



Medical students or graduates applying for residency can apply in January or June each year. The core mentors of the mentorship committee decide on the acceptance of mentees, who must be eligible for AKMG membership with educational roots in Kerala or Kerala ancestry. This program is particularly suitable for international medical students or graduates who do not have any medical connections in America. We recommend mentees participate for at least two years to understand the American medical system, application process, and cultural contexts. A successful match into a residency and completion to be board-eligible requires more than just ECFMG certification, U.S observer/ externship experience, and recommendation letters. The subtleties of this process and refinement are our main focus.

After experimenting with various models, we finalized the current sustainable model in January 2024. The program accepts registrations twice a year, in January and June, for a period of four weeks.

Following the application period, the core members meet to review and approve the applications. There is a \$100/- administrative fee for each twelve-month participation in the program. Accepted applicants are notified by the second week of February or July. Upon payment of the administrative fee, the registration process is complete, and applicants are added to the AKMG residency guidance WhatsApp group, where announcements, resources, and Zoom meeting details are shared.

We conduct at least ten Zoom meetings per year, covering various aspects of the residency application process. Towards the end of the year, we focus on CVs, personal statements, recommendation letters, and the application process. Mock interviews are offered, in groups over Zoom, and individually as needed for those who got interview calls. Our format effectively prepares candidates for the professionalism and confidence required in Zoom interviews.

If you encounter a Malayali medical graduate interested in the Rising Star mentorship program, please direct them to the AKMG website's Rising Star tab for detailed information.

Mentors

All mentors volunteer their time, motivated by the opportunity to shape the careers of young graduates. Current mentors represent various specialties and practice settings, from academic faculty to private practice models. We need more internal medicine and subspecialty mentors as over eighty percent of our mentees apply for internal medicine. Some mentors participate in specific activities, such as mock interviews, CV reviews, or personal statements. Physicians or surgeons interested in mentoring can provide clinical experience opportunities, participate in Zoom meetings, review CVs and personal statements, conduct mock interviews, write recommendation letters, and motivate mentees. If you are interested in mentoring, please