

Class of 2024: Planning your 4th year



WAYNE STATE
School of Medicine
Office of Student Affairs
and Career Development

Pediatrics



Priority scheduling

Sub-Internship prior to October if possible. The letter of recommendation from your sub-I attending would be helpful to your application. Away electives can be helpful if you are looking at a specific program or one if you have a geographic preference. Schedule away electives as soon as possible through VSAS/VSLO.

Away rotations

- Consider for programs that are high on your list
- Try to do in the first half of the year so that the faculty/residents get to know you prior to ranking decisions being made
- Consider doing a specialty or consult service rotation



Recommended year 4 electives

Pediatrics electives

- Pediatric Critical Care, either NICU or PICU
- Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Pediatric Consult Service such as ID, Endocrinology, Neurology, Cardiology or Gastroenterology



Suggested interview months

November-January are prime interview months. Try to schedule one month off for interviews.

Applications

- Number of programs to apply to depend on your competitiveness
- Average students apply to about 20 programs
 - Consider applying to 30 or more if you have USMLE failures or have had to repeat a course or a clerkship
- 8-10 invitations to interview are a good number
 - Contact your advisor if you receive less than 8 invitations for interviews by mid-November
- Apply to programs that you are serious about attending
 - If you receive an invitation but do not plan to interview at that place, please decline the information to open up a spot for another student.



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■ USMLE Step 2CK: timing/target scores/etc.

It is best to have the Step 2 Score as soon as you are prepared to do so. Some of the more competitive programs will not offer interviews without the Step 2 score. Competitive score range is 220 and higher.



■ Letters of recommendation

- Minimum of 3.
- Should have at least 2 letters from pediatricians, preferably from someone with whom you worked in a clinical setting.
- The third letter can be from any specialty that can speak to your work ethic, professionalism and clinical skills.
- Program Directors want to see that you will work hard in any clinical setting, even if not in Pediatrics.
- Letters from the Department Chair should only be submitted if required by the residency program.
- When asking for a letter, also send a copy of your CV and your personal statement to those who have agreed to write your letter.



■ Recommended documents and links to specialty-specific resources

<https://www.aap.org/en/career-resources/medical-students/the-residency-application-process-and-timeline>

Pediatrics 101, published by the American Academy of Pediatrics
Becoming a Pediatrician, published by the American Academy of Pediatrics



■ Additional recommendations

Research is helpful, but not a requirement.

Community outreach, volunteerism, and advocacy, especially in areas in which you interacted with or on the behalf of children, are recommended. For example, coaching, tutoring, Pediatric Interest Group activities.



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