

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON SCHOOL of MEDICINE

TRUST PROGRAM 2025

Targeted Rural Underserved Student Track is a longitudinal curriculum that aims to provide a continuous connection between rural underserved communities, medical education, and health professionals in our region. The ultimate goal is to create a physician workforce specifically trained for the underserved areas of Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho.



Are you interested in rural and underserved medicine?

TRUST offers a unique opportunity for students from any of the WWAMI states to make intimate connections with a small community early-on in their medical school studies. By repeatedly returning to the same community for each clinical experience, students are expected to become an integral part of the health care system. Additionally, this long-term clinical relationship exposes TRUST students to a community of faculty, providers, and peer colleagues for enhanced mentorship and skill-development.

Much of what the TRUST Program delivers is an enhancement to the standard medical school experience with a focus on rural healthcare. Read on for more about what makes the TRUST program unique within the UW School of Medicine.



MORE INFORMATION:

 <https://education.uwmedicine.org/somrural/>



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WHAT'S INVOLVED IN TRUST PARTICIPATION?

After a targeted TRUST admission process, TRUST scholars are linked to a small-city or rural community within the WWAMI state where they attend medical school. Throughout their medical training, TRUST students can expect to return to their host community. The following are required components of the TRUST program:

First Summer Experience (FSE)

- Students will spend several days to a couple of weeks in the TRUST continuity site getting to know the clinic, the health care team, and the community itself usually in the month before orientation in July.

During the Years 1 and 2 (15-months)*

- While non-TRUST students often remain on campus or nearby during these periods, TRUST students have multiple opportunities (dependent on region) to return to their TRUST site for short periods to apply their learning directly in the field and under the guidance of their main community preceptor.

Rural Underserved Opportunities Program (RUOP)

- TRUST students are expected to return to their TRUST site for this 4-week clinical immersion scholarship program in the summer between their 1st and 2nd year of medical school. RUOP satisfies the Triple I research requirement.

WWAMI TRUST LEADERSHIP RETREAT (Required)

- A unique opportunity to meet the rest of the WWAMI TRUST cohort, this retreat is a 3 day event, usually in late summer prior to the onset of Year 2 curriculum and it focuses on strengthening leadership and advocacy skills rural providers often rely upon while working in smaller communities.

WWAMI Rural Integrated Training Experience (WRITE)

- A flagship program of the TRUST experience, WRITE is a 21-24 week clerkship that takes place at the TRUST continuity site. TRUST students have the benefit of leveraging existing skills and relationships at their sites to advance their clinical learning and build confidence in direct patient care.
- Due to the length of the clerkship, students will need to relocate to their TRUST site for the experience. In addition, the WRITE clerkship also has fixed 3rd year inpatient clerkships that enhance the rural learning experience.
- Rural medicine offers distinct advantages, and UWSOM strives to create well rounded physicians who understand primary and quaternary care. As a regional medical school, there are clerkships that are required in larger cities and hospitals for all UW medical students. Seattle housing is not paid for TRUST students and there will be required time in Seattle.



The TRUST Program is ideal for the adaptable, passionate student who has a heart for rural/small-city full spectrum community medicine and is looking for an apprenticeship-style of medical training

*Schedule for exact travel dates dependent upon curricular and regional needs which will be communicated to students as known/available