

International Elective Procedure

(Also see policy 5.9 which applies to all international courses)

Accepted electives for credit:

1. UND sponsored electives (ie: Peru, Norway exchange)
2. GHLO sponsored rotations.
 - GHLO is a centralized application service for international rotations through the AAMC (similar to VSAS for domestic away rotations).
 - UND is a GHLO home school. We will send UND SMHS students to other institutions but will not be accepting applications for visiting students to our school through GHLO.
3. Rotations approved on an individual basis by the Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Admissions

These rotations must:

1. have the proper level of supervision available for the medical student.
2. have a supervisor who is able to fill out the SMHS 4th year elective evaluation form (preferably electronically).
3. have a policy or procedure regarding the health and safety of the student in the event of a needlestick or splash exposure.
4. have learning objectives for the student while on the rotation.

International Elective Approval Procedure:

Travel restrictions and requirements:

- All international elective categories named above must meet these requirements.
- UND SMHS will not approve the travel of a student to an area with a US State Department travel warning which discourages all but essential travel to the area (Level 4). Other US State Department warnings will be reviewed on a country by country basis and may prevent approval of the elective.
- International electives must be registered with the UND International Center. The student must contact Emily Dougherty at Emily.dougherty@und.edu one month prior to your rotation.
- The student must be registered with the US State Department's STEP program prior to departure.
- The UND SMHS malpractice insurance does not cover a student's experience while on an international rotation. If malpractice insurance is required while on the rotation, the student must purchase this independently.
- All UND students studying abroad are **required** to purchase the [Cultural Insurance Services International \(CISI\) health insurance](#) which specifically covers international health issues that most domestic health insurance does not cover for health related issues outside of the U.S. (\$40 per month)

- The student will be required to receive vaccinations recommended by the CDC for their international destination prior to travel
- The student must have a passport which is valid 6 months after the expected return date, carry a copy of the passport in a separate safe location and leave a second copy with a trusted source at home.
- The student is responsible for determining whether they also need a Visa for travel on the international elective.

Prior to travel, the student must complete: edx: BUx: GlobalHealthX The Practitioner’s Guide to Global Health and meet with the course director or the Assistant Dean for Phase 2/3 for non-UND courses to discuss how these concepts apply to the specific elective destination after completing parts 1&2.

- The Practitioner’s Guide to Global Health Parts 1-3
- <https://www.edx.org/course/the-practitioners-guide-to-global-health>
 - Do not need to pay for certificate, but must submit a screenshot of your completed progress page.
- Objectives of these modules include (see more detailed information for each module below):
 - Identify and describe different types of global health rotations and projects and determine which ones provide the best fit for you.
 - Identify and make plans to address logistical issues including personal, health, family, financial and security concerns.
 - Learn practical strategies for an enriched educational experience to benefit you and your host community.
 - Identify and navigate professional, ethical, and cultural issues, as well as medical or mental health issues you may encounter.
 - Identify strategies for effectively “reintegrating” into your home and work life upon returning from a global health experience.
 - Successfully advocate for other individuals at your institution to identify clinical opportunities, educational opportunities and funding structures for future global health experiences.
- **Part I** ideally completed 6-12 months prior to departure
 - Purpose and Motivation
 - Design and Types of Global Health Learning Experiences including selecting one that is mutually beneficial, your particular skill set, ethical, political, and professional benefits and/or drawbacks.
 - Timing and Duration
 - Supervision and support requirements
 - Local conditions, resources and disease considerations
 - Practice limitations including ethics
 - Site Considerations
 - Site safety
 - Cultural sensitivity
 - Personal language competencies and interpretation services
 - Logistics
 - Travel and Housing requirements
 - Funding

- **Part 2** 1-3 months prior to departure
 - Preparation: Logistics
 - Planning early
 - Gain an understanding of the local culture, history, language and clinical practice
 - Travel Insurance
 - Travel Clinic appointments
 - Housing and travel arrangements
 - Preparation: To Learn and To Serve
 - Avoiding “fixing” systematic concerns
 - Etiquette for interactions with teachers
 - Local and national protocols for care
 - Preparation: Packing
 - Modest dress, jewelry
 - Valuable objects
 - Medications
 - On the Ground: Logistics
 - Avoid visitors to your room or house
 - Safety for females
 - Safety considerations
 - Personal relationships
 - Road Traffic Accidents
 - On the Ground: Serving and Learning
 - Cultural sensitivity
 - Professionalism
 - Not practicing out of your scope of practice
 - Photography and/or social media
 - On the Ground: In Case of Emergency
 - Illness, Injury, Security Compromise
 - Notifications
 - Embassy
- **Part 3** immediately prior to departure
 - Integrate your experiences and emotions from your global experience with your ongoing life and work
 - Reverse Culture Shock
 - Reflection
 - Debriefing
 - Think Globally, Act Locally
 - Avoid “Expatriate Syndrome”
 - Seek medical care if you feel ill physically or mentally after return
 - Raise awareness, integrate the experience into your future career and mentor others.

Fees:

The student is responsible for the \$45 GHLO application fee, any fees associated with passports, visas, travel, travel and health insurance, room and board, tuition if charged by the institution they are doing the rotation through and any other incidental costs incurred during the rotation.

- Please check with your personal health insurance prior to getting travel vaccines as these are often no longer covered

Credit for Rotations

- To receive credit for the rotation, the student must complete all pre rotation requirements as specified above
- Upon return, the student will complete a written reflection on their experience discussing differences seen in healthcare between their international site and home and relating their experience abroad to their future career and the impact the international rotation has had on their planned practice of medicine.
- Students will also complete a course evaluation form which includes an area to share information with future students who may want to take the same course