

Ophthalmology Residency Medical Student Information Session

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Why Ophthalmology?

- Clinician and a surgeon
- Acute intervention AND continuity of care
- Relatively “normal” hours
- Gratifying and tangible results

Technologically-advanced field

- Imaging
- Gene therapy
- Lasers
- “Intelligent” intraocular devices
 - Drug-delivery systems
 - Drainage devices
 - Intraocular lens implants
 - Astigmatism-correcting
 - Presbyopia-correcting

Careers in Ophthalmology

- Comprehensive
- Subspecialties
 - Glaucoma
 - Cornea
 - Retina
 - Oculoplastic Surgery
 - Uveitis
 - Pathology
 - Neuro-Ophthalmology
 - Pediatric Ophthalmology

Careers in Ophthalmology

- Private Practice
- Academics
 - Research
 - Education
 - Patient Care
 - Leadership
- Industry

Figuring Out If Ophthalmology is Right for you

Rukhsana G. Mirza, MD

Assistant Professor

Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

Director, Medical Student Education

Department of Ophthalmology

Opportunities

- MS3- Surgery clerkship elective
 - Didn't get your request? Shadowing experiences: contact Norma Campos (norma-campos@northwestern.edu)
- Community Health Clinic
 - Ophthalmology interest group
- Research- Angelo Tanna, MD
 - Can also contact Norma Campos
- Advising
 - Advisor assigned to those who are applying- indicate specialty
- MS4- Clerkship- 1 mo long
 - June, July, August

Application Process



M3-M4 Year Timeline of Events

January -
April

- Decide if Ophthalmology is right for you
- Research training programs

May

- Register with San Francisco Match
 - www.sfmitch.org
- Contact programs for additional requirements

August

- Submit completed application to Central Application Service (CAS)
 - details on www.sfmitch.org

September -
October

- Programs review applications
- Interview invitations issued

November-
December

- Interviews
- Rank List Submission

January

- Match Day

What makes a good ophthalmology residency candidate?

Ophthalmology Residency Match

Sponsored by the Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology

655 Beach Street, San Francisco CA 94109 ■ www.sfmach.org ■ Phone: 415.447.0350 ■ Fax: 415.561.8535

Ophthalmology Residency Match Report – January 2012 Comparative Statistics

	Jan	Jan	Jan	Jan	Jan	Jan	Jan	Jan	Jan	Jan	Jan
	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11	'12
Total # of registrations	930	922	887	839	824	855	869	866	823	823	784
Total # of CAS participants	805	800	786	761	743	792	789	767	728	746	711
Total # of rank lists	671	650	639	596	620	648	639	654	630	622	595
Total # of applicants ranked	653	629	630	608	609	642	629	645	620	608	579
Matched applicants:											
➤ <i>US Seniors</i>	384	365	369	374	382	399	394	419	415	405	411
➤ <i>US Grads</i>	27	40	34	35	38	25	27	24	13	26	26
➤ <i>IMGs</i>	27	29	35	34	26	25	32	15	28	27	21
Total Matched:	438	434	438	443	446	449	453	458	456	458	458
Unmatched applicants:											
Unmatched applicants:	233	216	201	153	174	199	186	196	174	164	137
Pct. Matching:											
Overall	65%	67%	69%	74%	72%	69%	71%	70%	73%	74%	77%
➤ <i>US Seniors</i>	88%	84%	84%	84%	86%	89%	87%	92%	91%	88%	90%
➤ <i>US Grads</i>	6%	9%	8%	8%	9%	6%	6%	5%	3%	6%	6%
➤ <i>IMGs</i>	6%	7%	8%	8%	6%	6%	7%	3%	6%	6%	4%
Positions:											
➤ <i>Offered</i>	440	438	442	445	447	450	454	459	458	461	461
➤ <i>Filled</i>	438	434	438	443	446	449	453	458	456	458	458
➤ <i>Left</i>	2	4	4	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	3
Avg. USMLE Step 1:											
➤ <i>Matched</i>	225	228	228	229	230	231	232	235	236	237	238
➤ <i>Unmatched</i>	208	208	218	213	215	215	212	212	210	214	220
Avg. applications per applicant	38	38	41	43	45	47	48	50	53	52	53
Avg. # offers per applicant	4.0	3.9	4.0	4.4	4.4	4.0	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.7

Does _____ matter?

- AOA
- Board Scores
- Research
- Honors/Awards
- Away rotations
- Rotation at Northwestern
- Letters of recommendation
- Being well-rounded
- Meaningful extracurricular activities
- Life's challenges

Ophthalmology Resident Selection Survey

Nicholas J. Volpe, MD

Tara Uhler, MD

1. Please identify your current position:

		Response Percent	Response Count
Program Director		75.4%	49
Chairman		7.7%	5
Both Chair and Program Director		3.1%	2
Neither but on resident selection committee		13.8%	9
	answered question		65
	skipped question		0

2. How many residency spots do you offer each year

		Response Percent	Response Count
2-3		41.5%	27
4-5		36.9%	24
6 or more		21.5%	14
	answered question		65
	skipped question		0

6. How many applicants did you interview?

	Response Percent	Response Count
<20	1.6%	1
20 to 39	35.9%	23
40 to 59	31.3%	20
60 to 79	28.1%	18
80 to 99	3.1%	2
≥ 100	0.0%	0
answered question		64
skipped question		1

Between 10% and 20% of applicant pool is interviewed by each program

7. As a ratio of number ranked to number interviewed, what percent will you end up ranking?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Less than 50%		6.2%	4
50 – 75%		6.2%	4
75 – 90%		30.8%	20
Greater than 90%		56.9%	37
	answered question		65
	skipped question		0

9. We use a separate application that is specific to our institution as a supplement to the Central Application Service.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		14.3%	9
No		85.7%	54
	answered question		63
	skipped question		2

12. Do you personally review all applications or are they distributed to a committee?
 (Please clarify process in text box below)

		Response Percent	Response Count
All by done Program Director		20.3%	13
Committee shares the responsibility		51.6%	33
12. Do you personally review all applications or are they distributed to a committee? (Please clarify process in text box below)			
Other (e.g. all reviewed by PD as well as some by committee)	<p>A horizontal bar chart with three bars. The top bar is labeled 'All by done Program Director' and has a length corresponding to 20.3%. The middle bar is labeled 'Committee shares the responsibility' and has a length corresponding to 51.6%. The bottom bar is labeled 'Other (e.g. all reviewed by PD as well as some by committee)' and has a length corresponding to 28.1%.</p>	28.1%	18
view	Please explain if you answered "Other"		22
	answered question		64
	skipped question		1

13. Do you provide screeners of applications with specific guidelines for selection?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	35.5%	22
No	64.5%	40
 view comment		11
answered question		62
skipped question		3

14. Do you use a USMLE board score cut off for screening applications?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		28.6%	18
No		71.4%	45
answered question			63
skipped question			2

15. If answer is yes to USMLE cut off, what is the cut off for 2 digit score?

		Response Percent	Response Count
80		16.7%	3
85		33.3%	6
90		38.9%	7
95		5.6%	1
97		5.6%	1
answered question			18
skipped question			47

16. In considering resident applicants please rate how each of the following factors feature in your decision making process.

	Relatively unimportant	Somewhat important	Of average importance	Very important	Probably amongst the most important information	Response Count	N/259
1. College attended and college GPA	9.4% (6)	18.8% (12)	45.3% (29)	26.6% (17)	1.6% (1)	64	4
2. Medical School attended	3.1% (2)	13.8% (9)	32.3% (21)	46.2% (30)	6.2% (4)	65	11
3. Preclinical course grades in med school	6.2% (4)	12.3% (8)	52.3% (34)	26.2% (17)	3.1% (2)	65	2
4. Clinical course grades in medical school (i.e. honors in medicine and surgery)	1.5% (1)	0.0% (0)	4.6% (3)	58.5% (38)	35.4% (23)	65	35
5. AOA status	4.7% (3)	4.7% (3)	31.3% (20)	43.8% (28)	17.2% (11)	64	8

6. Recommendation letters	1.5% (1)	3.1% (2)	12.3% (8)	38.5% (25)	44.6% (29)	65
7. Dean's letter	13.8% (9)	13.8% (9)	33.8% (22)	21.5% (14)	16.9% (11)	65
8. Board scores	1.5% (1)	1.5% (1)	16.9% (11)	63.1% (41)	16.9% (11)	65
9. Scholarly activity	1.5% (1)	6.2% (4)	21.5% (14)	55.4% (36)	15.4% (10)	65
10. Having a PhD	37.5% (24)	17.2% (11)	31.3% (20)	9.4% (6)	4.7% (3)	64

42

17

35

6

1

11. Research activity	3.1% (2)	15.6% (10)	34.4% (22)	37.5% (24)	9.4% (6)
12. Personal statement	10.8% (7)	21.5% (14)	44.6% (29)	20.0% (13)	3.1% (2)
13. Career objectives/goals	12.3% (8)	20.0% (13)	40.0% (26)	24.6% (16)	3.1% (2)
14. Honors and awards	0.0% (0)	15.4% (10)	30.8% (20)	49.2% (32)	4.6% (3)
15. Extracurricular activities	3.1% (2)	24.6% (16)	43.1% (28)	30.8% (20)	0.0% (0)
16. International and/or community service history	4.7% (3)	28.1% (18)	42.2% (27)	25.0% (16)	1.6% (1)

8

3

0

4

2

1

17. Performance on interview	1.5% (1)	0.0% (0)	4.6% (3)	40.0% (26)	55.4% (36)	34
18. Likelihood to come (i.e. fit for your program, geographic considerations)	13.8% (9)	23.1% (15)	33.8% (22)	16.9% (11)	12.3% (8)	2
19. Performance on elective or student rotation in your department	0.0% (0)	7.8% (5)	20.3% (13)	43.8% (28)	29.7% (19)	13
20. Legacy in your program	32.8% (21)	17.2% (11)	23.4% (15)	25.0% (16)	1.6% (1)	0
21. Parent is an ophthalmologist	49.2% (32)	26.2% (17)	16.9% (11)	7.7% (5)	0.0% (0)	0

22. Musical ability	52.3% (34)	20.0% (13)	23.1% (15)	4.6% (3)	1.5% (1)
23. Leader or high achiever in sports	40.0% (26)	18.5% (12)	32.3% (21)	10.8% (7)	1.5% (1)
24. Phone calls to colleagues	15.4% (10)	24.6% (16)	26.2% (17)	23.1% (15)	10.8% (7)
25. Personal contact to you by a colleague	3.1% (2)	27.7% (18)	35.4% (23)	23.1% (15)	10.8% (7)

0

0

3

4

20. Will you offer an interview to all of your own medical school's students?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes			85.7% 54
No			14.3% 9
answered question		63	

21. Do you screen all applicants from each medical school as a group, thereby "picking the best from each school"?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes			11.1% 7
No			88.9% 56
answered question		63	
skipped question		2	

22. Will you offer an interview to all students who do “audition electives in your department”?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes we routinely interview most of these students		51.6%	33
Only if outstanding performance		10.9%	7
Only if outstanding performance and supporting material equally outstanding		21.9%	14
No they stay in “the pile” with everyone else		15.6%	10
		answered question	64
skipped question			1

24. Please rate the following comments related to the recommendation letter:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Response Count
The most important letters of recommendation are those written by ophthalmologists.	6.3% (4)	7.8% (5)	15.6% (10)	54.7% (35)	15.6% (10)	64
The most important letters of recommendation are those written by ophthalmologists known to the selection committee.	1.6% (1)	3.1% (2)	15.6% (10)	34.4% (22)	46.9% (30)	64

30. During which month do you hold interviews? (check all that apply)

		Response Percent	Response Count
September		1.6%	1
October		20.3%	13
November		76.6%	49
December		90.6%	58
	answered question		64
	skipped question		1

40. Please rate the importance of the following types of information obtained during the interview using 1 as least important and 5 as most important.

	1	2	3	4	5	Response Count
General feeling of the likelihood of the applicant to fit in.	1.6% (1)	0.0% (0)	6.5% (4)	30.6% (19)	62.9% (39)	62
The possibility of unearthing some weak link in the resident's application.	4.8% (3)	9.7% (6)	33.9% (21)	33.9% (21)	17.7% (11)	62

40. Please rate the importance of the following types of information obtained during the interview using 1 as least important and 5 as most important.

	1	2	3	4	5	Response Count
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How the resident will respond to stressful questions.	9.8% (6)	19.7% (12)	39.3% (24)	26.2% (16)	4.9% (3)	61
The applicant's thoughts about his/her career plans.	4.8% (3)	14.5% (9)	33.9% (21)	33.9% (21)	14.5% (9)	62
The applicant's facility in speaking about the details of his/her application.	3.2% (2)	1.6% (1)	16.1% (10)	46.8% (29)	33.9% (21)	62

53. My advice about doing away “audition electives” is to

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly discourage		8.3%	5
Usually discourage because in general applicants can hurt their chances through audition		5.0%	3
Encourage only in special circumstances ie applicant has a city they need to match in		46.7%	28
Strongly encourage		40.0%	24
	answered question		60
	skipped question		5

54. Regarding doing a year of research before applying which statement reflects your sentiments (pick as many as you think are true)

		Response Percent	Response Count
Of little value to improve chance of matching		29.5%	18
Can help push a borderline applicant into the matched pool		63.9%	39
Can make a good application into a great application		24.6%	15
Should only be done if student is truly interested in research/academic career		41.0%	25
	answered question		61
	skipped question		4

55. I advise applicants to get recommendation letters from (assume they all know applicant well) (pick 3)

		Response Percent	Response Count
Member of my department		96.7%	59
A second member of my department		42.6%	26
A third member of my department		4.9%	3
Research preceptor		59.0%	36
Subinternship attending		44.3%	27
Another surgeon		32.8%	20
Family practice or pediatrics rotation		9.8%	6
	answered question		61
	skipped question		4

The Big 4

- Clinical course grades
- Board Scores
- Interview
- Letters

What makes a good residency program?

Components of Successful Residency Program

- Group of core faculty dedicated to resident education
- Dynamic leadership that makes resident education a high priority
- Well-defined curriculum
 - ACGME Core Competency-based
 - Clear objectives for every clinical/teaching activity
 - Evaluation based on objectives
- Program evaluation/improvement process
- Large diverse patient population
- Surgery & procedure volume and diversity

NU Ophthalmology



NU Ophthalmology Core Faculty

NU Ophthalmology Residency Program

- Continuously accredited by ACGME since 1967
- 3-year long program
 - Post-Graduate Years 2-4
 - PGY 1 internship required
- 4 residents per class
- Total 12 residents

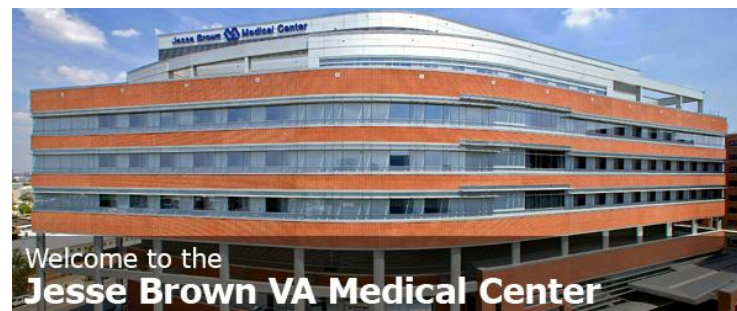


3 Major Medical Centers

Northwestern
Memorial
Hospital

Children's
Memorial
Hospital

Jesse Brown
Veterans
Administration
(VA) Medical
Center



Community clinics and private practice/office/surgi-center

- 2 Community Clinics
 - Care of the socioeconomically underprivileged
- 2 Private Practices

