

McGaw Global Health Clinical Scholars Program

The McGaw Global Health Clinical Scholars program (GHCS) is a 2-year program designed to equip graduate medical education trainees with the knowledge and skills to better understand the global health landscape, challenges, and best practices in care delivery in resource-limited settings worldwide.

Applications are due: Sunday, August 2, 2026

Program Structure

GHCS combines the expertise of institutional programs and leaders to provide an interactive, supportive, efficient, and valuable learning experience.

Program participants attend monthly didactic sessions each focused on a different core Global Health topic. The program also includes specialty-specific study options and peer-led journal clubs that expose trainees to current research across specialties. Finally, simulation has been incorporated to teach principles of clinical care and ethics in resource-limited settings worldwide.

Key features of the program include:

- Approximately 25-30 program participants, which are distributed across a variety of specialties
- 2-year curricular structure, with ability to extend over longer period of time if needed
- Structured mentorship within each specialty, and a final scholarly project
- Optional participation in a 4-week global health field experience
- Monthly core lectures, generally held on the first Tuesday of each month from 6:30-7:30pm
- Peer-led journal clubs from each participating specialty
- Receipt of program certificate once all program criteria are fulfilled

Attendance at orientation is required. Program orientation will be held on Monday, September 14th, from 6:30pm-8:30pm.

Prior to applying, please discuss your interest with your program's Global Health Mentor (email megan.garrison@northwestern.edu if you are unsure of who that is). The application will require you to upload a headshot or recent photo, completed [Program Director Form](#), and Statement of Interest.

If you are interested in joining the program, please apply here: [McGaw GHCS Application 2026](#)

Please bring your questions to the information session or email us at a-doobay-persaud@northwestern.edu or egroothuis@luriechildrens.org.

Sincerely,

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Co-Director, Center for Global Health Education

Liz Groothuis, MD/MPH
Assistant Program Director, McGaw GHCS Program

Global Health Clinical Scholars Program Summary

The McGaw Global Health Clinical Scholars Program offers Northwestern University's McGaw Graduate Medical trainees (residents and fellows) a two-year program to bolster their understanding of global health. Curricular requirements include core lectures, specialty lectures, participation in a peer-led journal club, faculty mentorship, web-based training modules, interdisciplinary simulation training, and production and presentation of a scholarly project. Global field experiences are encouraged when appropriate but are not required.

These curricular components have been created to meet the following global health learning objectives:

1. Describe the global burden of disease and demonstrate understanding of epidemiologic tools and trends
2. Understand health implications of travel, migration, and trade, including their effects on planetary health
3. Recognize the major determinants of health
4. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the relationship between health and human rights
5. Demonstrate high standards of ethical conduct and quality in global healthcare
6. Explain the role of community-engagement strategies in capacity strengthening
7. Demonstrate the ability to engage in effective cross-cultural communication
8. Develop strategies for ethical practice in unfamiliar and resource-constrained settings
9. Develop global health-focused scholarly work and peer teaching skills

Goals:

To offer a competency-based global health program to McGaw trainees that will train them in clinical care delivery in resource-limited settings worldwide.

The program components are based on recommendations by global health educators that fulfill ACGME competencies.

Objectives:

- Provide an education in core concepts in global health for trainees across specialties
- Provide high-quality global health training experiences
- Establish strong relationships with global health mentors
- Mentored scholarly projects

Participating Programs:

- Family Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Pediatrics
- Anesthesiology
- Surgery (and subspecialties)
- Neurology

Additional training programs may be added on a rolling basis.

Outline of Requirements

- I. **Attend Program Orientation and associated lecture**

- II. Attend Core Lectures, including reviewing supplementary materials, and completion of lecture evaluations.**
 - a. Global Burden of Disease/Travel Medicine
 - b. Issues and Innovations in Immigrant and Refugee Health
 - c. Issues and Innovations in Global Reproductive Health
 - d. Issues and Innovations in Global Child Health
 - e. Issues and Innovations in Global Mental Health and Trauma-Informed Care
 - f. Planetary Health and Climate Change
 - g. Issues and Innovations in Global Surgical Disease and Trauma Care
 - h. Health and Humanitarian Disaster Response
 - i. Global Health and Human Rights
 - j. Implementation Science/Quality Improvement Research
 - k. Collaborative Practices and Ethical Partnerships

Other lectures may be added or substituted; the above lectures are subject to change.
- III. Participate in specialty activities, including specialty lectures:**
 - a. The objectives and competencies for these will be developed along with the directors and mentors of each particular program in concert with members of the Center for Global Health Education.
- IV. Participate in and lead peer-led journal clubs (date/time TBD throughout the year)**
 - a. Trainees will meet to discuss relevant scholarly global health articles presented by participants from each specialty
- V. Asynchronous learning modules**
 - a. Online pre-departure materials must be completed prior to rotation abroad.
- VI. Interdisciplinary Global Health Simulation Sessions**
 - a. Trainees will participate in multiple simulation sessions focused on issues pertaining to surgery, anesthesia, obstetrics, and pediatrics, as well as a session focused on global health ethics
- VII. Pre-departure training and global site orientation**
 - a. Attend pre-departure training on safety and wellness
 - b. Attend site-specific orientation
 - c. Attend Global Health Ethics Simulation
- VIII. Faculty/Resident Mentorship in Global Health**
 - a. Trainees will be paired with a Global Health Mentor from within their specialty
- IX. Scholarly Project**
 - a. Poster presentations (other than at Global Health Day), opinion pieces, clinical reflection essays, peer-reviewed publications, curriculum training materials, education initiatives globally for HCWs, research, and quality improvement initiatives are examples of what project may qualify. Each trainee must develop their own project.
- X. Professional Presentation**
 - a. Trainees must present at their specialty's journal club, as well as present their scholarly project as a poster presentation at Global Health Day.

Optional

- XI. Global Field Experience (minimum 4 – 6 weeks)**
 - a. Trainees will choose a field site identified and approved by their individual program and McGaw.
 - b. Trainees will receive mentorship from their Global Health Mentor prior to, during, and upon return from their field experience.