



HOST (Help Our Students Travel)

<https://mentor.northwestern.edu/programs/FeinbergHOST>

The **HOST** program connects our medical alumni with fourth-year MD students as they begin their long-anticipated interview season, typically between October and January.

The cost of medical education is growing and medical student debt has become a national issue. One of the ways in which alumni can help is by participating in the HOST program. Alumni hosts help offset the financial burden and stress of traveling for residency interviews by offering students free housing, meals, and/or transportation, as well as invaluable advice about the community in which they are interviewing.

How Does the HOST Program Work?

Our HOST program matches alumni across the country with fourth-year medical students who are seeking information about residency training in a particular city. Alumni indicate which services they would like to provide, which can include housing, transportation to/from the airport and/or interview, a tour of the area, a meeting in person or via phone/Skype to answer questions about residencies, specialties, local medical community, or introduction to other medical colleagues.

Students who wish to participate in the HOST program search an online database where they can select potential alumni hosts, who will then receive an electronic request with details about the student's travel dates and requested services. When the alumna/us confirms the request, the student receives her/his contact information in order to connect directly and solidify details of the visit.

"The HOST program made traveling to the Bay Area much more accessible. With all of the costs associated with interview season, including flights, hotels, transportation, etc., it was amazing to be able to stay in a comfortable apartment for free. The HOST program also has the added benefit of connecting students with Feinberg alumni who can give insight into different training programs, as well as recommend good places to eat and where to explore. I am so grateful for this wonderful resource!" — Alexa Monroy, '17 MD

For more information about the HOST program, please contact Dan Schwarzlose at FeinbergHOST@northwestern.edu or 312-503-4519.