

COLLEGE of AMERICAN PATHOLOGISTS

Ideas and Resources to Engage and Expose Medical Students to Pathology

These ideas and activities can be inserted anywhere in the curriculum (pre-clerkship, clerkship, and post-clerkship).

APPLICABLE STAGES OF SPECIALTY DECISON-MAKING*

CAP

PATHOLOGIST PIPELINE CHAMPION

	Thought	Exploration	Decision	Action
Mentoring				
Pathology student interest group	•	•	٠	•
Pathology electives or selectives (3rd- or 4th-year students)		•	•	
Career specialty days	٠	•		
Capstone project		•	٠	
Awards (one, multiple, certificates)				•
Pathology Honor Society (ICPI)				•
Pathology mentors	•	•	٠	•
Pathology lunches/dinners	•	•	•	
Career talks/specialty talks	•	•	٠	
Materials to hand out about careers in pathology	•	•	•	

*Stages of Specialty Decision-Making:

1. Thought stage: Thinking about specialty choice; recognizing hallmarks of specialties that spark interest.

2. Exploration stage: Investigating available resources and opportunities and identifying role models to learn about the specialties of interest.

3. Decision stage: Participating in activities, rotations, and mentoring to acquire the concrete information and experiences needed to choose a specialty.

4. Action stage: Applying for a residency in the chosen specialty.

APPLICABLE STAGES OF SPECIALTY DECISON-MAKING*

	Thought	Exploration	Decision	Action
Hands on experiences				
Tissue conferences	•	•	•	
Tumor boards	•	•	•	
Digitized slide conferences	•	•	•	
Research opportunities	•	•	•	•
Shadowing	•	•	•	•
Participating in frozen sections	•	•	•	
Partnering with residents	•	•	•	•
Viewingautopsies	•	•	•	
Blood banking	•	•	•	
Blood smear reviews	•	•	•	
Participate in grossing	•	•	•	
Rotate through the clinical or anatomic labs	•	•	•	
Summer fellowship		•	•	
Post-sophomore year fellowship		•	•	
Lab tours	•	•	•	
Pathology workshops	•	•	•	
Online resources				
Social media presence	•	•	•	•
Virtual lab tours	•	•	•	•
Virtual pathology electives		•	•	
Virtual pathology student interest groups	•	•	•	•
CAP residency page	•	•	•	•
AAMC	•	•	•	•
ICPI	•	•	•	•
CAP Medical Student Forum	•	•	•	•
Young scholar opportunities (APC, USCAP)		•	•	•

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