

# FAMILY MEDICINE

## Enrichment Year Advice

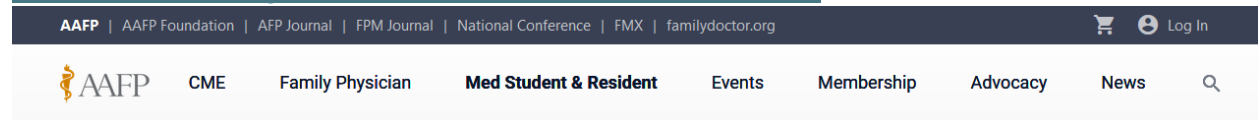
Lead Faculty – Dr. David Kriegel

FamMed Electives-4<sup>th</sup> Year – Elaine Nealious– [bnealious@augusta.edu](mailto:bnealious@augusta.edu)

Departmental Contacts updated here - <https://web2.augusta.edu/mcg/coffice/phase3.php>

National Resources – the AAFP has excellent resources for medical students.

<https://www.aafp.org/students-residents/medical-students.html>



AAFP / Students and Residents / Medical Students

## Medical Students

Succeed in medical school and learn more about the family medicine specialty.

### Why Choose Family Medicine?

With the broadest spectrum of practice of all the medical specialties, family medicine provides you the unique opportunity to tailor the specialty to fit your own needs and interests. For the past 10 years, family medicine has been the most recruited specialty in the United States. Rising demand has also led to rising salaries. See what makes it so appealing - and find out why family medicine might just be your perfect match!

[What is Family Medicine?](#)

[9 Reasons to Choose Family Medicine](#)

[Discover Family Medicine Career Options](#)

[Explore Income & Lifestyle Expectations](#)

[Training Requirements for Family Physicians](#)



## ROTATIONS

Your Subl should be done around July or August but could be as early as June or as late as early September for you to get a letter of recommendation. Other opportunities to do a Family Medicine Elective (e.g., Primary Care Procedures) in those same months would help in securing an additional letter of rec. You should keep a month open for interviews between October and December. Another month during this time can be on an elective with a lot of schedule flexibility for the remaining interviews. The remainder of the year is very flexible, and you can choose based on availability and requirements for graduation.

## AWAY/VISITING ROTATIONS

Visiting rotations are NOT required to match into a family medicine residency. If you have a specific program of interest to you, you can do an away Subl there as an “extended interview” anytime in the

summer or fall (but before rank lists are completed). If an away is completed before September, you may also obtain a letter of recommendation from there if you desire.

Visiting rotations can also be completed in electives at other programs (e.g., Sports Medicine).

Some students may be motivated to do aways so they can gather more information about a geographic area or see if they would want to be there for the next 3 years.

## INTERVIEWS

Family medicine programs interview October through December with a fair number of programs interviewing into early January. Taking one month off during that time is advisable (probably November or December). Another month during this time can be on an elective with a lot of schedule flexibility for the remaining interviews.

## ELECTIVES

Electives within family medicine that are popular and useful include Procedures, Vulnerable Populations, and Advocacy electives. Other high value areas include POCUS, Radiology, and various medicine or pediatric subspecialties (e.g., Cardiology, Endocrinology, etc.). Some programs may wonder about a student's commitment to the specialty if they take multiple pediatric subspecialty electives.

## LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Programs require at least 3 letters of recommendation and a minimum of 1, and preferably more, should be from a Family Physician. Letters from outside the specialty ideally should be from other primary care physicians. If your expressed interest is in Sports Medicine, it would be understandable to have a letter from Ortho or PM&R. If you have an interest in Women's Health, it would be understandable to have a letter from Ob/Gyn. Letters from well outside those areas (e.g., Dermatology attending) should address the student's commitment to family medicine and establish a connection with the student.

## RESEARCH

Research expectations vary from residency program to residency program, but some sort of research is almost ubiquitous now on an application. Since the ACGME requires family medicine residents to conduct research, a student who has experience in population-based research or quality improvement, etc., will be viewed favorably.