



The MEDICC Mentorship Program invites you...

Join the MEDICC Mentorship Program for US students studying medicine in Cuba. Your experience and commitment to health equity will make you an excellent mentor for a very special group of students!

We already face a grave shortage of primary health physicians in the US, most severe in rural and urban poor areas and among racial and ethnic minority populations. Years ago, the Sullivan Report urged more scholarships for minority students so that they could graduate without the debt burden that can chill their interest in primary care. Yet while 25% of the US population is African American and Hispanic-American, they still constitute less than 10% of the health care workforce.

While US medical schools continue efforts to raise minority recruitment, another innovative approach comes from unexpected quarters: the Latin American Medical School (ELAM) in Cuba offers full scholarships to nearly 10,000 students from the Americas and Africa. Among them are over 100 U.S. students, qualified young people who come from low-income and minority families, and who have committed to return to the US to work in underserved communities when they graduate. At ELAM, students receive a medical education scientifically similar to their peers in US medical schools, but with an emphasis on public health, public service, health equity and the right to health care. On full scholarship, they graduate debt-free, fully bilingual, and can afford to follow their passion for service in public hospitals and community-based clinics.

The MEDICC Mentorship Program will help guide these students into successful medical careers in communities in the US where they are most needed. We believe their success will have an important impact both on health outcomes and advocacy efforts for health equity in the US. Please download the attached form and return it to us at your earliest convenience.

rtrue@mediccglob.org

Sincerely,

MEDICC Mentorship Program Advisory Committee

Matthew Anderson, MD
Assistant Professor
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Diane Appelbaum, RN, MS
US Director, MEDICC

Rachel True, MPH
Academic Program Director, MEDICC



The MEDICC Mentorship Program

Responsibilities of Level 1 Mentors

Thank you for your interest in the MEDICC Mentor program. The following is a brief description of the roles and responsibilities of a *Level 1 MEDICC Mentor*.

MEDICC's Role

- Orient mentors on the structure of the ELAM curriculum, student schedules, vacations, timing for the USMLE Exams, etc.
- Provide mentors with an up-to-date list of student resources and opportunities.
- Coordinate short-term workshops for students on specific aspects of healthcare and the current health picture in the United States – to be taught by mentors who specialize in those areas.

Mentor's Role

- Provide advice and guidance longitudinally for 2 or more students
 - Discuss career goals and aspirations, advise on building a CV, counsel on how to study for and take the USMLE Board exams, etc.
- Assist in identifying and applying for summer and post-graduate opportunities in your mentees' area(s) of interest
 - Summer opportunities: shadowing a clinical physician, observing in a hospital, obtaining paid work in a clinic or as a researcher, etc.
 - Provide advice and guidance on obtaining part-time/full time employment subsequent to student graduation and prior to residency
- Provide guidance regarding residency training
 - Help identify suitable residency programs to pursue
 - Provide assistance with the residency letter, interviewing skills, career counseling, etc
- Communicate with MEDICC regarding educational and/or employment opportunities for students, mentee progress, program development, etc.



Join us in supporting these inspired and inspiring young medical students and graduates! Become a MEDICC Mentor...just choose your level of involvement below. Return the form to rtrue@mediccglobal.org

Your Name and Title:

Specialty:

Institution and geographical location:

E-mail:

Telephone:

Please check the right box for you:

Level 1

Mentor two or more ELAM students throughout their medical training. (see description of Level 1 Mentorship for more details)

Level 2

Provide or arrange a **long-term** (up to one year) position for an ELAM graduate(s) in a U.S. health facility while they study for medical boards and apply to residency programs. Paid positions are preferred but part-time volunteer positions can be considered.

Level 3

Provide or arrange a **short term** (up to 6 weeks) observership and/or research experience during the summer (mid-July – August) for one or more ELAM students. Positions can be paid or volunteer, depending on resources available.

- 1 student
- 2 -3 students
- More

Level 4

Provide **occasional advice and referral** about observational or research opportunities in your geographical area and/or medical area of expertise. These opportunities can be paid or volunteer positions.

Other ways you can get involved with the MEDICC Mentorship Program:

- Make a donation to support the **MEDICC Mentorship Program***.
- Host a house party or other fundraiser for the Mentorship Program. Invite friends and colleagues to learn more about the US ELAM students and MEDICC.
- Help MEDICC grow its list of potential mentors by recommending friends and colleagues who would be interested and right for the program.

*You can donate online at www.medicc.org, or make your check payable to MEDICC, and send to: MEDICC, 1814 Franklin Street, Suite 500. Oakland, CA 94612. All donations to MEDICC are tax-deductible, and we will send you a receipt for your tax returns.