests are standard and scheduled. If you start WRITE during spring quarter (Montana, Wyoming and 2 Idaho sites) you will take Family Medicine and possibly OBGYN exams during WRITE, and you won't take other exams until you complete the WRITE experience. If you start WRITE during in autumn quarter (Washington, Alaska and 5 Idaho sites) you will have most exams during your WRITE experience. The exams are spread out to line up with traditional 6-week exam schedules, to reduce stress of having all exams at the end. Danielle can give more specific information, contact her for specific questions (dbienz1@uw.edu).*
20. Is Seattle the home base for TRUST students in other states?
 - *Yes. TRUST students are required to cover their housing when they are in Seattle for the portion of clerkships that are completed in Seattle; the SOM will cover housing at your WRITE site.*
21. Is it frowned upon to deny your write site if selected?
 - *No. We encourage students to apply for multiple programs, and to rate your preferences. We want you to do what's best for your education/what is the best experience. Please note that TRUST students are required to do WRITE, and you are required to complete WRITE at your TRUST site.*
22. Is WRITE done with other students at the same site, or are you the only student at the site?
 - *For six of the non-TRUST WRITE sites (Butte, MT; Lewistown, MT; Sandpoint, ID), 3 of them have two students. The other 3 sites (Lander, WY; Juneau, AK; Othello, WA) you are the only WRITE student. Non-TRUST WRITE sites vary each year. The ones mentioned here are for the 2020-2021 academic year.*
23. Is there vacation/elective block in the patient care phase?
 - *Everyone should get a six-week elective period, which is assigned randomly. You can use this as time off, or you can sign up for electives. On your registration surveys, you will be asked for extenuating circumstances where you need specific time off (weddings, etc.). If you indicate you need specific time off for a planned event, we'll try to make sure you get that time off. If you don't have a compelling reason you will have a random time off. You can use the time off how you choose- you can take an elective, take vacation, etc. Some students do a four-week and two-week rotation, some do one rotation, some do none.*

- *Olympia LIC has 2 weeks of palliative care, so LIC students only have a four week break. The time is in a block, and takes place the last four weeks of patient care phase. This means LIC students have no choice about when their break is.*
- *For WRITE programs that include OBGYN, you will have a six week elective block. If you're at a 22 week write site, you do not have an elective block, but will have two weeks of open time after.*

24. 8-weeks in Seattle requirement

- *For Patient Care Phase- everyone receives a minimum of 4 weeks at a Seattle hospital. If you only get four you are responsible for scheduling the rest of the 8-week requirement in your E&F phase. However, almost everyone gets four weeks in E&F because most everyone does EM in Seattle.*
- *Please note that students can trade clerkships, so it's up to the student to ensure that they meet the 8 weeks in Seattle if they are trading their Seattle clerkships.*
- *WRITE Program students spend 3 weeks at Seattle Children's, 3 weeks in HMC, and 6 weeks at either the VA or UWMC. These rotations count towards time in Seattle.*

25. Do write students have any time at sites that aren't WRITE or Seattle? Is housing covered for WRITE outside of Seattle?

- *The only rotations we have control over is OBGYN and Surgery. We try to register students for one of those rotations in WWAMI, the other in Seattle, based on availability. If the WRITE site includes OBGYN, that's considered part of your rotation so your Surgery will be in Seattle. If not, you can rank where you want to do OBGYN or Surgery and we'll try to get you one in WWAMI, one in Seattle.*
- *If you did Surgery in a WWAMI site, housing would be covered, because this is outside of Seattle, which is your home base as a WRITE student.*

26. Is housing covered outside of Seattle for Explore & Focus phase?

- *Housing is only covered for **required** clerkships during this phase (Neurology/Neurosurgery, Emergency Medicine, and 2 APC clerkships). Housing is paid for sites **outside** of your home base.*

27. Where can I find a list of required and elective rotations and their sites?

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