Morehouse School of Medicine

Applying to Dermatology Timeline

M1

- **Academics**
  - Focus on study techniques, methods, and tutoring to maximize GPA
  - Request Dermatology for your clinical preceptorship sessions
- **Mentorship**
  - Attend UMass Dermatology Mentorship Sessions
  - Attend Emory Dermatology Mentorship Village
  - Become an active member of the MSM Dermatology Interest Group
  - Join Organizations focused on increasing diversity in Dermatology (NMA dermatology, Skin of Color Society, Dermatology Squad GroupMe, etc.)
- **Research**
  - Reach out to academic dermatologists based on your clinical/research interests for projects open to student involvement (i.e., case reports, textbook chapters, project development, surveys)
    - Use cold-emailing and CV templates to frame your introductory email
  - Emory Dermatology Student-Research Project Spreadsheet
    - Prepare to become CITI Certified & IRB Trained
  - Search for Summer Research Opportunities & Funding to start projects in Dermatology
    - AAD & WDS Diversity Mentorship Program
    - Nth Dimensions Summer Intern Program at Howard Dermatology
    - MSM Summer Research and Public Health Experience
    - Opportunities for summer funding usually have applications due in Dec/Jan
- **Community Service in Dermatology**
  - Good Skin Knowledge Project
  - Volunteer at Free Dermatology clinics: Shifa Clinic (Emory) & H.E.A.L. (MSM)
  - MSM H.E.A.L Clinic Community Outreach events: skin-cancer checks
- **Other**
  - Continue to explore your clinical interests and passions inside and outside of dermatology
  - Maximize your opportunities for exposure to all aspects of dermatology (i.e., shadowing, conferences, virtual events, social media platforms, Derm Interest GroupMe, DIGA)

M2

- **Academics**
  - Focus on study techniques & methods to maximize GPA & ensure STEP 1 pass on first attempt
- **Mentorship**
  - Continue to uphold relationships with Dermatology Mentors
  - Continue to work on research projects with deliverables (abstracts, poster/oral presentations, manuscripts)
  - Attend Emory Dermatology Mentorship Village Meetings
  - Attend UMass Dermatology Mentorship Sessions
  - Consider applying to formal mentorship & research opportunities
    - AAD Diversity Mentorship Program
    - Women's Dermatologic Society Mentorship Program
    - NMA Dermatology Mentorship Program
    - Skin of Color Society Mentorship Program

        - Dermatology Foundation Research Award Program
        - Melanoma Research Foundation
        - HS Foundation
        - PeDRA
    - **Other**
        - Join or obtain leadership positions at organizations dedicated to Diversity in dermatology:
            - MSM Dermatology Interest Group
            - NMA Dermatology
            - Skin of Color Society
            - Dermatology Squad – Mentorship Group (URiM students only)
            - Visual Dx Student Advisory Board
            - MSM HEAL Medical Specialty Liaison
            - Nth Dimensions
        - Attend Dermatology Grand Rounds to learn more about dermatologic disease

M3

- **Academics**
    - Start M3 Rotations on time in July
        - Disadvantages to delaying rotations: Late Step 2 CK, Inability to complete away rotations to obtain LOR, Paid Research Years usually start in July
    - Request dermatology for a 2 Week Exploratory Experience before Psychiatry and Family Medicine Rotation
        - Obtain forms from Clerkship office to request private practice dermatologists for shadowing experience
        - Contact Wendy Fox to shadow at The Emory Clinic during days off during rotations
    - Focus on study techniques, shelf exam preparation, and clinical performance to optimize MSPE letter and honor core clinical rotations
- **Mentorship**
    - Consider creating Twitter account for mentorship and networking
    - Continue building a relationship with mentors
    - Emory Dermatology Peer Mentorship Program
- **Research**
    - Think about future career goals and consider research projects that aligns with those goals
    - Solidify the decision to take research year
        - Paid Research Fellowship years for MD3 are due in Dec/Jan/Feb.
            - UPenn Skin of Color Pre-Residency Fellowship (Dr. Susan Taylor)
            - Johns Hopkins (Dr. Crystal Aguh)
            - USC Skin of Color Fellowship (Dr. Nada Elbuluk)
            - And more…
        - Reach out to current mentors for help in grant funding (GA CTSA TL1 grant) to fund the research year
    - Wrap Up Deliverables for Research by May/June/July of 3rd Year
        - Submit abstracts, case reports, presentations, manuscripts
        - Search for journals where your PI and other students have successfully submitted manuscripts

        - JANE is a search engine that can help find journals to submit manuscripts or find articles similar to your research (https://jane.biosemantics.org/)
    - Consider attending Nth Dimensions Dermatology Medical Student Symposium and joining their Affiliate Program
- **Application Prep**
    - Building your brand: what has driven you to dermatology and how has your past experiences helped shape your current and future trajectory?
    - Personal Statement Development
    - AMCAS ERAS Workshop
    - Solidify 3 Letters from **Academic Dermatologists** and explicitly ask if they can write a ***strong*** letter of recommendation. Consider 1 IM, Peds, Surg, or FM letter for TY/Prelim year
    - Scheduling the Last Portion of M3 Year
        - Step 2 CK Registration
        - Sub-Internships (Emory)
        - Away Rotations (2-4)
        - 4th Year Schedule w/ Interviews in mind (most Derm interviews are in January)
    - Away Rotations
        - VSLO Application Preparation
        - Scheduling w/ 4th Year Schedule
        - Applying for Away Rotation Scholarships
- **Other**
    - Attend Dermatology Grand Rounds to learn more about dermatologic diseases and become more familiar with the vocabulary and patient presentation

M4

- **Application Prep**
    - Meetings with Emory Dermatology PD and/or APD to discuss your application package
    - Away Rotation Prep
        - AAD Modules
        - Visual Dx Learn Dermatology Modules
        - Reach out to Residents for tips to maximize away rotation
    - Mock Interviews
        - 1-2 mock interviews that represent Dermatology Interview structure (dermatology interviews are not traditional)
    - Interviews
        - Solidify Methods for Organization
            - Separate email address for interview invite notifications
            - Spreadsheet for post-interview feelings and vibes
        - Schedule 4th year rotation schedule to maximize interview possibilities (i.e., taking the month of January off)
        - Reach out to mentors to advocate on your behalf if you are not receiving target amount of interview invites
        - Keep mentors in the loop of your interview process and rank list