

FAQs: (Family Medicine)

Given Step 1 is now Pass/Fail, what advice would you give to a first-year medical student about what they can or should be doing early on to be competitive in your specialty?

- Concentrate on “passing” step 2 (in family med we’re not as concerned about the actual score as we are about ability to pass the exam). Our primary criteria revolve around a person’s personality, work ethic, passion, and likelihood to fit in.

Would you ever take someone with a Step 1 failure?

- On a rare occasion

What advice would you give about getting letters of recommendation in your specialty?

- Ask for at least 2 letters from people you worked closely with, and one from another specialty. Not interested in letters from chairs or other leaders unless worked closely together.

What is the value of doing audition rotations in your specialty?

- Value in getting to know someone more personally and with an opportunity to see how well they meet our criteria in question #1.

To what extent does research, publications, or presentations affect one’s ability to match in your specialty?

- Very little

Is a Step 2CK score needed before you will invite someone for an interview?

- Preferred, but not necessary

What does the perfect applicant look like in your specialty?

- Well rounded personality who is devoted to primary care and demonstrates passion for caring for patients, along with our impression that they will fit in with our current residency group

Does a student need to Honor in your specialty to match?

- Nope

The students have significant elective time during their 3rd year for career exploration.

a. What electives would you recommend to a student who knows they are interested in your specialty?

- Any topics in which they feel that they need more training in order to be competent; otherwise use the time for interesting areas of medicine that they may not have had any or much exposure.

b. What electives would you recommend to a student who is undecided but considering your specialty?

- A clinic rotation and a hospital rotation in Family Medicine

Is there anything else I haven't asked that you feel an applicant to your specialty ought to know?

- No

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Family Medicine