

Third-Year Non-Surgical Elective Request Form

Choosing a specialty is one of the most significant decisions students will make during medical school. The West Virginia University School of Medicine's curriculum provides students with career counseling, opportunities to evaluate career options, and guidance to apply to residency programs. The third-year elective opportunities are a component of a broader career exploration system. Two weeks of surgical electives are embedded into the eight week required surgery clerkship. The purpose of the third-year non-surgical elective is for students to explore a legitimate career option that falls outside of the learning opportunities during required third-year clerkships. The third-year electives **ARE NOT** designed for students to simply experience or learn how other specialties complement a preferred specialty choice, which can be fulfilled during the fourth-year elective options. Students may request two weeks of non-surgical electives, which will substitute the required two week neurology clerkship that is linked with the required 6 week psychiatry clerkship. In rare circumstance where capacity is an issue, fourth- year students will have a priority for elective enrollment. If a student is granted permission to enroll in a third-year non-surgical elective, then the student must complete the required two week neurology clerkship within the first five of the four-week blocks of the fourth year curriculum.

Students who request a third-year non-surgical elective must submit answers to reflection questions that are designed to determine if a non-surgical elective is appropriate and to carefully consider issues such as **competitiveness**, and **alignment** between personal preferences and the non-surgical elective.

Student Name: _____

Top Preferred Residencies: 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____

1. Have you accessed the resources on AAMC Careers in Medicine (CIM) website (<https://www.aamc.org/cim/>)? Have you considered how your interests, values and skills align with particular specialties by completing instruments such as the Medical Specialty Preference Inventory, Physician Values in Practice Scale, and the Physician Skills Inventory? Please comment on how you determined that your non-surgical elective selection is a legitimate career option?

2. Have you leveraged CIM and other resources (e.g., *Charting Outcomes* document on the <http://www.nrmp.org/> website) to explore the nature of the specialty, its residency requirements and competitiveness? Reflecting on your past academic performance (class quartile), clinical experiences, research experiences, and performance on NBME subject exams, please comment on your ability to successfully apply to and secure a residency position in your elective specialty?

Third-Year Non-Surgical Elective Request Form

Place an **X** to identify your non-surgical elective request

<input type="checkbox"/>	*Anesthesiology	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pathology
<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency Medicine	<input type="checkbox"/>	Radiation Oncology
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dermatology	<input type="checkbox"/>	Diagnostic Radiology

*A two week Anesthesiology clerkship is a graduation requirement. Anesthesiology rotations are not available in the month of July. Students may complete Anesthesiology as a third year nonsurgical elective or anytime during the fourth year curriculum. If students are permitted to complete the Anesthesiology clerkship as a third year nonsurgical elective, then the requirement has been satisfied; however, the Anesthesiology nonsurgical elective does not contribute to the required 20 weeks of electives (CCMD 795).

Student Signature

**Date

**Students MUST submit the Third-Year Non-Surgical Elective Request Form or Modification Form of original request by:

Charleston/Morgantown Campuses		Eastern Campus	
Block(s)	Deadline	Module	Deadline
1-3	***March 15 th	Fall	March 15 th
4-6	November 15 th	Spring	November 15 th

*** Students are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to submit a request form by March 15th for all blocks. Some clerkships accept visiting medical students after third- and fourth-year WVU students finalize their schedules, which will result in capacity issues. If a student decides to request a **modification** to the original elective request, then the student must submit the modification form (in the handbook) to the appropriate campus student services dean. Approvals for electives and modifications to original requests may or may not be approved by the campus student services dean, depending on the capacity of the elective OR a determination that the elective modification is not appropriate.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Approved
<input type="checkbox"/>	Denied

Comments:

Student Services Campus Dean Signature

Date