



Specialty Advising: Orthopaedic Surgery

Overview: Orthopaedic Surgery is a specialty that deals with musculoskeletal trauma, diseases, and complaints. Sub-specialties within orthopaedics range from joint replacement, to sports, to pediatrics. Due to the competitive nature of the specialty, students should get involved with the residents in the ER, on-call, and meet with the Associate Program Director to receive guidance as to what they should accomplish during medical school for a strong application. [OPDA Guide for Orthopaedic Surgery.](#)

Suggested Selectives/Sub-Internships:

- ORTO 4005- Trauma Fracture & Clinical Care (In-Patient)
- ORTO 4006- Adult Reconstruction in Ortho (In-Patient)
- *In general, all Sub-I rotations will be Ortho 4005- 2 weeks on trauma and 2 weeks on another subspecialty. Do not worry if you don't get face time with the Chair, Program Director, or APD, as they will get resident and faculty feedback.

Suggested Electives:

- ORTO 4003- Selective in Hand Surgery
- ORTO 4008- Pedi Orthopaedics SRCH/UH
- ORTO 4011- Sports Medicine Selective
- ORTO 7000- Off Campus

Curriculum Elective Requirements for UME

Away Rotations:

These continue to be the number one factor for acceptance to programs. It is a month-long interview to evaluate the applicant and their fit with the program, faculty, and residents. You should choose away rotations based on where you want to match, and programs where you feel you can match.

USMLE Step 2:

It is highly recommended students complete Step 2 prior to application submission. In a very competitive specialty, it helps you stand out from other students. A good Step 2 score can also help with deficiencies in other areas of your application. Taking it before September 1st can ensure your score is available for ERAS applications.

Orthopaedics Bound Counseling:

The Department of Orthopaedics offers individual career/application guidance to all students potentially interested in Orthopaedic Surgery. Students should have a strong foundation in orthopaedic related anatomy when applying. They should also take advantage of the following:

- Orthobullets.com for orthopaedic knowledge and anatomy
- Joining the Rockwood Orthopaedic Society to discuss with older classes
- Assisting with Orthopaedic research early on
- Taking call and helping residents in the trauma bay/emergency department
- Shadowing willing faculty

UT Health San Antonio- LSOM Department of Orthopaedics

LSOM Specialty/Career Advisors:

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