



State University of New York
Upstate Medical University

Re: 2009 Eligibility and Selection

Dear Prospective Applicant:

First of all, let me thank you for your interest in our general surgery residency program. I have put together this letter to hopefully answer some of your questions and assist you in the application process for a July 2009 residency position. We also encourage you to review our website at www.upstate.edu/surgery/ to further answer any questions you may have regarding our program.

The Department of Surgery at SUNY Upstate Medical University offers a traditional, comprehensive, fully accredited general surgery residency program with a curriculum emphasizing supervised experience in both traditional, open surgical procedures and newer, minimally invasive techniques. Elective opportunities for basic and clinical research are also available as part of the residency program. University Hospital, a 350-bed, Level I Trauma Center, serves 17 counties in upstate and central New York. Resident teams also rotate through the general surgery teaching services of the adjacent Crouse Hospital, the nearby Veterans Administration Hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center and Community General Hospital.

SUNY Upstate Medical University is located in downtown Syracuse, the fourth largest city in New York State. Surrounded by breathtaking countryside, Syracuse offers a rich city life with varied cultural and recreational offerings.

We will begin accepting applications in September 2008 through ERAS – the Electronic Residency Application Service maintained by the Association of American Medical Colleges. Please do not fax, email or mail me your CV, etc. It is our policy to accept applications ONLY through ERAS. Interviews will take place during November 2008, December 2008 and January 2009. The deadline for submitting your application is December 1, 2008. You will also need to participate in the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) 2009. We offer five categorical and approximately seven undesignated preliminary positions. I stress that your application cannot be reviewed until it is complete! We do not offer prematch positions.

To be considered for a possible interview, you must be ECFMG certified (unless you are currently completing medical school). You will need to provide, via ERAS, your CV, medical school transcript, USLME Step I/COMLEX official documentation, personal statement, Dean's letter and **four** letters of recommendation, preferably from surgeons practicing in the United States. We do not have minimum score requirements, but rather review your complete application considering all provided information. High scores, however, do influence our selection of candidates. We are seeking recent medical school/osteopathic school graduates, **within the last five years, who have documented clinical experience in the U.S.** We are able to sponsor a J-1 visa, only, with no exceptions. We do currently have a small number of foreign medical graduates in our program.

I look forward to receiving your application and to meeting you should you be selected to come to Syracuse for an interview.

Sincerely,
Rose G. Thomas
Residency Program Administrator
Dept. of Surgery
SUNY Upstate Medical University
Syracuse, NY