

Frequently Answered Question (FAQ)

1. Is there an advantage to submitting an application early?

We do not accept applications outside of the application window. All applications are reviewed once the window closes, there is no advantage to applying early.

2. I am available for multiple dates. How do I reflect this in the application?

We are only able to consider requests for placements within the designated open timeframes. Alternate dates will not be considered, but students are welcome to apply again during future application windows.

3. Do you have any blackout periods?

At NOSM U, the International Visiting UG Electives is open year-round. However, there are a few specific blackout periods, where we know that there is specific capacity constraint on preceptor availability.

4. What happens if I do not receive an elective placement?

Due to the popularity of the elective program, capacity is limited. As such, we cannot guarantee that all applicants will receive a confirmed elective. All decisions are final. Students are encouraged to apply again to a different elective block.

5. Can students be placed at a specific site or with a preceptor of their choice?

Learners are discouraged from scheduling clinical rotations with their own preceptor. NOSM University will match you to a preceptor in your preferred area of specialty or community.

NOSM U Community Relations Coordinators will be open to discussion surrounding your ties to a community or preceptor preference. Please note that NOSM U will have sole discretion in the final decision for a clinical placement.

6. Can I request a change to the dates, location or specialty after my elective has been confirmed?

No, once an elective has been confirmed, changes are not permitted. This applies to dates, location, and/or specialty disciplines.

7. Are you able to process my application although I do not have all the required documentation?

No, due to time required to onboard international students, it is imperative that the entirety of your application is completed at the time of submission. Failure to provide the required documentation will result in the rejection/cancellation of your application.

8. Are immunization forms required with an application?

Yes, the immunization forms and records are a requirement of an application and are non-negotiable. See immunization requirements tab on the left for details.

9. I have concerns about the immunization requirements, who can I contact?

For immunization questions or concerns, contact internationalelectives@nosm.ca

10. My N95 mask fit is no longer valid, or I require a religious exemption, what do I do?

Please refer to the Important Information tab on the left for details.

11. Can I waive part of my acceptance fee as I do not need malpractice insurance?

No. This is a mandatory requirement of NOSM University and ensures that all students have the appropriate coverage during the specific duration of their elective placement.

12. How do I apply for an Observerships or Shadowing Opportunity?

Only requests for clerkship electives are processed by the Visiting Electives Office at NOSM University. Requests for pre-clerkship electives, observerships and job shadowing of physicians is not permitted through NOSM U and many of our hospital teaching sites do not allow pre-clerk observerships.

13. I'm a postgraduate resident; can I apply for an international visiting elective via the AFMC portal?

No. The AFMC Portal is for undergraduate medical students only. Unfortunately, NOSM University does not yet offer an International Visiting PGME Program.

14. Can you refund my application fee if I do not receive a confirmed elective offer?

Please refer to the Cancellations & Change Request tab on the left.

15. What if I have to cancel my confirmed elective? Do I receive a refund?

There are no refunds for cancelling a confirmed elective. Should you decide to cancel, you are required to notify the Visiting Electives office at least six (6) weeks prior to the commencement of the elective start date. If a student cancels an elective less than six (6) weeks prior to the start date, the home school will be notified in writing. Cancelling an elective at this point is deemed unprofessional.

16. May my parent(s) or an agent of my choosing contact your office to discuss my application?

To protect applicant privacy and comply with provincial privacy legislation, all communication regarding elective applications will be conducted directly with the applicant only. We are unable to discuss application details with parents, guardians, or third parties.

17. I have a confirmed NOSM U Elective, and I have not received my elective placement details yet. What should I do?

Please contact the Community Relations Coordinator at internationalelectives@nosm.ca

18. When should I contact my Preceptor?

Refer to your confirmation letter for instructions in regard to your placement and preceptor contact.

19. What if I didn't receive my login or when should I receive my login for Verified?

Learners should receive the Verified log in within 3 business days. If not received, please email internationalelectives@nosm.ca.