

Statement on AFMC Student Portal

On March 20, the undergraduate medical education deans across Canada decided to suspend new visiting elective applications until further notice due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Students will not be able to submit applications on the AFMC Student Portal.

We understand the concern these disruptions may cause, and we ask that students regularly check the [AFMC Student Portal](#) for updates as they become available. The decision to reopen the Portal will also be made collaboratively, nationally and students will receive communication through the Portal and from their home school regarding the plans and timelines for reopening.

FAQs

1. Can I apply for a visiting elective?

On March 20, the undergraduate medical education deans decided to suspend visiting elective applications until further notice due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Students will not be able to submit applications on the AFMC student Portal.

2. Are medical schools cancelling all visiting electives?

Medical schools are cancelling visiting electives at this time. Elective coordinators will contact all students impacted by the cancellations. If you are uncertain about your situation, please contact your host school. Schools' contact information is available on their Portal institution profile.

3. Is the AFMC refunding Portal registration fees for cancelled electives?

AFMC will refund international students who were unable to complete all of their visiting electives in Canada due to COVID-19. International students should contact service@afmcstudentportal.ca.

Canadian students will not receive a refund for their Portal registration fee as they have used the Portal for a visiting elective in the past or will use the Portal for future visiting electives.

4. Are medical schools refunding all school application fees for cancelled electives?

Schools will communicate their refund policy to all students whose electives were cancelled due to COVID-19. If you have any questions, please contact your host school. Schools' contact information is available on their Portal institution profile.

5. Who should I contact if I have any questions or concerns about my visiting electives?

For any questions or concerns regarding visiting electives and COVID-19, please contact the Portal Help Desk at service@afmcstudentportal.ca.

6. When will electives and the Portal re-open again?

Given the level of uncertainty about how the pandemic response will unfold, we can not give a certain answer at this time. The Undergraduate Deans of Canada's medical schools are meeting on a regular basis and the decision to re-open the Portal will be made collaboratively and consistently across the country. Students will receive communications from their home school and on the Portal home page

regarding the reopening of the Portal. We will attempt to provide students with adequate lead time prior to the re-opening of the first window for applications. We understand that there will be less time for electives offices to organize electives for visiting students and we are committing to doing our best to best support students in finding electives once the Portal re-opens.

7. Where can I find general information regarding COVID-19?

For general information about COVID-19 in Canada, you can consult the [Canadian Public Health Agency's website](#). To enquire about COVID-19 in other countries, we would advise you to contact your local public health officials.