Academic Track for Internship in Ireland
What is the Academic Track?

New initiative for 2017
4 academic internship posts for each network (24 nationally)
Combined clinical and academic experience
Provides experience for interns in one of the following areas:
• Clinical research
• Medical Education
• Leadership and Healthcare Management
What is the Academic Track?

• Protected time within the working week to carry out a project in an area of interest to you
• Academic Supervisor to provide guidance and support
• Workshops/ Seminars
• Possibility of receiving a bursary to cover research costs
• **In addition to** achieving clinical competencies of intern year
Who is it for?

• Do you have an interest in:
  • Research
  • Medical education
  • Healthcare management

• Do you want to achieve a substantial project in your intern year?

• Do you want real-life academic/management experience in addition to your clinical experience?

• Have you got the drive and ambition to achieve these goals on top of what is already required of you as an intern?
Who is it for?

• Have you got prior research experience, e.g. Intercalated MSc or publication?

• **Have you already applied to the UK Academic Foundation Programme**

• If yes to any of the above the you should consider applying for the Academic Track
What do Academic Interns need to Achieve?

• Project
  • research paper
  • education initiative
  • quality improvement project

• Collaborate with academic supervisor to agree on realistic and manageable project

• Attend additional workshops and seminars

• In addition to mandatory training requirements and clinical competencies of intern training year
Who can apply?

- Same eligibility criteria as for standard internship
- Separate recruitment process
- Posts still allocated on the same basis as standard internship with respect to entry into medical school (i.e. CAO/non-CAO, EEA/non-EEA status)
How to apply

• Stage 1: Indicate interest in applying for academic internship
• Between stage 1 and stage 2: update your CV and start thinking about a project and where you want to do it
• If you progress through stage 1, you will be contacted and asked to provide further documentation (e.g. CV) (Jan)
• Rank networks (not posts)
• Continue with your stage 2 application for the standard match
• Shortlisting takes place followed by interview (Jan/Feb)
How to apply

• If you are successful at interview: **conditional offer** of a place on the academic track (around Feb/Mar)

• Offer is contingent on your eligibility and passing your exams

• Decline the place/unsuccessful application: return to standard matching process

• **Once you accept the place you are removed from the standard matching process** – you will not receive another offer

• Now you can contact your academic supervisor and start planning your project!
Why apply?

• Invaluable opportunity to engage in research/education/leadership and healthcare management at an early career stage
• Allows you time to produce a substantial project
• Great addition to your CV
• Make connections with clinical researchers, academic and healthcare leaders you might not otherwise encounter until much later career stage
• Gives you a “taster” of academic medicine/healthcare management
• Well placed to pursue further academic training at a later career stage, e.g. Irish Clinical Academic Training Programme
What kind of project could I do in TCD?

- School of medicine research themes:
What kind of project could I do in TCD?

• World class research facilities:
  • Trinity Translational Medicine Institute (TTMI)
  • Trinity Biosciences Institute (TBSI)
  • Mercer’s Institute for Successful Ageing (MISA)
Recent research headlines at TCD

• “Immunologists Unearth Key Piece of MRSA Vaccine Puzzle”
• “Global Team to Fight Dementia Begins Pioneering Training Programme in Trinity College Dublin”
• “Scientists Make Major Breakthrough in Understanding Inflammation”
• “3D Bioprinting Technology Could Provide Alternative Bone Graft Operations”
• “Nobel Prize Winner in Medicine, Sir William Campbell, Returns to his Alma Mater”
What kind of project could I do in TCD?

• Medical education:
  • Undergraduate teaching, bedside tutorials, clinical skills workshops, simulations
  • E-learning initiative
  • Involvement in examinations and assessments
  • Curriculum development
  • Carry out some research in medical education
  • Gain a qualification in third level education
What kind of project could I do in TCD?

• Healthcare leadership and management
  • Quality improvement project, e.g. safe prescribing, infection control, blood transfusion, health informatics...
  • Work within a team to implement quality improvement initiative
  • Deliver education about the project to other staff members
  • Evaluate the effectiveness of a project
Points to note

• The recruitment process to the academic track will require a lot of time and effort: don’t spend time on it unless you are serious about accepting a place

• Same eligibility criteria for internship will apply

• Centiles are not taken into consideration for the recruitment process – theoretically possible to be on the highest centile and not be offered a place on the academic track

• You will know where you are going by Feb/March – time to start planning your project