

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What does PACCE stand for?

PACCE is the primary ambulatory and community clerkship experience. It is a track in the third year curriculum that provides time for longitudinal care of patients in the outpatient setting, in addition training in hospital medicine.

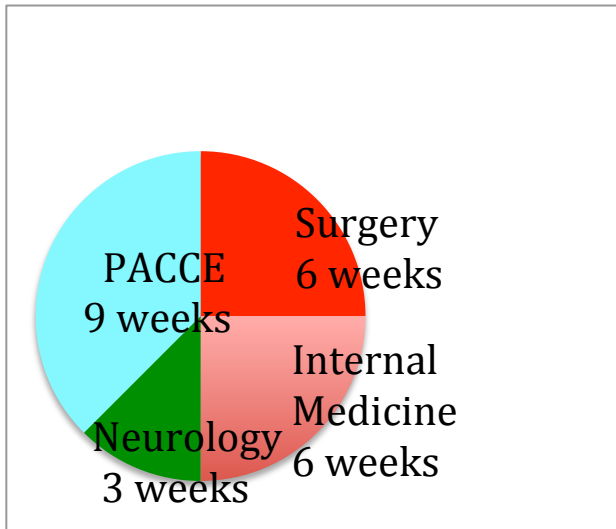
### Is there a schematic for the PACCE experience?

PACCE Students have shortened traditional clerkship experiences for inpatient experience and add longitudinal ambulatory time.

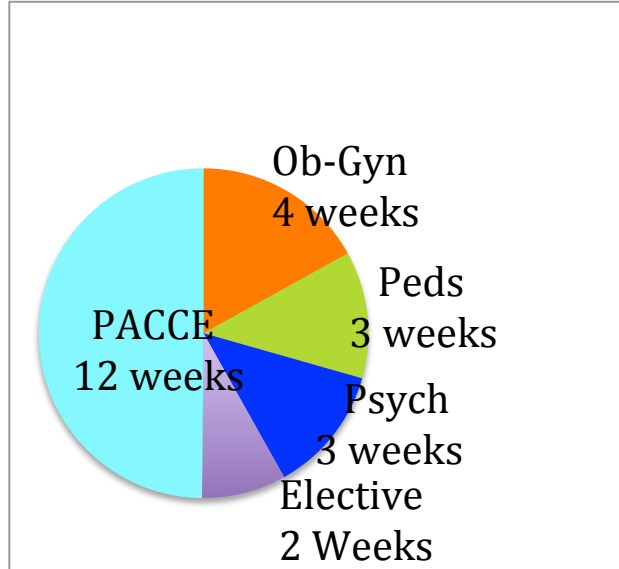
A	B	
Medicine (6)	PACCE	(12) covers Family Medicine Clerkship
Surgery (6)	Pediatrics	(3)
Neurology (3)	Obstetrics and Gynecology	(4)
PACCE (9)	Psychiatry	(3)
	Electives	(2)

Schematic:

PACCE  
First Semester of Third Year



PACCE  
Second Semester of Third Year



The traditional clerkship curriculum has 48 weeks. Twenty-five weeks of core inpatient rotations are maintained in this track. Other traditional core clerkship rotations, which have some outpatient time, are now incorporated into PACCE weeks.

**Is it bad that I will have less core clerkship time than my RWJMS colleagues on the traditional track?**

The PACCE track was designed to consolidate a third year medical student's inpatient and outpatient experiences. PACCE students will have the same amount of exposure to each of the core specialties as the students on the traditional track, just in a different format. Additionally all of the required clinical encounters will be the same for traditional and PACCE track students. For example, RWJMS students on the traditional track spend six weeks on the obstetrics and gynecology (ob/gyn) clerkship, two of these weeks are in the outpatient setting. PACCE students will spend 4 weeks on inpatient ob/gyn and a ½ day each week in the outpatient ob/gyn setting during the 21 week ambulatory component of the PACCE track. In actuality, the traditional track has 19 weeks of outpatient experiences interspersed throughout the year. The PACCE track has 21 weeks in a 9-week and 12-week consolidated blocks. In addition to caring for a panel of patients over time, there will be likely more opportunities to experience inpatient clerkship encounters as you will follow patients to procedures.

**Do I have to do to go into primary care if I choose the PACCE track?**

First, let's clarify what is a primary care provider (PCP)? A PCP is a person's main health care provider in non-emergent situations. The PCP's role is to: 1) provide preventive care and teach healthy lifestyle choices, 2) identify and treat common medical

conditions, 3) assess the urgency of a patient's medical problems and direct the patient to the best place for that care, 4) make referrals to medical specialists when necessary. PCP's can be family medicine, internal medicine, general pediatric or general OB/GYN physicians.

The purpose of the PACCE track is to develop a student's interest in the primary care specialties and provide an environment in which model primary care is delivered to the patient. However, students are by no means locked into choosing a primary care specialty as a career choice. Additionally the intensive mentoring, the opportunity for faculty to really get to know you, and the independent learning style that will be fostered in the program will make students highly desirable to residency program directors, whether the specialty be pediatrics, emergency medicine or surgery. The third year PACCE track will not impact the fourth year (unless the student desires to continue the experience) and the fourth year will be open for some of the electives which are recommended for some specialties.

**Does the school fully support this track?**

RWJMS is committed to the success of this program. Each PACCE student will have a primary mentor and 6 preceptors dedicated to a PACCE student's education. PACCE students will not only have continuity of care with their patients, but also with the best faculty that have been identified as some of the best teachers within the medical school. The dean and senior associate dean for education and the faculty at Jersey Shore University Medical Center are committed to providing some financial support for PACCE students on the Jersey Shore PACCE site.

**When is the deadline for submission of the PACCE application?**

It is the goal to have students submit applications and be selected for the track prior to scheduling which occurs in February.