Education Abroad Advising Sheet: Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry

Education Abroad can help you...

- Understand your field of studies from an international perspective
- Expand and enhance cross-cultural communication and competency
- Improve problem-solving skills
- Broaden outlook and understanding of the world
- Take a step toward personal, academic, and professional goals
- Prepare to work in an increasingly diverse and international workplace
- Experience another culture and language environment first hand
- Challenge yourselves to discover new strengths and perspectives
- Enhance critical and independent thinking skills
- Improve language skills
- Gain confidence academically, personally and professionally
- Network and develop personal, academic and professional contacts

Set goals and plan for results

- Begin at least 12 months in advance of participation in education abroad. It is never too early to start planning;
- Set some goals. There is no single location or program that is best suited for you in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry. There are many good overseas elective opportunities, and the best one depends on what you aim to achieve;
- Prioritize goals. Consider long term academic and professional goals, as well as UAlberta and FoMD degree requirements;
- Give yourself time to research and talk to the Education Abroad Program Office, Faculty advisors, particularly at the Office of Global Health, and returned students from previous overseas electives.

Can I afford education abroad?

Yes, you can afford to go abroad through financial planning such as saving, applying for scholarships, or a student loan. Seeking financial support through a student loan and/or scholarship will help offset cost incurred with international travel and accommodation. Even though you are studying abroad, you are eligible to apply for a student loan. University of Alberta International (UAI) offers more than $500,000 in scholarships to support students to study abroad. Faculties and Graduate Studies may have awards to encourage student participation in education abroad, and usually FoMD has an annual student bursary program operated by the Office of Global Health. Personal saving is another great way to save up for your sojourn abroad. If you work, you should consider saving for education abroad when setting spending priorities.

For funding information consult the Office of Global Health and/or the Education Abroad Program website or visit the Education Abroad Program (EAP) office in 3-600 Enterprise Square Building, 10230 Jasper Ave.
What are the next steps?

Research
- EAP/UAI and Faculties have online resources and websites where you can find useful information on education abroad programs and options.
- Get a general overview of the types of Education Abroad programs offered, eligibility information, costs of studying/working abroad, etc. by visiting the Education Abroad website and the Office of Global Health website.
- Find out which international exchanges for medical students are currently available through your CFMS representative or through the UME office.

Investigate Programs and Options
The University of Alberta provides a variety of education abroad programs such as semester/year exchange, short term/summer, faculty-led and various types of work abroad programs.

Learn more by viewing the definitions of the different types of education abroad opportunities available at the University of Alberta.

To search for international opportunities provided through the Education Abroad Program office and across campus, you can use:
- EAP’s Go Abroad Program Finder (searchable database)

Talk to Faculty Advisors
Your Faculty Advisor will be able to provide guidance, consultation, and more detailed information on the program(s) of your interest. They will be able to help you identify suitable program(s) and viable options based on your academic need and interest.
- Please check with your Faculty Advisors for faculty advising and the Office of Global Health
- For applications for FoMD refer to the Faculty website or email the relevant faculty contact in the list below.

Research and Apply for Funding
- UAI offers Education Abroad Group and Individual awards for students going abroad. To see what scholarships are available, please consult the UAI Awards and Funding webpage
- Students may also find funding opportunities within their own faculties and through external sources. To see what scholarships are available, please consult the Faculty Awards and Other Funding webpage.
- FoMD annually offers a bursary to all medical students going on an approved overseas global health elective; but to note there are various criteria which must be met (e.g. minimum four weeks on the elective, must have completed both the Predeparture Session and the Global Health Elective).
Risk Management

Pre-Departure Training
Students going abroad must receive pre-departure training which is comprised of two parts:

- **Online Pre-departure Moodle course**: this course is part of the pre-departure training offered by EAP and is designed as a resource to support students before, during and after their experience abroad. Students will cover relevant topics such as cultural adaptation, financial issues, academic matters, safety and security, insurance etc.

- **In-person Pre-departure workshop**: students will attend an interactive workshop to prepare for cultural encounters and risk management through the review of case studies and scenario simulation. As well, students will have the opportunity to meet and talk with returned education abroad participants for helpful and practical advice.

- The above are deemed complied with my FoMD students when they complete the FoMD Predeparture Session.

Liability & Malpractice Insurance
Students going abroad are required to obtain personal medical/health insurance for their tenure overseas. Post doctoral fellows and students are offered insurance through their respective benefits programs at the UAlberta. It is the responsibility of individual travelers to review their emergency health coverage to determine if exclusions are present. For further information consult Risk Management Services [Insurance for Off Campus Activities and Travel webpage](#).

Generally all FoMD students are covered for malpractice insurance and workers’ compensation insurance by applying for it after they register in the appropriate elective course designation (e.g. MED528).

Travel Registration
Before students go abroad, they must register with:

- [UAlberta’s UGo Off-Campus Travel Registry](#)
- [Government of Canada’s Registration of Canadians Abroad](#)

Academic & Other Considerations
You should discuss with an academic advisor in your faculty regarding the specifics for going abroad, as well as regarding choosing and taking academic courses. Below are aspects you should be aware of as part of academic considerations.

Faculty approval
All students participating in an Education Abroad program must get approval from their Faculty to go abroad. You need to take the following steps to get Faculty Approval:

Exchange and Summer Abroad Programs

1. Once you have created an online application and submitted the initial application, the initial application will be reviewed by the program coordinator;
2. If the initial application is approved, you will be granted access to the rest of the online application system to submit the final application;
3. As part of the application, you are required to complete and submit the Preliminary Approval form (Exchange) or the Permission to Participate form (Summer Abroad). These forms are available to the students through their online application;
4. You are required to download the Preliminary Approval form (Exchange) or Permission to Participate form (Summer Abroad) from the online application, print the form, complete the required sections of the form and take the form to your Faculty for the Faculty to sign the form;
5. You must allow up to 4 weeks for the Faculty to sign and return the form to you;
6. Once you have received the signed form from your Faculty, you must scan and upload the completed form to your online application.

Guidelines for Student:

**Medicine:**

**Dentistry:**

Please note, the Preliminary Approval form and the Permission to Participate form are only available once the student has been approved to complete the application process.

**Credit Transfer**
Students may be eligible to receive academic transfer credit if the coursework they complete abroad fits into the program requirements of their UAlberta degree. Faculties will assess credit on a per-course basis and factors such as:
- the hours of instruction for a course
- the length/duration of a course
- the level of a course
- the course content

For more information about credit transfer to the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, please contact:
- Global Health: Dr. David Zakus
- Dentistry (e.g., Dresden): Dr. Tyler Verhaeghe
- International Exchanges of Medical Students (e.g., Munich): Dr. Joan Robinson
- International Federation of Medical Students: Leosr.alberta@gmail.com

**Education Abroad Programs for students in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry**

**General Program Information**
As a student in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, you are eligible to apply for and participate in all of the education abroad programs that are open to all UAlberta students. Use the Go Abroad Program Finder to view all education abroad programs you are eligible for.

Specific Program Information:
Contact the Electives Coordinator if you are a third or fourth year medical student interested in participating in going to Munich, Germany where we have a formal agreement with Ludwig Maximilian University.

The Office of International Programs in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry develops, facilitates and strengthens strategic international relationships and partnerships, working closely with departments and units across the Faculty. The Office of Global Health manages the process for all students wanting to do a global health elective, particularly if it is through the Field Station Program.

Students interested in international opportunities within the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry may wish to explore the following projects undertaken by the Faculty:

List of Field Stations/Approved International Exchanges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SITE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>CONTACTS</th>
<th>STUDENT &amp;/OR RESIDENT INVOLVEMENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nepal</strong></td>
<td>Strong partnership with active UAlberta committee and fundraising; ongoing Faculty and student/resident trips to PAHS; various areas of medicine for electives, CME development for Faculty</td>
<td>Drs. Zakus, Solez, Allain, Nichols (FoMD) Drs. Ashis Shrestha, Arjun Karki (PAHS)</td>
<td>UAlberta pediatric residents have spent time on wards, NICU, PICU, and UAlberta emergency residents have spent time in the ED and teaching emergency courses (ACLS); medical students have rotated through various services starting in 2012</td>
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<td>Patan Academy of Health Sciences, Kathmandu</td>
<td>Strong partnership with active UAlberta committee and fundraising; ongoing Faculty and student/resident trips to PAHS; various areas of medicine for electives, CME development for Faculty</td>
<td>Drs. Zakus, Solez, Allain, Nichols (FoMD) Drs. Ashis Shrestha, Arjun Karki (PAHS)</td>
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<td><strong>Taiwan</strong></td>
<td>Emergency medicine; Pediatric Emergency at UAlberta has trained fellow from Taiwan-returns as faculty to Taiwan in summer 2013</td>
<td>Dr. Michael Bullard (FoMD) Dr. Jung Lee (Taiwan)</td>
<td>Both students have been going for a number of years</td>
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<td>Chang Gung Memorial Hospital and University</td>
<td>Emergency medicine; Pediatric Emergency at UAlberta has trained fellow from Taiwan-returns as faculty to Taiwan in summer 2013</td>
<td>Dr. Michael Bullard (FoMD) Dr. Jung Lee (Taiwan)</td>
<td>Both students have been going for a number of years</td>
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<td><strong>Kenya</strong></td>
<td>Strong partnership, including Faculty involvement and collaboration with Dean of Medicine</td>
<td>Drs. Zakus, Schipper (FoMD) Dr. Robert Armstrong (AKU-NBO)</td>
<td>Medical students as of 2012, and potential opportunities for residents; AKU PedsNephrology and Cardiology residents</td>
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<td>Aga Khan University, Faculty of Medicine, Nairobi</td>
<td>Strong partnership, including Faculty involvement and collaboration with Dean of Medicine</td>
<td>Drs. Zakus, Schipper (FoMD) Dr. Robert Armstrong (AKU-NBO)</td>
<td>Medical students as of 2012, and potential opportunities for residents; AKU PedsNephrology and Cardiology residents</td>
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<td>Country</td>
<td>University/Institution</td>
<td>Growing/Partnership Details</td>
<td>Faculty Involvement</td>
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<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Aga Khan Hospital and University, Dar Es Salaam</td>
<td>Growing partnership, including Faculty involvement</td>
<td>Drs. Zakus, Schipper (FoMD) Dr. Jaffer Dharsee (AKU-DAR)</td>
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<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>St. Paul’s Hospital Millennium Medical College, Addis Ababa</td>
<td>Strong partnership, with active FoMD Maternal Neonatal and Child Health Project [5 yr CIDA grant 2013-18]; research opportunities; Faculty involvement; special focus on OBG and Pediatrics</td>
<td>Dr. Zakus &amp; other members of UAlberta team (FoMD, MRU, UofS, CNIS, SRPC, ENAHPA); Dr. Lia Tadesse, Dr. Mesfin Araya (SPHMMC)</td>
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<td>Uganda</td>
<td>1) Mbarara University of Science and Technology, Faculty of Health Sciences, Mbarara 2) Makerere University Medical School, Kampala 3) Kibale Community Clinic + Development Program [*new in 2013]</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2) Strong partnership, including Faculty involvement and collaboration with Canadian Pediatric Society, Cardiology, and strong collaboration with both Deans of Medicine 3) Beginning relationship between FoMD (including Dentistry)</td>
<td>1) Drs. Zakus, Allain (FoMD) Dr. Tony Wilson (Mbarara) 2) Drs. Zakus, Allain and Lakhani (FoMD); Dr. Nelson Sewankambo, Dr Sarah Kiguli (Makerere) 3) Drs. Zakus, Keenan and Stevenson (FoMD) and Dr. Geoffrey (Kibale)</td>
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<td>Zambia</td>
<td>(Field School loosely based out of University of Zambia, Faculty of Medicine and School of Public Health joint program [though no FoMD participation in 2013])</td>
<td>Field School together with UAlberta School of Public Health, 4 week curriculum: comprehensive understanding of GH practice (education, research, service); partially supported by UAlberta Education Abroad ($750/student) for 4+ FoMD students; 1 time special arrangement with local Alberta foundation for 2 students doing targeted needs assessment for rural/periurban clinic development</td>
<td>Dr. Zakus (FoMD) Dr. Gene Krupa (School of Public Health, UAlberta) Drs. Festus and Ngoma (UNZA) and potential link to new Chungwe CHC in future</td>
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<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Partner Institutions</td>
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<td><strong>Ghana</strong>&lt;br&gt;University of Ghana (School of Medicine), Korle Bu Teaching Hospital, Accra</td>
<td>Ongoing pediatric partnership and resident exchange (since 2006), now offering opportunities for medical students (including pediatrics and other elective opportunities, such as Obs/Gyne)</td>
<td>Drs. Allain, Keith Goulden (FoMD)&lt;br&gt;Drs. Jennifer Wellbeck, Marilyn Marbell and Eunice Adei (Korle Bu)</td>
<td>Pediatric residents and medical students have been so far, other UofA residents are planning for 2013-2014; students have spent time in pediatrics and OBG; UGhana resident to FoMD in 2011</td>
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<td><strong>China</strong>&lt;br&gt;1) Shantou University School of Medicine, Shantou&lt;br&gt;2) Fudan University, Shanghai&lt;br&gt;3) Capital Medical University, Beijing (and its 12 teaching hospitals)</td>
<td>Strong partnership with student and faculty involvement; Site 1) some emphasis on Traditional Chinese Medicine Site 2) July 8-25, 2013, 3 week course on GH and 1+ weeks of customized clinical or other experience (together with Shanghai Municipal Health Bureau); will be supported by UAlberta Education Abroad ($750/student), in addition to several students from our partner university: Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and perhaps Faculty of Nursing</td>
<td>Dr. Zakus and Dr. John Chiu (UAlberta)&lt;br&gt;Dr. Qian (Fudan)&lt;br&gt;Dr. Lu Xiaqin (CMU) The Fudan UAlberta credit course is offered jointly with the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and directly involves 3 UAlberta faculty members</td>
<td>1) FoMD students for a number of years (up to 7); 2) 6 FoMD and 9 FPPS students in first program in July 2013; 3) first 2 students in 2013</td>
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<td><strong>Cambodia</strong>&lt;br&gt;Siem Reap</td>
<td>New Field Station in 2013; 4 week collaboration with SIRCHESI, prominent local HIV/AIDS and community development organization; together with University of Guelph</td>
<td>Dr. Zakus (UofA)&lt;br&gt;Dr. Ian Lubek (UGuelph/Cambodia)</td>
<td>Students as of 2013, but opportunities for residents in near future (?pediatric focus)</td>
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<td><strong>Brazil</strong>&lt;br&gt;Faculty of Medicine, Federal University of Bahia (UFBa)&lt;br&gt;Hospital da Criança - Obras Sociais Irmã</td>
<td>New Field Station in 2013; strong Faculty contacts in pediatrics, ongoing discussion with 1st Faculty site visit and student elective (2013);</td>
<td>Drs. Zakus, Allain, Garros (FoMD)&lt;br&gt;Drs. Helio Santos and Lorene Pinto (Brazil)</td>
<td>Both students and residents (1st FoMD student in July 2013, pediatric elective)</td>
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<td>Country</td>
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<td>Dulce and other teaching hospitals Salvador, Bahia</td>
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<td>opportunities for electives in other departments (not only pediatrics), and projects in rural areas with local preceptor</td>
<td>Drs. Zakus, Allain, Moreau (UofA) Dr. Catherine Jones (Ecuador)</td>
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<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>Escuela de Medicina, Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Quito</td>
<td>New Field Station 2013; strong Faculty involvement in Ecuador via Dr Moreau and his Orthopedics team (CAMTA: 10+yrs), with University of San Francisco of Quito</td>
<td>Drs. Zakus, Allain, Moreau (UofA) Dr. Catherine Jones (Ecuador)</td>
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<td>Philippines</td>
<td>University of the Philippines College of Medicine (UPCM) and Philippines General Hospital (PGH) Manila</td>
<td>New Field Station in 2013; strong Faculty contacts in pediatrics and with the College of Medicine (including the Dean), ongoing discussion with 1st Faculty site visit (Feb 2013). Opportunities for electives at the PGH, several departments, and also in rural areas outside Manila with preceptor</td>
<td>Drs. Zakus, Allain, Oliva (FoMD) Drs. Jonathan Ciu, Capito (Philippines)</td>
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<td>OTHER Kenya (possible)</td>
<td>ICChange, Kibera Moi Univeristy, Eldoret</td>
<td>*A possible new Field Station, with Innovative Canadians for Change (ICChange, UAlberta associated group), and possibly together with AKU and Moi University</td>
<td>Drs. Zakus, Allain, Hedden, Saleh (FoMD)</td>
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<td>Dresden, Germany</td>
<td>University of Dresden Dental School</td>
<td>In 2002, a joint signature of the Declaration of Co-Operation between the Province of Alberta and the Free-State of Saxony was signed resulting in an annual exchange of Dresden Germany dental students and School of Dentistry dental students</td>
<td>Dr. Tyler Verhaeghe, BMSc, DDS Clinical Assistant Professor School of Dentistry</td>
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<td>The Dresden professors recognize the uniqueness and importance of their students having increased exposure to patient encounters and thus the evaluations given by Canadian instructors are incorporated into their German dental school evaluations as well.</td>
<td>The School of Dentistry DDS students benefit from a 3-week exposure to a European perspective in dental education, science and technology. Most of the teaching is held in English, obviating any language problems. The limited visitation period does not negatively impact on their performance in the regular courses.</td>
<td>There is also a faculty exchange part whereby faculty go to observe, assist and provide a guest lecture.</td>
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