Third Year Selective Block Requirement
Administrative Guidelines Policy

Description:

The third year curriculum includes a four-week block of time for students to broaden and enrich their clinical experience by exposure to core specialties that 1) are not represented in the required third year clerkships and 2) address content and skills that are applicable to a wide range of specialties (e.g. neurology, radiology, pathology).

Students meet the Third Year Selective Block requirement by satisfactorily completing a course that they select from a pre-approved list of clinical elective courses. Credit for the selective block may be given for remediation of third year clerkship deficiencies with approval of the Committee on Student Promotions. Credit for the selective block is not awarded for research experiences or courses.

The scheduling of the four-week selective block is coupled to the four-week Family Medicine Clerkship (total 8 weeks). A total of 16, 4-week selective blocks are available in the third year. The timing of the Selective block – Family Medicine block is determined by the clerkship lottery.

Guidelines:

1. The Third Year Selective Block is part of the third year curriculum and therefore coursework completed prior to the completion of Step 1 will not be counted. Students who receive a failing score on USMLE Step 1 while enrolled in the eight-week Selective Block/Family Medicine Clerkship will be allowed to complete the selective and clerkship prior to remediation.
   a. Neither preparation for, nor remediation of, the Step 1 exam will count towards the Third Year Selective Requirement.

2. The following two options are available to students for scheduling of the Third Year Selective block.
   a. Enrollment in a Departmental Elective, based on the following conditions:
      i. The course is approved by the Committee on Educational Policy using criteria approved by CEP (e.g., objectives and assessment of student performance are appropriate for third year medical students; the course teaches core clinical content and skills that are applicable to a broad range of specialties.)
ii. The course is not an Acting Internship, Ambulatory Acting Internship, externship, or research elective.

b. Remediation of third year clerkship deficiencies based on the following conditions:
   i. The academic work is part of a remediation plan approved by the Committee on Student Promotions.
   ii. Enrollment in MDS 489 is required.
   iii. Remediation during the Third Year Selective does not count as a deferral.

3. A deferral of the Third Year Selective Block will be approved by the Committee on Student Promotions. The deferred weeks will be added to the student’s fourth year requirements.

4. The Third Year Selective Requirement does not apply to students in the Rural PRIME or ACE-PC Programs.

Procedure:

1. Students enrolling in a Departmental Elective
   a. Students will be contacted by the Office of Medical Education to rank the available electives in order of preference.
   b. Elective assignments will be made based on elective availability and student preference.
   c. Students will be given their elective assignments and the Family Medicine Clerkship Coordinator will use this to build rotation rosters for the 4-week Family Medicine Clerkship.
   d. Elective assignments will be sent to Department Course Coordinators for enrollment into eFlight and scheduling of evaluations in E*Value.
   e. Deferral of the Third Year Selective will add an additional 4 weeks of coursework to the student’s Fourth Year Curriculum requirements.

2. Students enrolling in Remediation
   a. Students will notify the Clinical Curriculum Manager of the desire to remediate their clerkship deficiency during the Third Year Selective
   b. Enrollment in MDS 489 will occur once OSLER confirms a study plan is in place

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