

Career Planning and Residency Matching Support at UICOM-P

Choosing a specialty is a process that begins during the M1 year.

Students should be organized and methodical in their approach to residency selection, but the student who is undecided is not alone. There are many sources of information and assistance available: advisors, department chairs, faculty, residents, senior students who have completed their application process, and former students. The college provides both formal and informal programming to assist students with career choices. These include, but are not limited to:

- “Myers-Briggs Personality Type Indicator and Career Choice” program
- Specialty and Residency Fairs and Panels
- Fourth Year Planning Night offered in January or February of the M3 year
- Books and resources in Student Affairs and UICOM-P Library
- Specialty information programs by Student Interest Groups
- CV and Personal Statement Workshops & Individual Coaching
- Interviewing Workshops
- Financial Planning programs
- Individual Meetings with Deans and Advisors
- ERAS, NRMP and other matching service support

****** The UICOM-P Blackboard site provides a wealth of information and links to guide the student through the process. The site is located within the Clerkship & Course Coordination “course” and is accessed by clicking on the “Career Planning” button on the left side of the screen. “Class of ...” folders offer timely information for each year’s seniors, but are accessible to all students for review.******

Students are encouraged to take advantage of *Careers in Medicine* (CiM) resources, available online at <https://www.aamc.org/cim/>. CiM is designed to help make an informed decision about specialty and to provide guidelines for future career choices. The student’s AAMC/AMCAS identification number is used to access CiM.

Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE)

Medical Student Performance Evaluations (informally known as the Dean's Letter) are written in summer and early fall of the student’s M4 year. Beginning in the summer of the senior year, students make consultation appointments with the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs to help with development of the MSPE.

The MSPE is a permanent record of the student’s medical education. As such, it includes:

1. Identifying information regarding the applicant
2. Unique characteristics of the applicant
3. Academic history of applicant—including verbatim comments from clerkship directors and faculty
4. Academic progress
5. Statement of student’s comparative performance at the U of I College of Medicine as related to peers, based on NBME Step 1 and “shelf” exam scores.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CAREER PLANNING, CONTACT THE ASSISTANT DEAN FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS at 309-671-8410