HOST (Help Our Students Travel) Program

FAQs for HOST Volunteers

What is a host?

» Hosts are OUWB alumni and Parent Program members who volunteer to host a student visiting your area during residency interviews. HOST volunteers help to offset the financial burden of traveling for residency interviews by offering students housing, meals, transportation and/or insights on the area and medical community. As a host, you are truly helping a student as they prepare for life beyond medical school.

What is the process for hosting?

» Once we receive a request for your area, our office will contact you to determine availability. If we are able to match you with a student, we will send an email connecting you and the student. It is up to the student to contact you to share additional details of their travel and interview plans.

What time of year will the visits take place?

» Most residency interviews occur between October and January. Away electives start as early as July.

How far in advance will I be contacted?

» Students are required to submit requests three weeks prior to their interview date(s). Once a match has been made, students are asked to reach out to their host within 48 hours of receiving their contact information.

Interested in becoming a host?



Scan the QR code to access the HOST Program Registration Form.

What happens if travel or interview plans change or get cancelled?

» The student that you are hosting will contact you as soon as possible to let you know about any change in their travel plans.

What should I do if the student I'm hosting doesn't seem engaged?

You may understand or remember what a stressful time residency interviews can be, and students handle this stress differently. Some students may be active and engaged, while others may be more reserved and focused. Please contact ouwbhost@oakland.edu if you have concerns.

Do I need to do anything after the visit?

» Our office will follow up after the dates of travel. Please send us any photos (with the student's permission!) or feedback you may have of your HOST experience. We'd love to share them on the website and through social media to promote our HOST Program.

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Who do I contact if I have questions?

» Please contact Chelsea Smith, Alumni & Parent Program Coordinator, at (248) 370-3677 or ouwbhost@oakland.edu.

