International Medical Graduate Orientation & Assessment (IMGOA) Program

MISSION

To prepare International Medical Graduates (IMGs) for successful medical training and practice in Saskatchewan.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The IMGOA Program is mandatory for all individuals who completed their undergraduate medical training outside Canada and are to begin a postgraduate training program in Saskatchewan. The 6-week program, scheduled between May and June each year, is administered through the Postgraduate Medical Education Office, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan.

Curriculum

- Interactive sessions on a wide variety of topics relevant and useful to successful integration
- One on one and small group clinical skills practice sessions
  - clinical bedside physical examination skills
  - verbal communication skills with simulated patients
  - simulations-practice of commonly encountered on-call emergency scenarios
- Buddying with residents or faculty from IMGs own and other training programs
- Shadowing allied health professionals
- Sessions for non-native English speakers
- Mythbusters’ sessions

HIGHLIGHTS of the program

- Curriculum based on CanMEDS framework
- Continuous review and update of the curriculum; each cohort brings a new set of strengths and challenges, so flexibility is key
- Cooperative, collaborative and supportive training environment
- Highly knowledgeable and experienced faculty
- Mentoring and follow-up programs
- Stipends provided to trainees for the 6-week period
- Relationships developed with other IMGs and other residents become an important support to trainees during residency

Participants’ COMMENTS

“I love it. I’m glad I’m here and I’m confident to challenge my residency years”

“This is day one, and I already have a very good feeling. Thanks”

“The privacy to speak frankly with a resident was awesome! Learning about what to expect on this assessment and that throughout residency we are not alone”

“The feedback was without doubt the most valuable component to this program!”

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