

UT Medical Student Specialty Advisor Responsibilities:

Specialty advisors should be readily available and willing to counsel students regarding their career choice. Advisors should be aware of the M3 Year Career Connection link on the UTHSC College of Medicine web page. Advisors will be expected to review and sign off on the "Specialty Advisor Form" which reviews the student's proposed M4 rotation schedule. Students will often ask their advisor for advice regarding letters of recommendation (who should write them; how many should be written for each student), CV preparation and personal statement editing. A basic understanding of the NRMP Match process is important for advising M4 students.

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Standard letter from the Assoc Dean in Memphis to Advisors:

Dear doctor,

Thank you for serving as a Specialty Advisor for our third year medical students.

Recall that in December- February, M3s will be seeking advice from a faculty member in the specialty they wish to pursue. The goal is three-fold

1. for them to hear, in your opinion, their competitiveness for this specialty
2. for you to give advice on their fourth year schedule
3. for you to give advice on how to be more competitive.

To that end, the student will seek you out by way of email from a list of faculty who are specialty advisors. Hopefully you can find a moment to counsel the student. They are to bring a 'Specialty Profile Review Form' with them for you to go over together. They are to get that form back to my office.

I have attached several resources. One is the latest match information on your specialty. I suggest you print out and keep handy for referencing during counseling. Also a Specialty Review form is attached. Finally, a file from AAMC on tips for counseling students about specialty choice.

This process is mandatory for all M-3 students.