

Global Health Experience
Global Health Research
Summer of M1 year

Eligible: All upcoming M2 MCG medical students

Months available: June – August

Target audience: Any rising M2 student who will be traveling in connection with the Medical College of Georgia. This includes but is not limited to research experiences supervised or suggested by a MCG faculty member, summer MSP projects based internationally, summer medical missions trips with MCG faculty, summer medical volunteer experiences coordinated or arranged through the Medical College of Georgia

Students traveling for vacation or non-medical work are not required to complete these steps but are still encouraged to arrange appropriate travel preparations and travel insurance. While not officially enrolled during the summer after M1 year students are reminded that any medical work that they engage in during the summer is done as a representative of MCG. These steps are not meant to be restrictive but provide increased safety and encourage appropriate preparation for students. Completion of all steps should for approval should not take more than 45 minutes to complete.

Description: The experiences that this document pertains to are *SUPERVISED* clinical or research experience with students engaging in patient care under the direct supervision of faculty trained and familiar with travel medicine, clinical tropical medicine, and medicine in the developing world. At no time should Medical students engage in medical practices within or outside the United States without the appropriate level of supervision for their degree of training. Opportunities exist ranging from hospital-based experience to remote mobile village clinics. Students may join AU faculty on a planned trip anywhere in the world, or arrange their own experience to a site where they will be supervised. A number of lectures and reading materials are required in preparation when travel is planned to developing nations. Some six months planning and interaction with the course director/team leader, and medical school administration must occur before the beginning an experience. This allows for appropriate time to begin vaccinations, plan travel and organize

Goals for Global Health Experience

- Gain knowledge about the diagnosis and clinical management of acute and chronic medical problems in an international setting.
- Understand the complexity involved in the delivery of public health in parts of the world where resources are limited. Learning to think beyond disease states as drivers of public health.
- Increase history taking and physical exam skills by applying them in settings where advanced imaging and laboratory tests are less available.

- Learn how to communicate and care for patients with the additional challenges of cultural and language barriers

Application Process

The study abroad webpage details the process with links to several websites.

http://www.augusta.edu/studyabroad/ist_globalhealth.php

1. Identify the opportunity you are interested in. There is no one option. Students are encouraged to seek out their own opportunities. Our 4 primary suggestions for where to start looking for an elective are listed below. You should aim to start the application process to these programs at least 6 months in advance.
 - a. VSLO program – there are limited opportunities for 1st year medical students. Visit <https://students-residents.aamc.org/attending-medical-school/article/about-vslo/> for more details and to start your application
 - b. Traditional Chinese Medicine Rotation through Shanghai University
 - c. Child and Family Health International – this is an independent organization that has an excellent reputation for helping students with international electives
 - d. Develop a research opportunity with MCG or external faculty – project must have IRB in Augusta approval prior to a research project being started
 - e. Floating doctors
 - f. Find your own rotation
2. Curriculum Office - Submit completed International Study abroad form to Jennifer Boone in the curriculum office. This requires only some very basic information
 - a. Description of proposed experience– where you are going and what you will be doing, while you are there
 - b. Information regarding supervising physician or research director on site
 - c. Identify local MCG faculty member who is mentoring or supporting this opportunity.
3. Office of Global Health - Once reviewed by the curriculum office your form will be forwarded to the Director of Global Health for review. The Director of Global Health will ensure that proposed travel is safe and offers an appropriate educational opportunity for the student’s level of training. Please be aware travel WILL NOT be approved to countries that are designated by the US State Department as a travel advisory level 4. Any travel to these areas must be done strictly on the students own time as vacation and not in connection with any MCG project or faculty member. Travel to advisory level 3 countries will require an extra step of approval. Once approved by the Director of Global Health the international application form will be sent to Dr. Fly for final review and approval.
4. Study Abroad Office – before you can travel you must ALSO complete the Individual Student Travel form through the study abroad office. This is an easy online form where

students submit contact information for their trip. You are also strongly encouraged to obtain travel insurance through the study abroad office. Once the IST form is completed the study abroad office will notifying the curriculum office that all study abroad paperwork is complete

5. Curriculum Office – Dr. Fly will review both completed application form and completed study abroad paperwork. Final approval rests with the curriculum office and can only be considered once all paperwork is complete.
6. Students are responsible for tracking their application submitted through VSLO or any applications submitted to outside organizations.