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UNIVERSITY
of MEDICINE AND SCIENCE

CHICAGO MEDICAL SCHOOL

M1-M4 Planning Guide

This informational guide lists activities related to academic advising, career planning, and student progression at CMS*.

[Hyperlinks](#) will take you to RFU websites, external websites, or InSite documents. When you see a term in **maroon**, hover the mouse over the Information button (**i**) next to it to read more information. Buttons and other interactive content may not work when viewed on a mobile device. Please view this document on a laptop or desktop computer. We recommend using Google Chrome (or download the PDF to your computer).

*Topics may vary year to year and are subject to change. Specific dates will be published at the start of each academic year.

M1 Year

August

New Student Orientation

[House Match and Learning Community Mentor Assignment](#)

White Coat Ceremony

Field Day

Basic Life Support (BLS) Certification

Matriculating Student Questionnaire

September

New Student Intake Assessment

October

Academic and Career Advising (1)

Student Success Resources: Academic Advising, Career Development, Student Financial Services, Student Counseling Service

November

[Careers in Medicine® Workshop](#)

December

Academic and Career Advising (2)

Progression, Professionalism, Opportunities for Distinction, Summer Opportunities and Career Exploration between M1-M2 year

April

Annual Background Check (\$55)

M2 Year

August

Academic and Career Advising (3)

M2 Curriculum Overview, Career Development Program, Student Loan Repayment

Registration for Fall Sophomore Electives

October

Academic and Career Advising (4)

USMLE Step 1 Preparation, Wellness Resources, Student Loan Repayment Options

Registration for Winter Term Sophomore Electives

[Register for USMLE Step 1](#)

November

[Careers in Medicine® Workshop](#)

December

Register for [UWorld USMLE Step 1 Question Bank](#) — 6 month subscription

January

Academic and Career Advising (5)

M3 Student Panel for Step 1 Q&A, Student Financial Services, Specialty Exploration Resources

Registration for Spring Term Sophomore Electives

**January -
March**

Complete **AAMC Year 2 Questionnaire (Y2Q) survey**

February

Academic and Career Advising (6) — “Sophomore Day”

M3 Clerkship Overview, Clinical Assignment Policy and Procedure, Lottery Information and Timeline, Site Specific Information

March

Clinical Learning Environment Readiness Assessment

NBME Comprehensive Basic Science Exam

April/May

Annual Background Check (\$55)

M3 Clerkship Assignment Lotteries

NBME Comprehensive Basic Science Exam

May/June

BLS Recertification

[Take USMLE Step 1](#)

June

Clinical Skills

Classroom to Clerkship Ceremony

M3 Year

July	M3 Clerkships Begin Register for UWorld USMLE Step 2 CK Question Bank – 12 month subscription
August	Academic and Career Advising (7) <i>Graduation Requirements</i> <i>Learning Environment Topic Review: Professionalism and Assessment</i>
October/ November	Academic and Career Advising (8) <i>Overview of M4 Requirements, M4 Planning, Specialty Advising</i> <i>Learning Environment Topic Review: Feedback and Student Treatment</i> Clinical Learning Environment Readiness Assessment Follow-up
December	Faculty Specialty Advisor Assignment Register for USMLE Step 2 Clinical Skills (CS) and Step 2 Clinical Knowledge (CK)
January	Academic and Career Advising (9) <i>How to Apply to Senior Electives, Step 2 Clinical Skills Preparation</i> <i>Learning Environment Topic Review: Building Resilience and Life Long Learning</i>

February	Intramural Electives Open (varies by site)
February - May	Extramural Electives Open (varies by site, but March popular)
March	Academic and Career Advising (10) <i>Residency Match Overview and Strategy, Step 2 Clinical Skills Review</i>
March - May	Annual Background Check (\$55)
April - May	M3 Clinical Skills Exam
May	Academic and Career Advising (11) <i>How to Apply to Residency, Overview of ERAS and NRMP, M3 Clinical Poster Session</i>
June	Academic and Career Advising (12) <i>NBME Comprehensive Clinical Science Exam, M3 Clinical Skills Exam Results</i>

M4 Year

June	ERAS Opens
	Draft Noteworthy Characteristics and Personal Statement
July	Academic and Career Advising (13) <i>M4 Elective and Early Interview Tips</i>
July - October 1	Take USMLE Step 2 CK and CS (required by 12/31)
September	Apply to Residency Programs
	Academic and Career Advising (14) <i>How to Interview for Residency</i>
October 1	Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE) available to residency programs
January	Academic and Career Advising (15) <i>How to Create Your Rank Order List (ROL) for the Match</i>

- February** Submit Rank Order List for the Match
- February
- June** Complete **AAMC Graduation Questionnaire (“GQ”)**
- March** [Match Day!](#)
- June** Commencement