Overview and Requirements for UWHC Graduate Medical Education
Global Health Elective Rotations

Background
Recognizing the important role that global health education can play in a trainee’s professional development, UWHC will support the equivalent of up to 26 four-week global health rotations per academic year. This document details the process by which this may occur.

Objectives
UWHC aims to support global health experiences that:
- Are of high educational value
- Will be responsibly implemented with appropriate supervision and structure
- Offer benefit to both trainee and host site
- Are ethically sound and culturally appropriate
- Will allow for prioritization of the safety and welfare of trainees

Rotation Approval Process
Residents who wish to incorporate a global health elective into their training must submit an application for a global health rotation to the UWHC Graduate Medical Education Office. The UWHC GME Global Health Travel Packet contains all components of the global health elective application. This should be completed by the resident and submitted to the Program Director. Once reviewed by the Program Director, an electronic copy (in PDF format) should be submitted via the Program Director’s office to the UWHC GME Office (email to globalhealth@uwhealth.org).

The UWHC GME Global Health Subcommittee must approve all applications for global health elective rotations prior to the resident or Program Director finalizing plans for the elective rotation. Application deadlines are March 1st (for rotations July-Dec) and September 1st (for rotations Jan-June). Early applications will be accepted (a resident may submit an application for a Jan-June rotation at the March 1st deadline if desired). Applications must be complete; incomplete applications will not be considered/reviewed.

Rotations that meet all criteria outlined below will be considered for approval. Residents approved for global health rotations will continue to receive salary support and malpractice coverage from UWHC during their global health rotation. Additionally, emergency evacuation coverage will be provided by UWHC for the duration of the resident’s rotation (time spent abroad outside of the rotation time period will not be covered).

Requirements for Application
All requirements below must be met for an application to be considered by the UWHC GME Global Health Subcommittee. Given the limited number of rotation slots available please note that fulfilling all requirements does not guarantee that a rotation will be approved.

- Residents must have completed at least their first year of training and be in good academic standing (residents in academic failure are not eligible for application); this must be endorsed by the resident’s Program Director.
- On-site supervision by a locally certified health professional must be guaranteed for the duration of the resident’s rotation.
- The on-site supervisor must be able to provide an evaluation of the resident’s performance.
- Residents must identify a UW Faculty member willing to serve as their mentor in preparing for and completing their global health rotation.
- The goals & objectives for the rotation must supplement the curriculum offered at the UW and be reviewed by the resident’s Program Director.
The proposed rotation should allow the resident to remain compliant with the Residency Review Committee requirements of the resident’s program.
- Vacation time used during the rotation may not exceed typical vacation allotted during other rotations within the resident’s program.

Preferred Characteristics for Global Health Rotations

Rotations will be prioritized based upon educational merit, fit with the goals of UWHC, and the ability to contribute to a sustainable and mutually beneficial relationship between UWHC and partner sites.

The following criteria will increase the likelihood that a rotation will be approved and are suggested to provide a more optimal experience:
- Sites that have previously hosted trainees, have the ability to provide ongoing UW and UWHC involvement, have longstanding or well-developed UW or UWHC partnerships, or are staffed by UW faculty or UW affiliated faculty members
- Departments that have identified a faculty member (with protected time and administrative support) responsible for discipline-specific global health education for trainees
- Departments in which a longitudinal global health curriculum with competency-based goals & objectives and a standardized evaluation system is available

Additional Requirements for Approved Rotations

If approved for a global health rotation, residents will be required to:
- Participate in a mandatory pre-trip orientation session prior to travel (this session will typically occur on the first Saturday in November; if a resident is unable to attend they must watch the orientation online).
- Sign a professionalism agreement related to their conduct abroad.
- Attend travel clinic and follow all advised travel precautions.
- Review the US State Department Country Report website for travel advisories and CDC website for health related advisories (these should be reviewed by the resident’s UW Faculty Mentor as well).
- Register with the US Embassy prior to travel.
- Designate persons both at the elective site and in the US who may be contacted in the event of an emergency.
- Complete all necessary paperwork and provide all necessary documentation to the residency program and the UWHC GME Office prior to travel (including a copy of their passport, travel itinerary, medical evacuation insurance card, and emergency contact form).
- Ensure that their clinical obligations at the UWHC will be covered in their absence.

Upon completion of the rotation, residents will be required to:
- Submit a copy of the evaluation from their on-site supervisor to their residency Program Director and the UWHC GME Office.
- Complete a written evaluation of the rotation and provide a copy to their Program Director as well as the UWHC GME Office.
- Provide the UWHC GME Office with a written summary of their rotation and a case log.
- Meet with their UW Faculty Mentor for debriefing and feedback regarding the rotation.