

From Brendan McCarthy: what about schools who don't open up their catalog until April 1 due to their own students scheduling timeline for home rotations?

From Katrina D'Aquin: Our institution doesn't open applications for visiting students through VSAS until April 15 to allow our own students to register. What will happen to programs such as ours?

From Jennifer Hewitt: The Registrar's Office is the gate holder for applications, but it is up to the department to manage the availability and make offers.

Our departments make offers based on the number of home medical students they have and faculty availability. We do not have a reserved numbers for Visiting Students. We extend the same 6 week add/drop deadline to Visiting students as our students.

From Sandra Mingo: We open up in late April - some years 1st week of May

From Teresa Cook: This looks like mini-match SOAP and I am concerned about the additional stressors on students.

From Heidi Schwalb: 10 days is too short of a period to review all applications and expect departments to review and choose applicants they wish to accept. Also requiring action on a specific day (Monday) is too restrictive as our visiting student coordinator is PT.

From Brendan McCarthy: yes but here it is one coordinator reviewing applications

From Petra Bricker: But residency programs aren't always the people reviewing applications for eligibility

From Sandra Mingo: My concern is the program administrator reviewing the applications in a timely manner

From Katrina D'Aquin: Our programs can't meet these deadlines. I coordinate our visiting students at an institutional level as well as a number of other tasks that need to happen.

From Teresa Cook: Can you address what information the programs will make available so that students make informed decisions about their candidacy about a particular program? Wouldn't that resolve a lot of these issues?

From Katrina D'Aquin: VSLO doesn't work that way. We have to create the WHOLE catalog at the same time.

From Helen Anderson: VSLO doesn't allow us to open up one specialty at a time

From Ellen DiFiore: Urology isn't the only discipline with similar issues and requests

From Caroline Cheang: Does this apply to only schools using VSLO as host schools?

From Jennifer Hewitt: We also have 1 person that reviews all applications before the applications do to the department. I cannot stall other departments applications in favor of UROLOGY to get them in by the deadline.

From Sandra Mingo: I don't think VSLO allows partial openinh
From Irena Tartakovsky, AAMC: Is this feasible?

Is the timeline reasonable given the other responsibilities the medical schools have?

Is a simpler system a better way to start (a single standardized deadline for applications and a single release of interviews allowing the chips to fall as they may after that)?

Will medical students respond in a timely manner to the deadlines?

Can programs meet the deadlines?

From Petra Bricker: This is going to get out and other specialties are going to ask for it.

From Katrina D'Aquin: BUT we DO still have to have the whole catalog ready
From Brandon Susselman: different rules for different departments would be very problematic for us too

From Brendan McCarthy: we at UK are the same and agree with Jennifer on the concerns,

From Jennifer Martin Tse: I agree with Teresa - my first thought was this seems like a mini-SOAP; very stressful for students and staff; We have one Visiting Student Coordinator who reviews ALL applications and don't feel one department should have priority over all of our other departments

From Sandra Mingo: SUNY Downstate process is similar to Jennifer
From Katrina D'Aquin: THANK YOU JENNIFER!! This sums up my main concerns as well

From Sandra Mingo: Especially with ADD/DROPS still going on
From Marrison Cook: We want to make sure home students have the opportunity to meet requirements for graduation first, and these deadlines would make that almost impossible.

From Carol Archaga: Thank you Jennifer. This is the case at UM as well. These are my concerns as well.

From Kim Kayl: Thank you Jennifer that was my main concern as well.

From Frank Lucas: Thanks Jennifer. We would have the same concern at U. of South Ala.

From Heidi Schwalb: We require visiting students to apply a minimum of 8 weeks prior to allow time to process, run background checks, immunization clearance, so could not move later.

From Caroline Cheang: We have 4 weeks deadline at Stanford.
From Brendan McCarthy: we have a 4 week add/drop deadline at UK. no schedule changes after that

From Marrison Cook: Also - how would everyone's varied academic calendars impact this?

From Petra Bricker: Marrison, that's a super question
From Carol Duffey: Thank you Jennifer. Agree on all points. This does seem like SOAP. Slippery slope - just a matter of time until Ophto, ENT, etc. would want this to.. Would not be able to be supported given staffing, other responsibilities etc.

From Robert Nance: When we open our catalogs, we open them and leave them open for the academic year. I require a 4 week application period to process with a 14 day rule to add/drop.

From Haunani Hunter: Univ of Michigan closes a specific rotation cycle 45 days prior.
From Jennifer Hewitt: Thank you Theresa!! That is a great question.
From Haunani Hunter: Sorry, my comment not finished.
From Katrina D'Aquin: IF this is perceived as mini-match, students will also overapply, just as they do with Match

From Katrina D'Aquin: That'll put additional stress on the system
From Jennifer Martin Tse: Excellent point Theresa - what are we trying to fix?
From Petra Bricker: I don't think it would be beneficial for students if they are told that electives would operate this way, but if some schools aren't able to meet these dates. I think it would cause more confusion.

From Katrina D'Aquin: LORs have been standard for away rotations for some time
From Brandon Susselman: agree, doesn't seem beneficial overall to students
From Carol Duffey: VSAS itself has become like a pre-residency application/exercise. A ton of schools/programs require LORs, CVs, personal statements etc.

From Marrison Cook: What I hear from Teresa is that they need to hear this information from the specialty, not what their mentors or what they find online from other students. Is there a single source of truth so a student doesn't apply somewhere they will definitely not get an invite.

From Brendan McCarthy: i think that is just the nature of away rotations in general across all specialties that require away rotations

From Jennifer Hewitt: I think the better solution is a single deadline (# of weeks) prior to the start of the block for all away rotations.

From Logan Key: I think the problems Dr. Penson has described are real but pervasive across many specialties.

From Jennifer Hewitt: @Logan, I agree.

From Jennifer Martin Tse: Students applying to any specialty may get multiple offers from different schools and have to choose what ones they will accept; other specialties just don't expect that they have to do away rotations to the extent that urology does. We have always tried to be flexible for urology but have resource limits

From Teresa Cook: Yes Logan. The VSW was going to propose traffic rules about notifications in general across all specialties.

From Julie Steinecker: traffic rules/guidance for all schools would be great

From Haunani Hunter: RE HOST portion-Univ of Michigan catalog opens mid-March. Applications open 3/28. May is the first rotation month offered. Rotations close from being offered 45 days prior. I release the applications to departments for review of student academic information, noting Pending Institution Verifications & immunization record review, as soon as received. So, I feel this accommodates timely response to Urology elective applicant requests.

From Robert Nance: I would ask when in the third year do schools start letting rising MS4's start scheduling courses for the 4th year including aways? For us our curriculum is changing and we are still a year away from having a stable 3rd and 4th year calendar. I am afraid that with schools having varying dates for when scheduling begins, that anxiety will be increased.

From Kris Slaney: In thinking about what students need, a standardized opening date for all programs would be huge. They are always stressed trying to watch for when programs will open.

From Petra Bricker: Agree, Kris.

From Wendy Finch: I agree with a standardized opening date for all programs!

From Hope Reynolds: Agreed, Kris

From Marrison Cook: Agreed, Ellen!

From Kim Kayl: Are you going to look at 3rd year students that won't be 4th year until July at our school

From Robert Nance: I agree with a standardized opening date.

From Sandra Mingo: Agree with standardized opening

From Carol Duffey: This will get worse with Step 1 going P/F

From Robert Nance: In the future our 4th year is going to start in March and be 60 weeks in length.

From Ellen DiFiore: Can we have more information regarding the M# webinar, content, etc. Who is on the panel hosts

From Ellen DiFiore: Sorry, M3 webinar

From Helen Anderson: Is the Coalition going to make an official announcement later this year? The announcement shown said "is anticipated,,," which makes us nervous. We don't want to open until the Coalition provides an official statement.

From Edward Lahart: The M3 Webinar is closed to any additional registrants. Will this webinar be available on a recording after the webinar?

From Hope Reynolds: I was on the VSLO refresher today & they said that they are trying to extend the registration cap and that may be corrected by this afternoon.

From Samantha Edwards: Yes @Edward, the recording will be available to everyone. We increased the registration maximum yesterday afternoon so please encourage your students to try again.

From Samantha Edwards: Thank you, Hope!

From Samantha Edwards: This is the first year VSLO has offered a student webinar and we discovered the standard registration limit wasn't high enough.

From Hayley Erickson: Will schools be informed if/when the registration cap has been increased? A number of our students are interested in the webinar, but were closed out.

From Cheri Black: Was registration only open for students who have received invitations? We haven't sent ours out yet.

From Jennifer Hewitt: Can the database form not be hosted on Google? Our institution blocked Google (gmail and the google suite including forms) last year when the threat to hospitals was introduced. I can't use the form.

From Carol Duffey: Can school administrators join the student webinar?

From Heidi Schwalb: Cheri, it went to everyone. Our students weren't invited yet but they received the email from VSLO.

From Cheri Black: Thank you, Heidi! I'll check with my students also. Hopefully it was sent by student level.

From Kris Slaney: I echo Helen's comment about the Coalition making an official announcement so schools feel comfortable moving forward with the away season. Thanks!

From Petra Bricker: Sorry, I want to run back to Helen's question real quick -- will there be an official statement about away rotation restrictions/recommendations going away for the 21-22 year? We're also hesitant to make plans with an "anticipated" statement.

From Samantha Edwards: Yes, @Hayley, we can definitely send a listserv message once the registration max. has been increased.

From Helen Anderson: Unsure on question 2 until we can get an official statement from the Coalition.

From Hayley Erickson: Great! Thank you, Samantha.

From Brandon Susselman: answers may depend on updated guidance from coalition
From Sandra Mingo: I think coalition should put some wording out
From Katrina D'Aquin: I agree with all on here who are saying this is depended on the coalition

From Katrina D'Aquin: We will follow coalition guidance
From Petra Bricker: Can their messaging reflect that a bit more solidly?
From Brandon Susselman: this is the link: <https://www.aamc.org/what-we-do/mission-areas/medical-education/away-rotations-faqs> I agree "anticipated" makes it not sound firm

From Hope Reynolds: Yes and then I believe the VSLO page still lists what was said last year. It would be helpful to have a 2022 statement, even if the statement is that there are no restrictions.

From Carol Duffey: need an Unsure for this question
From Jennifer Hewitt: Need a maybe
From Logan Key: Int'l students have trouble getting a visa