

FAQs for Prospective Applicants

- **Help! I can't see your rotation dates in VSLO. When will they be available to view?**

The UCCOM course catalog and the clinical rotation dates for the upcoming academic year are made available on April 1 each year in VSLO. In the meantime, if you would like to view next year's rotation dates for application planning purposes ONLY, please access the [Visiting Student Elective Bulletin](#), choose the academic year you want to view from the drop-down window at the top, scroll to Otolaryngology, and select "Syllabus." Visiting students are accepted for rotations in all months, except for June and December. Note: the syllabus provided is considered a sample only and is subject to change.

- **When can I submit my application in VSLO?**

Applications for electives at the UCCOM will be accepted through VSLO starting May 1.

- **Can I send you application materials ahead of May 1, such as my CV?**

No. As a courtesy to all applicants, application materials will *not* be accepted prior to May 1 or outside of VSLO. Please do not email or mail materials to the coordinator or course directors.

- **Do you offer a separate "audition" rotation? Do you consider your rotations to be "audition" rotations?**

No. All fourth-year students, whether UC or visiting, participate in the same fourth-year elective clerkship. We believe that learning comes first; after all, we are an academic health center. We welcome visiting students to "try us out" and learn more about our program, the Cincinnati area, etc. as well as show us their skills and knowledge, but the clinical learning component comes first and is important to our faculty, fellows, and residents.

- **Am I guaranteed a slot in a rotation by simply applying to your program?**

Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee slots based solely upon your application to our program. Slots are limited and the program is competitive, so prospective applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible on or after May 1.

- **What can I do to ensure my application will be among the first reviewed?**

Please be mindful of the required documents listed on our course page in VSLO, as an incomplete submission will delay consideration of your application.

- USMLE Step 1 Report: Your school officials (likely your Registrar's Office) will indicate to us that you've passed your USMLE Step 1 exam; however, we must have a copy of your USMLE Step 1 Report – please upload this as an attachment to VSLO.
- Influenza Vaccine & PPD Results: Your Flu vaccine and PPD results must be valid through the day after your requested rotation ends, no exceptions. If all or part of your rotation runs from October on, you will be required to submit an annual Flu vaccine issued for that year's Flu season. For example, if you're rotating from 09/30/2019 - 10/25/2019, then you must submit proof of a vaccine

for the 2019-2020 Flu season. Please plan to obtain and submit to the coordinator an updated Flu vaccine or PPD test (given and read) no later than 1 week prior to the start of the rotation.

- **Do you require: a Letter of Recommendation, Mask Fit Test, or ACLS?**

No. A Letter of Recommendation is nice but not required. A Mask Fit Test and/or ACLS certification are not required for students.

- **Is a third-year Otolaryngology clerkship required prior rotating with your program?**

No. While students who have taken an Otolaryngology specialty clerkship during their third year will probably integrate into the rotation more easily, it is not required and often not possible for visiting students from medical colleges without an Otolaryngology service.

- **If I am offered a rotation spot, does this automatically guarantee me an invitation to interview for your residency program? Is a rotation required in order to receive an invitation to interview for your residency program?**

No. Students who desire to apply to the University of Cincinnati Otolaryngology residency program **will not** be guaranteed an interview during the residency match as a result of completing the four-week elective, and completing the four-week elective is **not** a prerequisite for application to the residency program. All students should apply to the match in the usual fashion and will be placed into the pool of all applicants being screened for interviews. Please contact Dr. Dhanda (reenadhanda1@gmail.com) or Dr. Myer IV (charlie.myer@cchmc.org) with any questions.

- **Do you offer Research electives for visiting students?**

No, we do not offer research electives to visiting students. We have found one month is insufficient for producing quality work and it can be difficult to enable students to continue working on a project once they have finished the rotation period and are away from campus.