UMMS Clinical Electives in Brazil

About the M4 Clinical Elective Process

In support of our international commitment to foster a culture of diversity, excellence and inclusion, the University of Michigan Medical School (UMMS) offers medical students the International Clinical Elective Program. Students in good academic standing have opportunities to participate in 4-week clinical electives abroad. The program provides student with international healthcare experience and prepares them for high impact careers in global health.

Students interested in participating in an international elective in Brazil should begin the application process early (ideally, at least six months in advance). Here is a non-exhaustive list of steps that must be taken to secure a successful application and completion of an M4 International Clinical Elective in Brazil.

- Contact the Office of Medical Student Education (OMSE) office for academic requirements. Students are eligible for credits if they successfully complete their clinical elective. The Medicine: M4 International Clinical Elective is required for any student participating in an international elective.
- A second application, Medicine: M4 International Clinical Elective Grant is only required for students applying for Global REACH funding. Application deadline, forms and a flowchart of the process can be found at the Global REACH website, on the Education Services link located on the left menu, option UMMS Students > M4 International Elective (http://globalreach.med.umich.edu/education/students/elective).
- PLEASE NOTE: A student whose elective is NOT approved by OMSE is NOT eligible for the Global REACH grant.

About Global REACH Elective Grants

- Students are eligible to a $1,500 grant for participating in an elective at the following Brazilian institutions:
  - University of São Paulo Medical School (FMUSP), in São Paulo city, São Paulo state
  - University of São Paulo Institute of Biomedical Sciences (ICB-USP), in São Paulo city, São Paulo state
  - University of Sao Paulo Medical School in Ribeirão Preto (FMRP-USP), in Ribeirão Preto, São Paulo state
- Students must be enrolled full time at the time of their elective to receive Global REACH funding.
- Global REACH grants are applied to student’s account after completion of the elective and dependent upon submission of sufficient and eligible receipts. Please submit a flight receipt along with your application. If your flight is less than the grant amount please submit additional receipts for documentation.
- The University of Michigan does not reimburse for airline tickets purchased with frequent flyer miles.

Additional Requirements

- Contact Brazil Platform (brazilplatform@umich.edu) indicating your intention to participate in an International Clinical Elective in Brazil, the proposed visiting period, and your areas of interest and/or the department(s) you want to be affiliated with during your visit.
- Brazil Platform will reach out to the host institution to assess openings and confirm details of the rotation, and will then introduce the student to the exchange officer at the host institution via email.
- The international officer at host institution will contact the student to request information and to discuss schedule of rotation, housing arrangements, and other logistics.
- Student must comply with host country’s visa/immigration requirements, laws, and regulations. Securing a Visa is the sole responsibility of the participating student (read more below).
- Some partner institutions in Brazil offer free housing and discounted meals to all UMMS students (read more below). All costs and personal expenses during the clinical elective shall be the responsibility of the participating student.
• Once everything is arranged, Brazil Platform will schedule a pre-departure orientation with the student.

• Although it is not necessary that you speak Portuguese to complete an M4 International Elective in Brazil, it is advisable that you learn some basic words and sentences, to help you function outside the academic setting, as not everybody in the country speaks or understands English or Spanish (read more below).

Contact Information
Brazil Platform at Global REACH
Victor Vaughn Bldg., 2nd floor – room 241
1111 East Catherine Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2054

Email: brazilplatform@umich.edu
Phone: 734-763-9131 / 734-615-3118
Website: http://globalreach.med.umich.edu/collaboration/brazil

Student Stories

“My time in Brazil was really fabulous. I had an absolutely amazing experience through Global REACH. I learned a phenomenal amount about the delivery of medicine in Brazil. I will continue to reflect on these experiences and lessons moving forward.

I really enjoyed seeing the rare cases that come to Hospital das Clínicas, since it is a major referral center for Latin America. On a regular basis I saw disease processes that I had learned about during M1 or M2 year but had never seen at UofM. Also, there is housing for international students and it was really amazing to meet medical students from all over the world. There were students from Germany, The Netherlands, Colombia, Mexico, Egypt, etc. We had many long conversations about training, attitudes about healthcare and work life balance in different countries. It was a very expansive experience.

Brazilian culture is incredibly warm and gracious. I was regularly invited by students and doctors to their homes for dinner, taken sailing by a student’s family, taken to private hospital for a delivery. Take the time to get to know some Brazilians and your trip will be much better.”

Adam Baruch, Feb. 2014

“Brazil was amazing, and I truly can’t wait to go again. My rotation at FMUSP was excellent. Dr. Baracat and his colleagues really put effort into making sure my time was well spent.

With regards to my actual rotation, I had 2 half days of endocrinology clinic, 2 half days of human reproduction clinic, 2 half days of molecular gynecology lab, and one half day of ultrasound clinic. I really saw a wide variety of pathology and truly learned so much in one month.

In addition, everyone was so accommodating to me, given that I didn’t speak Portuguese, and would translate for me whenever needed. Overall, I felt the experience was truly amazing and one that M4s should continue to participate in.”

Jenny George, Feb. 2016
“I had a wonderful time in Sao Paulo and my experience at FMUSP was outstanding! I’ve got nothing but awesome things to report!

Dr. Marcos Montagnini (MD, FACP – IM) provided me with excellent guidance and connections to get started with the palliative care rotation.

I worked with multiple attendings and residents rotating through the palliative care service at the University of Sã Paulo. I was able to participate in morning rounds and clinical decision making, as well as work on designing a survey that assesses resident training needs in palliative care and obtaining advanced directives.

I worked at the Cancer Institute of the University of Sao Paulo. So, in terms of facilities, it was top-notch. A beautiful new building with spectacular views, very clean, well-staffed, and exemplary patient care.”

Meti Gebregiorgis, Apr. 2016

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Passport, Visa and Vaccinations

Passport: Students traveling to Brazil are required to have a passport which is valid for six months beyond the end date of their elective and contain at least two blank Visa pages.

Visa: A visa is required for U.S. citizens to enter Brazil. Students must obtain their visa in advance of arrival in Brazil. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that they meet all the entry/exit requirements for traveling to Brazil. The Tourist Visa (VITUR) costs $160 USD to U.S. Citizens (reciprocity rule). For more information on how to apply, check the Brazilian Consulate webpage (the closest one is in Chicago - http://chicago.itamaraty.gov.br/en-us/visas.xml). We advise you to submit your Visa application at least one month before the date of your trip.

Vaccinations: The following are recommended/required vaccinations for Brazil. Please see the CDC website (http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/brazil) for specific instructions about other recommended vaccinations:

- routine vaccines (measles-mumps-rubella (MMR); diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis; varicella (chickenpox); polio; flu)
- Hepatitis A
- Typhoid (especially if you are staying with friends or relatives, visiting smaller cities or rural areas, or if you are an adventurous eater)
Room and Board at FMUSP

UMMS Students who choose the University of São Paulo Medical School (FMUSP) for their International Elective will be placed at the FMUSP housing building, located inside FMUSP Medical Complex (see map below). There, they will have the opportunity to interact socially with other international medical students and residents.

The housing provided by FMUSP is free of charge to UMMS students selected to participate in the International Elective approved by Global REACH, providing that they send all the required documents to the International Office at FMUSP (CRInt). For more information about housing at FMUSP, check the link: [http://www.fm.usp.br/site/moradia](http://www.fm.usp.br/site/moradia). Discounted meals are also available at the school's restaurants.
Costs

Please Note:
- These costs are estimates; actual costs may be higher or lower.
- Students are still responsible for tuition payments to UMMS.
- The required U-M Health Insurance will be purchased on student’s behalf and s/he must reimburse the Office of Medical Student Education (OMSE).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget : (1-Month Estimate at FMUSP)</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Airfare (round trip)</td>
<td>$1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing (FMUSP)</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meals &amp; Local Transportation</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visa Application</td>
<td>$160.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Required Health Insurance: HTH Worldwide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vaccinations</td>
<td>$270.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESTIMATED Total:</td>
<td>$2,480.00</td>
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</tbody>
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Learning Portuguese
There are several materials available online to learn Portuguese, some of them free of charge, such as Duolingo: https://www.duolingo.com/course/pt/en/Learn-Portuguese-Online and Mango (available free of charge for UM students): http://www.lsa.umich.edu/lrc/resources/subscriptions (click on “Accessing Mango from off-campus? Follow this link”)

Before you go:
- Review the guidelines by International Center on Traveling Abroad (http://www.internationalcenter.umich.edu/swt/travel-abroad-basics/).
- Schedule and attend an orientation session with Brazil Platform team (brazilplatform@umich.edu).
- Confirm with the exchange officer at host institution about your traveling arrangements and elective schedule.
- Notify your mentor and the international office at the host institute upon your arrival.

For more information about Brazil Platform at Global REACH, visit our website: http://globalreach.med.umich.edu/collaboration/brazil

Last updated on July 26, 2016