



# The Western Reserve<sub>2</sub> Curriculum

## Foundations of Medicine and Health

<b>July 2025</b>  <b>Block 1</b> <b>Becoming A Doctor</b>  5 weeks  <i>Community Health-Related Experiences</i>  Population Health, Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Health Systems Science, Medical Error, Health Disparities, Social Determinants of Health	Assessment Days  <b>Immersive, 2-Week Anatomy Cadaveric Dissection</b>	<b>Block 2</b>  <b>The Human Blueprint</b>  11 weeks  Endocrinology, Reproduction, Development, Genetics, Molecular Biology, Cancer Biology	Assessment Week	<b>Block 3</b>  <b>Food to Fuel</b>  10 weeks  Gastrointestinal, Nutrition, Energy, Metabolism, Biochemistry	Assessment Week	<b>May 2026</b>  <b>Block 4</b>  <b>Homeostasis</b>  14 weeks  <i>1 Week Clinical Immersion</i>  Cardiovascular, Pulmonary, Renal, Cell Regulation, Pharmacology, Cell Physiology	Assessment Week	<b>12-week Mentored Research</b>	<b>August 2026</b>  <b>Block 5</b>  <b>Host Defense and Host Response</b>  14 weeks  Immunology, Microbiology, Hematology, Oncology, Infectious Diseases, Rheumatology, Musculoskeletal, Dermatology	Assessment Week	<b>March 2027</b>  <b>Block 6</b>  <b>Cognition, Sensation, &amp; Movement</b>  13 weeks  Neurology & Mind  MD Thesis Due	Assessment Week	Step 1 Board Study Time – 6 weeks
Year 1						Year 2							
Longitudinal Themes: Bioethics, Pharmacology, Health Systems Science, Diversity, & Professionalism													
<b>Block 7: Structure: A longitudinal block that is integrated throughout the 6 blocks covering Anatomy, Histopathology, &amp; Radiology</b>													
<b>Block 8: Foundations of Clinical Medicine-: Tuesday Seminars, Medical Communications, Procedures, Physical Diagnosis, &amp; Patient-based Experiences</b>													
<b>Research and Scholarship Course Year 1-2</b>													

## Typical Weekly Schedule for First Year

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00-10:00 am	<b>Case Inquiry (IQ) Teams</b> Problem-Based Learning (8-9 students per team)	<b>Foundations of Clinical Medicine Seminars (FCM)</b>	<b>IQ Teams</b>	<b>Self-Directed Learning Time/Block Review Sessions (optional)</b>	<b>IQ Teams</b>
10:00-12:00 pm	<b>Lecture or Team-Based Learning (TBL)</b> 6 students/group	<b>Structure or Research &amp; Scholarship</b>	<b>Lecture or TBL</b>	<b>Structure or Research &amp; Scholarship</b>	<b>Lecture or TBL</b>
12:00 pm – on	<b>Clinical Skills Training &amp; Self-Directed Learning Time</b> Block 8 Activities (Physical Diagnosis, Communication Skills, & Procedures Sessions 1 afternoon/week assigned), Study Time, Exploratory Time, Electives, IPE, Pathways, & Graduate Classes				

**MD Thesis Research Project:** Broad-based, faculty-mentored research with 12 weeks dedicated to the project. This provides opportunities for you to develop your interests in a number of areas, including basic science, translational, clinical, and population-based research. Students submit their research findings in a manuscript-style paper for a Pass/Fail grade in January of their 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Completion of the project is a graduation requirement. Work can be submitted for presentation or for publication, but this is not required. *Previous research experience is not required.*

Late April/Early May 2027 through June 2028  
**Clerkship Rotations**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Year**

The Clerkship Rotations encompass 40 weeks of clinical experiences. Clerkship Rotations Individual Grading System: Honors, Commendable, Satisfactory, and Unsatisfactory.

Clerkship Rotations are completed through one of three options:

**Traditional Clerkship Rotations:**

12 weeks Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, & Aging	12 weeks OB/GYN & Pediatrics	8 weeks Neuroscience & Psychiatry	8 weeks Surgery & Emergency Medicine	Electives 4 weeks
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Two 12-Week and two 8-Week Clerkship Rotations, at **University Hospitals, MetroHealth Medical Center, or The Louis Stokes Cleveland Veterans Affairs Medical Center**. Students may submit scheduling preferences for a clerkship location. *Opportunities for 4 weeks of acting internships or electives will be available throughout Cleveland, including Cleveland Clinic, or other outside institutions.*

**Cleveland Clinic Longitudinal Clerkship (CCLC):**

Team Based Care (TBC) 1  8 weeks Neurology & Psychiatry	Electives 4 Weeks	TBC 2  12 weeks Internal Medicine & Surgery	Longitudinal Ambulatory Block (LAB)  12 weeks Internal Medicine, Palliative Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, Women's Health, Geriatrics	Elective 4 Weeks	TBC 3  8 weeks Pediatrics & OB/GYN
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All rotations take place at Cleveland Clinic in all of the disciplines over the course of 40 weeks. Additional opportunities for longitudinal learning are available through electives and learning groups. *Opportunities for 8 weeks of acting internships or electives will be available at University Hospitals, MetroHealth Medical Center, The Louis Stokes Cleveland Veterans Affairs Medical Center or other outside institutions.*

**MetroHealth Longitudinal Clerkship:** a 12-month longitudinal integrated clerkship experience in the MetroHealth System and have 6 weeks of electives that can take place at hospital partners in Cleveland or as a visiting student at another institution.

Year 3 MHMC LIC Sample Schedule															
July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June				
Outpatient (4 weeks)	Inpatient Internal Medicine (3 weeks)	Outpatient (4 weeks)	Inpatient OB/Gyn (2 weeks)	Outpatient (3 weeks)	Inpatient Surgery (3 weeks)	Outpatient (4 weeks)	Vacation (3 weeks)	Inpatient Pediatrics (2 weeks)	Outpatient (3 weeks)	Inpatient Psychiatry (3 weeks)	Outpatient (3 weeks)	Vacation (1 week)	Inpatient Neurology (3 weeks)	Outpatient (3 weeks)	Flex/Electives (6 weeks)

All rotations are taken at MetroHealth Medical Center in all disciplines over the course of 40 weeks. Additional opportunities for longitudinal learning are available through electives and learning groups. *Opportunities for 6-week acting internships or electives will be available at University Hospitals, Cleveland Clinic, and the Louis Stokes Cleveland Veterans Affairs Medical Center.*

**Third Year - Sciences and Art of Medicine (SAM1)** is an undifferentiated-patient curriculum that utilizes a small group format to provide students with an opportunity to practice patient care with direct observation and feedback from clinical facilitators. Each SAM1 case incorporates healthcare disparities as well as integrates basic, health systems, and clinical sciences to improve students' skills of clinical reasoning, decision making, and advanced communication skills.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Year

### July 2028 through May 2029 *Advanced Clinical & Scientific Studies*

#### Time to:

- **Dedicated Step 2 board study time (8 weeks)**
- **Take more clinical electives (locally or away) in preparation for residency applications**
  - Prepare and complete residency applications
  - Travel to residency interviews, if applicable
- **Two Acting Internships:** One in Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Surgery, or inpatient Family Medicine, AND One in a specialty at a hospital of your choice. At least one must be completed locally at a CWRU-affiliated hospital. Each Acting Internship is a 4-week long experience.
- **Additional Clinical, International, and/or Research Electives:** Locally or at other institutions.
- **Medical Education Elective Requirement:** Complete a medical education-related elective. Example, facilitating in IQ, teaching in the curriculum, or curricular development.
- **Capstone:** Transitioning to Residency (2 weeks) – “Residency Bootcamp” to revisit important team, leadership, and communications skills; learn some skills to help you start your internship; review clinical skills like IV and central line insertion, ACLS protocols, among others.

#### Graduation in May 2029

\*Some elements and/or structure of our curriculum are subject to change as innovations in medical education suggest new practices for the education of our students.

