Sponsored by the Minority Faculty Development Program of the Harvard Medical School Office for Diversity Inclusion and Community Partnership, the Visiting Clerkship Program (VCP) provides support for fourth-year and qualified third-year medical students, particularly individuals from groups underrepresented in medicine and/or disadvantaged individuals, to participate in Harvard Medical School Visiting Clerkship Program

Benefits

- Financial: $2,500 stipend
- Mentorship and Networking with faculty and residents across the Harvard-affiliate hospitals
- Over 200 options across the specialties, along with combined programs that provide students with experience at more than one Harvard-affiliate hospital during a single rotation

Eligibility

- Identify as being from a group that is underrepresented in medicine or come from a disadvantaged background
- Be a full-time 3rd or 4th year student in good standing at an LCME- or COCA-accredited medical school
- Completed core clerkships in medicine, surgery, pediatrics, and obstetrics prior to the start of the rotation
- Completed USMLE Step 1 prior to the start of the rotation
- US citizen or permanent resident

Application Process

- Apply to your preferred clerkship through the VSLO application service
- Complete the online VCP application: bit.ly/3vGu7oH
- Secure a letter of recommendation from a faculty member who can speak to your skills in a clinical setting

Options and Scheduling

Clerkship options are listed in the Harvard ExClerk Catalog (bit.ly/3P140h3). While rotations are available year-round, the Visiting Clerkship Program is only offered for the May through November rotations. Students are welcome to complete additional clerkships, but the VCP cannot provide financial or programmatic support for those extra months.

Note that spots within the VCP are limited and some applicants may be placed in a clerkship by the HMS registrar but not accepted into the VCP. In those cases, the applicant may still participate in their placed clerkship, but will not be able to participate in the VCP program.

Dates and Deadlines

Deadlines for the VCP application are the same as for the VSLO application. However, we will continue to consider applications for the VCP program up until four weeks prior to the start of the clerkship rotation, provided that space remains in the program.

The dates and deadlines for each elective course are posted on the HMS Registrar’s Exchange Clerkship page (bit.ly/3aGb83t), as well as on the VCP website (bit.ly/47rzINc).

Participating Hospitals

Participants in the Visiting Clerkship Program will be scheduled for clerkships at one of the Harvard-affiliated teaching hospitals:

- Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
- Boston Children’s Hospital
- Brigham and Women’s Hospital
- Cambridge Health Alliance
- Dana Farber Cancer Institute
- Joslin Diabetes Center
- Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary
- Massachusetts General Hospital
- McLean Hospital
- Mt. Auburn Hospital
- Spaulding Rehab Hospital
- VA Medical Center