



# Plastic Surgery Visiting Medical Student Program

2024







**Karim Bakri, MBBS**



**Brian Carlsen, MD**

The Mayo Clinic Visiting Medical Student (VMS) Program offers final year medical students a 4-week rotation at Mayo Clinic Rochester in the Division of Plastic Surgery. You will gain broad exposure to common and complex plastic surgery cases, close collaboration with other surgical specialties, and be immersed in our one-of-a-kind didactic and skills based curriculum. You will experience our training in all areas of plastic surgery and will follow a mentorship model that offers 1:1 education from faculty experts in the field. We have recently redesigned this sub-internship program to reflect the nature of our residency program, and to provide a comprehensive, well-balanced surgical and clinical experience in a supportive and nurturing learning environment for our visiting students.

Sincerely,

Karim Bakri, MBBS  
Program Director

Brian Carlsen, MD  
Director, Visiting Medical Student  
Clerkship Program

## Our Residency Program

The Division of Plastic Surgery at Mayo Clinic's campus in Rochester, Minnesota, offers a six-year integrated residency program in a collegial learning environment. Our emphasis is on surgical skills training, academic career opportunities, individual mentoring, and a curated didactic experience. Plastic surgery residents train with all 13 plastic surgeons at the Rochester campus, and multiple subspecialty services who work collaboratively in a group practice covering all facets of reconstructive and aesthetic plastic surgery. Our program focuses on establishing clinical and technical confidence and maximizes opportunities for personal achievement in a supportive, inclusive, and academically rewarding environment.

Mayo Clinic's high faculty-to-resident ratio, large patient population, and state-of-the-art diagnostic, therapeutic, and research facilities combine to create a truly integrated educational experience.

## Medical Student Education

As a sub-intern in the Plastic Surgery Residency program, you will experience our 1:1 teaching model and the broadest patient care experience possible in a busy, hands-on training environment.



- Structured, comprehensive, faculty-led curriculum
- A diverse, high-volume, complex case mix
- State-of-the-art surgical technology
- Dedicated Anatomy and Microvascular surgical skills lab

## Clinical Rotations

You will spend two weeks at each of our Rochester hospitals (St Mary's Campus and Rochester Methodist Campus), and will be assigned 1-2 Faculty mentors and 1 resident mentor at each site. This continuous experience with individual surgeons over a two-week period parallels our residency training model, while allowing you exposure to both sites and the full variety of sub-specialty case types that we offer.

You will also have multiple opportunities to interact with all other faculty surgeons and residents in our highly collegial operating room environment.



You will have an opportunity to take call alongside our residents and develop some experience in hand trauma, facial trauma and plastic surgery emergencies.



You will be provided with a detailed rotation schedule that includes your daily clinical assignments and call schedule.

# Weekly Conferences

Students attend all conferences during their rotation.



## PLASTIC SURGERY CASE CONFERENCE

### Monday Mornings

We start each week with Plastic Surgery Conference.

- Morbidity and Mortality and Surgical Quality Conference (once per month)
- Plastic Surgery Case Conference (twice per month)
- Craniofacial Trauma/Hand Trauma



## JUNIOR CURRICULUM

### Friday Mornings



## CORE CURRICULUM

### Thursday Afternoons

Protected education time for a weekly faculty-led, topic-based didactic conference including:

- Basic science review
- Oral board case discussions
- Faculty lecture
- In-service exam question review



## JOURNAL CLUB

Journal Club is held every six weeks. It takes the format of an informal dinner at a local restaurant with topic-based discussions of contemporary articles from major plastic surgery journals.

## Junior Curriculum

PGY-1 and PGY-2 residents have additional protected education time for faculty-led, skills-based workshops. This conference is specifically structured for junior plastic surgery residents and focuses on acquiring clinical and technical skills relevant to plastic surgery at an early stage. This allows small group teaching of the fundamental principles of plastic surgery. **Visiting medical students attend these sessions which are highly impactful.**



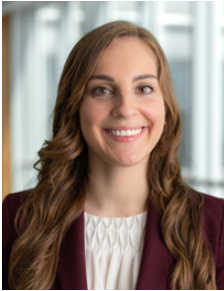
- Clinical examination skills
- Interpretation of clinical imaging
- Suturing workshops
- Microsurgical training
- Anatomy (cadaver dissection)
- Principles of hand surgery (radiographs, splinting, fixation techniques)
- Principles of facial trauma (sawbones, MMF, fracture fixation, facial lacerations)

## Why did you choose to rotate as a medical student at Mayo Clinic?



**Serena Day,  
PGY6**

I rotated at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, as a medical student, and it was by far my favorite away rotation. I loved the mentorship model of training, and the faculty I worked with took an interest not only in my education but also in my personal development. Furthermore, this program features a wide breadth of practice and high volume of complex cases. I feel confident that I will be well prepared to practice at both a tertiary academic center as well as the community setting.



**Brooke Willborg,  
PGY2**

I chose to rotate at Mayo Clinic to gain exposure to the full breadth of plastic surgery, from the standard to the cutting edge. I loved the collaborative spirit at Mayo, both among consultants from different specialties and between the plastic surgery residents. Experiencing the mentorship model, both in the OR and clinical settings allowed me to build professional connections and understand each consultant's approach to patient care. Resident support and educational didactics were highlights of the rotation. I knew with the resources and expertise at Mayo, my training opportunities would be unlimited and allow me to achieve my goals as a plastic surgery resident.



## Unique Cases On a Regular Basis

Mayo Clinic is world-renowned in nearly every medical and surgical field today, with patients from across the world presenting with interesting and unique surgical needs. In our division, we are fortunate to be a part of this Destination Medical Center and are grateful for the educational opportunities it affords.



- Medial femoral condyle flap for scaphoid and craniofacial reconstruction
- Capanna technique for pediatric long bone defects
- Complex congenital hand surgery (pollicization, symbrachydactyly, toe-to-thumb transfer)
- Free fibula flap for spine/pelvic tumor reconstruction
- Hemipelvectomy reconstruction
- Free flaps for reconstruction of massive tumor defects
- Forequarter amputation/reconstruction
- Rotationplasty for lower extremity reconstruction
- Facial reanimation with free functional gracilis, synkinesis surgery, cross-face nerve grafts
- Craniosynostosis with virtual surgical planning
- Corneal neurotization
- Secondary cleft reconstruction
- Secondary and complex rhinoplasty
- Supercharged or free jejunum flap for salvage esophageal reconstruction
- Complex craniofacial neurofibroma debulking and reconstruction
- Lymphovenous bypass with 50x supermicroscope
- Transgender penile inversion vaginoplasty
- Targeted muscle reinnervation
- Complex abdominal wall reconstruction
- Colorectal, gynecologic, and perineal reconstruction with gracilis, VRAM, Singapore flaps

# Mayo Clinic (Rochester) Plastic Surgery Medical Student Application Process

Students will be accepted for 4-week rotations July through October, 2024. Applications to the Plastic Surgery rotation should be submitted through VSLO and will be reviewed on a rolling basis starting February 1, 2024.

As a candidate for the Visiting Medical Student Clerkship at Mayo Clinic, you must:

- Have passed the USMLE Step 1 or COMLEX Step 1
- Be in the final year of medical school at the time of the clerkship
- Be in good academic standing at your medical school
- Have received the required immunizations

## Scholarships

Medical students participating in clinical clerkships are eligible to apply for scholarships to help defray program costs. **Students must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents, and attend a medical school in the U.S. to be eligible.**

### DIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP

At Mayo Clinic, the promotion of cultural diversity, equity, and inclusion are institutional priorities. The Diversity Scholarship Program encourages the participation of learners from backgrounds that are underrepresented in medicine (African-Americans, Hispanics, American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders) or any student who has demonstrated significant commitment to advancing equity for students from backgrounds that are underrepresented in medicine to experience Mayo's Visiting Medical Student Clerkship Program.

The scholarship awards \$2,500 in financial support. During your clerkship, you'll have the opportunity to meet with the program director and residents. You will also meet with the director of diversity affairs at Mayo Clinic.

### THE DIVISION OF PLASTIC SURGERY VMS CLERKSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Mayo Clinic has established scholarships to recognize academic achievement and encourage senior medical students to make career commitments in specific fields.

The aim of this scholarship is to support senior medical students pursuing a career in reconstructive surgery. The Plastic Surgery VMS Clerkship is designed to provide an immersive and didactic experience and to prepare students for plastic surgery residency training. Applications will be reviewed by the Program Director and recipients will receive \$750 in financial support for travel and accommodations.

If you are interested in being considered for a Scholarship, complete the scholarship section on the VSLO clerkship application.

## Contact Us



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