



## FACULTY OF MEDICINE

### UBC MD UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM: SITE SELECTION FACT SHEET

- Site placement occurs after the Admission Selection Committee selects the final list of successful applicants. The Admissions Office places these applicants to sites within the program based on the applicant's site selection.
- When you are ranking your sites do so according to your genuine preference of where you would like to live and study. It is a mistake to try and second guess the process, or rank the sites in any order other than the one you truly prefer. Take into consideration how your personal circumstances will impact your choice (finances, family & other support relationships etc.). If you cannot, or are not willing to go to one or more sites, you should indicate "no interest". Please note that after the deadline applicants will not be permitted to re-rank sites they selected.
- When the Admissions Office assigns sites to applicants, your first site of preference is selected unless it is full, then your second site of preference, and if that is full, third, etc. If you are placed at any site other than your first preference, you may be wait-listed for your preferred site(s). If we cannot place you, and you have been deemed admissible, you will be wait-listed.
- The one exception to the site placement rule is the Northern Medical Program (NMP), where one of the assessment criteria is the Rural Training section of the application. If you didn't fill out this section, you will not be considered for the NMP, even if you rank it as your first choice.
- We understand that medical school is a big commitment for you. It's a big commitment for the Faculty of Medicine as well. Please help us put you in a program where you will be happy by fully considering the choices you are making. **Offers to the UBC medical program are site specific and are binding to the location indicated.** We cannot switch people between sites once they are committed to a specific location. Each of the distributed sites in the program will be fully subscribed when the offers are all accepted. Additional seats or "openings to move" are not an option. Help us give you the best possible outcome and rank sites where you wish to live and study for the duration of the undergraduate program.



## SOME FAQ'S:

**Q: If I'm offered to my second or third site what are my chances of being offered to my preferred site?**

**A:** It depends on how much movement there is. All the schools make their offers around the same time, so there can be quite a bit of movement later in May & early June, but after that there is usually little change. Overall, last year almost 89% of the admitted class ended up going to their first choice site (see graph below). Please note this percentage includes all admitted applicants – your particular chance depends on different factors, such as when you receive an offer, how much movement there is, etc.

**Q: Is there really no way to change sites once I'm admitted – what about if I can get someone to exchange sites with me?**

**A:** Once you accept the offer to a specific site, you have committed to live and study there. Do not accept and hope you can change once you are in the program. Individual arrangements cannot be supported.

**Q: I might consider applying to the MD/PhD Program in the first year of the program, does it matter what site I select?**

**A:** No. Applicants who are offered to the MD/PhD Program have the option of completing their combined degree at any of our sites, as long as there is an appropriate supervisor and graduate program to host their PhD. Interested applicants can review the information regarding identifying a potential supervisor at <http://mdprogram.med.ubc.ca/mdphd/admission-requirements/faqs/> and contact the MD/PhD Office for further information.

**Q: I've heard there is a difference in how applicants are selected for the Northern Medical Program – is this true?**

**A:** Candidates who wished to be considered for the NMP were asked to complete the Rural Remote suitability section of the application which provides the Admissions Selection Committees information to determine their suitability for education and living in the North. If you did not complete this section, you will not be considered for the NMP. Unfortunately it is too late to complete the section now, even if you have changed your mind and are now interested in the NMP.

**Q: Can you explain the purpose of the supplemental questions – “Are you planning to practice in a rural, remote or northern location after graduation?” and “Do you intend to practice as a Generalist Family Physician?”**

**A:** This is for internal research purposes only.

Further reading: <http://admissionsblog.med.ubc.ca/2011/12/23/clarification-of-site-selection/>

