

## VSLO FAQs

Updated: 2/6/2019

### **What is VSLO?**

The AAMC Visiting Student Learning Opportunities™ (VSLO™) program enables medical and public health students to pursue short-term learning opportunities in the United States and globally. The VSLO program supports students through the process of searching for electives, submitting applications, and completing their resulting educational experience(s). The VSLO program includes:

- Educational opportunities, including pre-clinical, community-based global health, research, and clinical opportunities.
- An application service called the Visiting Student Application Service (VSAS) which allows you to search and apply for opportunities.
- A global and U.S. network of participating institutions.
- The VSLO team, a group of AAMC professionals dedicated to supporting students through the application process.

### **When do we get access to VSLO?**

You should have received an email invitation to access VSLO in January. Although you may have access to VSLO, you may not have the ability to apply to a particular institution as most schools do not upload their new catalog of opportunities or start their application process until March, with a lot of them starting in May. But you can certainly start with building your application.

### **Is UCF COM part of the VSLO Global Network?**

Yes. You will have the opportunity to participate in both domestic and international rotations as a 4<sup>th</sup> year student. For questions about international opportunities, please contact Dr. Judy Simms-Cendan.

### **How much do we pay for application fees?**

Students will pay \$40 for up to three applications submitted (to any institution) and \$15 for each additional application. Application fees are per elective regardless of requested dates for that elective. See the VSLO website for most updated information.

### **When are the catalogs for away learning opportunities published?**

Most schools make their catalog visible between February and May. For the most part institutions do not start their application process until April or May, with a few exceptions. More information can be found on the VSLO website.

### **How do I get my transcript uploaded?**

Your application to VSLO must be completed first. The Registrar's office will upload your transcript prior to releasing your application to your away rotation.

### **How long does it take for my application to be released?**

The turnaround time is no more than 2 business days AFTER the day you submit your application.

### **Do VSLO schools require Letters of Good Standing (LOGS)?**

Good Standing is verified in VSLO by the COM's Registrar. We will automatically provide the visiting school with the basic verification information for you (malpractice, completion of MS3 requirements,

graduation date, HIPAA, OSHA, etc.). There may be some schools that will require that we upload a LOGS, and we will comply if the school specifically asks for it.

**What if my away rotation requires liability insurance?**

COM students are covered at \$1,000,000 per incident without an annual aggregate, which should be sufficient for all away rotations. If your away rotation requires a copy of the certificate of liability protection, the Registrar's Office can upload or send a copy to you.

**Which courses do I list on the application?**

ONLY list your required core clerkships: IM, FM, OB, Psych, Peds, Neuro, & Surg.

**What if the rotation requires LORs (Letters of Recommendation)?**

Letter of Recommendation are not one of the standard requirements. LORs will only be necessary if the specific program requires it. In that instance, the letter writer should send the LOR via Email directly to Christie. Once received, we will upload it onto VSLO.

**What immunizations should I get in preparation for away rotations?**

Most institutions will use the [AAMC Standardized Immunization Form](#), however, this is institution-driven. Therefore, some of your away rotations may have their own institutional immunizations form to complete. This will depend on the rotation that you apply for. However, we encourage that you use the AAMC SIF as a guide.

**How should I name the documents that I will upload?**

Keep the naming of your documents simple, appropriately named, and easy to understand what they are. (e.g. "CV\_Pablo\_Melendez").

**What if the away rotation that I applied for requires a CBC (Criminal Background Check)?**

The verification question will be updated by us to yes in VSLO. If the visiting school requires actual results, you can request the results of the CBC you received when you first entered medical school. Additionally, some schools may have their own CBC requirements, such as requiring a CBC within the last year. In that case, it will be your responsibility to obtain a current CBC. Many students have used Criminal Watch Dog in the past.

**What if the away rotation that I applied for requires a DS (Drug Screening)?**

The verification question will be updated by us to yes in VSLO. Additionally, some schools may have their own DS requirements, which you will be responsible for complying with. You can send the results to Christie if the program requires the home school to upload.

**What if the away rotation that I applied for requires a copy of my BLS card?**

You should upload that into VSLO if specifically requested by your away rotation institution. You may be able to obtain a copy on PACTS.

**What if the away rotation that I applied for requires a copy my HIPAA Certificate?**

The Registrar's Office will receive that information and will mark you as certified in VSLO. Soraya can provide a physical copy if it is needed.

**What if the away rotation that I applied for requires a copy of my Mask Fit Certificate?**

The Registrar's Office will certify Mask Fit in VSLO. However, a certificate will be provided to you when you complete this on a yearly basis. You should keep it in your electronic files and upload into VSLO if required by your specific rotation.

**Is my picture appropriate for the VSLO application?**

You should always use a professional-looking headshot photo on your application. The photo should not have you wearing hats, sleeveless shirts, t-shirts with explicit messages, or anything that may not be considered professional. A suggestion is that you wear a professional top, suit jacket or white coat on the picture. Have this picture on an electronic file ready to be uploaded.

**What if the school that I want to do a rotation at does not use VSLO?**

It will be your responsibility to know the process and deadlines for any school that you wish to apply to that does not utilize VSLO. Christie can complete any verification forms and can provide you or the school with a transcript, but the student is responsible for submitting the application.

**How long does it take for a school to notify a student if an application for an elective has been approved or denied?**

The timeframe will vary by institution, and we as the home institution have no way of knowing when a particular school will send notifications. Be sure to check your email frequently during this time.

If you have any other specific questions, please send them to Christie Hasegawa at: [Christie.Hasegawa@ucf.edu](mailto:Christie.Hasegawa@ucf.edu).