

McMaster Pediatrics Residency Program International Electives Bursary

INTRODUCTION

McMaster pediatrics residency program recognizes the potential value in international elective experiences during training, and the growing interest in integration of global child health into career decisions.

One bursary of \$500 will be given each year (dependent upon availability of funds) to the resident who demonstrates a thoughtful approach to pursuing an elective opportunity in global child health with specifically defined objectives, appropriate preparations with an identified supervisor in the host country. Preference will be given to residents who show insight into the potential challenges of such an experience, and have demonstrated preparation in this regard.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Further information about global health electives can be found through a number of avenues including:

- University of Ottawa online modules: <http://www.actionglobalhealth.ca>
- DepartSmart: <https://web.viu.ca/studyabroad/departsmart/>
- Through local global health advisors including Drs Hunter, Pernica, Kam.

CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS:

- Pediatrics Resident (PGY2-PGY4) in good standing in current program
- Resident must have defined supervisor in host country willing to formally evaluate them while abroad.
- Identify faculty mentor at McMaster to ensure that all appropriate pre-travel arrangements have been made including thoughtful preparation for a new learning environment. Consider contacting Dr. Pernica, Dr. Kam, or Dr. Hunter if you are having difficulty establishing an appropriate mentor.
- Residents will be required to submit a brief written report (2-3 pages) upon their return indicating their learning experiences which could be shared with other interested residents for future elective opportunities.

ELECTIVE REQUIREMENTS

- Content must relate to child health (clinical, research or combined focus)
- Comprise a minimum of a **4 week** elective block
- Located in **low or middle income country (LMIC)**, (unless travel is intended for disaster relief or other work/research related to health in developing countries) *LMIC as defined by World Bank* - <http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications/country-and-lending-groups>
- A clinical or research elective (applications for courses or conferences will not be accepted).

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Please submit a written application (750 words maximum) including ALL of the following:

- Your name, contact information, current residency year
- Your residency advisor's name
- Name of McMaster faculty mentor for this elective
- Name and contact information of supervisor including location (and university affiliation, if applicable) of elective
- Dates of proposed elective

- Overview of your elective (region, facility, work, specialty etc)
- Why you have selected this elective.
- Clearly defined specific objectives (ie. What are the 3 – 5 most important things you hope to learn from this experience?)
- What challenges you feel you may encounter during this elective, and how you might manage these.
- Any prior experiences that have impacted your interest in global child health.
- How might this elective impact your future practice as a pediatrician?
- How you will bring your experiences back to your practice/peers/volunteer work etc in Canada upon your return.

DEADLINE:

Must be submitted at least 3 months prior to the start of the elective block. Applications will be reviewed in March annually (for both prospective and retrospective electives) and residents notified of their award by April 15th.

REVIEW PROCESS:

At least two faculty will review all applications based on criteria listed above.

PROVISION OF FUNDS:

A bursary up to \$500 for the awarded resident, will be provided to reimburse travel expenses following the elective (original receipts will be required).

TRAVEL PREPARATIONS TO CONSIDER:

- Valid passport and visa for any countries to be visited.
- Valid health care insurance for travel
- Required and recommended vaccines for travel to your host country.
 - PHAC Travel Health Site: www.travelhealth.gc.ca
 - CDC (US) Travel Health: www.cdc.gov/travel
- Appropriate medical approval/licensing for practice as a trainee in host country

QUESTIONS?

Please contact Dr. Hunter (hunteaj@mcmaster.ca)
or Dr. Ladhani (ladhanim@mcmaster.ca)