

STATEMENT 3.2.29 – RURAL AND REGIONAL PLACEMENTS
Undergraduate Medical Education

Approved by: Curriculum Committee
Date of original approval: August, 2013
Date of last review: December, 2017

I. PURPOSE

During the Clerkship year at Western, all students will complete a minimum of four weeks of clinical training in a small or mid-sized community in Ontario, outside of London or Windsor. Students have the option of completing up to 12 weeks outside of these teaching centres.

II. DEFINITIONS

DEN Distributed Education Network

III. STATEMENT

- 1.0 Placements are normally available in:
 - 1.1 Family Medicine – various locations throughout Ontario
 - 1.2 Psychiatry –Chatham, Stratford
 - 1.3 Paediatrics –Chatham, Owen Sound, Sarnia, St. Thomas, Stratford
 - 1.4 Obstetrics & Gynaecology – Chatham, Owen Sound, Sarnia, St. Thomas, Stratford, Woodstock
- 2.0 There are a limited number of clerkship placements available for each block in the community. Priority for these placements will be given to students who have not yet met the curriculum requirement. Requests will then be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis. While we try our best to accommodate students' requests, some clerks may be required to complete additional placements outside of London or Windsor (dependent upon preceptor availability). It is important to remember that students must attend all required clinical duties in these communities. The office will strive to provide notification to the student regarding placements at least two weeks in advance of the beginning of the rotation. Funding is provided for accommodation and travel, related to education purposes, for clerkship placements outside of London and Windsor. Accommodation will be arranged for clerks. We recommend that students stay in the communities especially during winter when severe weather can adversely affect road conditions.
- 3.0 Megan Baxter arranges accommodation and provides reimbursements for travel and accommodation for clerkship placements through the DEN Rural & Regional Program in:
 - Psychiatry
 - Paediatrics
 - Obstetrics & Gynaecology

Forms for travel reimbursements are distributed during your Clerkship orientation. Additional forms are available on the DEN website: http://www.schulich.uwo.ca/distributed_education/ For more information, contact Megan at megan.baxter@schulich.uwo.ca or by phone at 519-661-2111 ext 86225.

4.0 Michele Vanderspank, Undergraduate Program Coordinator in Family Medicine, arranges all Family Medicine placements, including the following programs:

- Southwestern Ontario
- Rural Medical Program:
 - NOSM
 - ROMP
 - ERMEP

Michele coordinates accommodation for Family Medicine placements and provides students with a travel stipend. Inquiries about these placements should be directed to michele.vanderspank@schulich.uwo.ca or by phone at 519-661-2111 ext 86683.