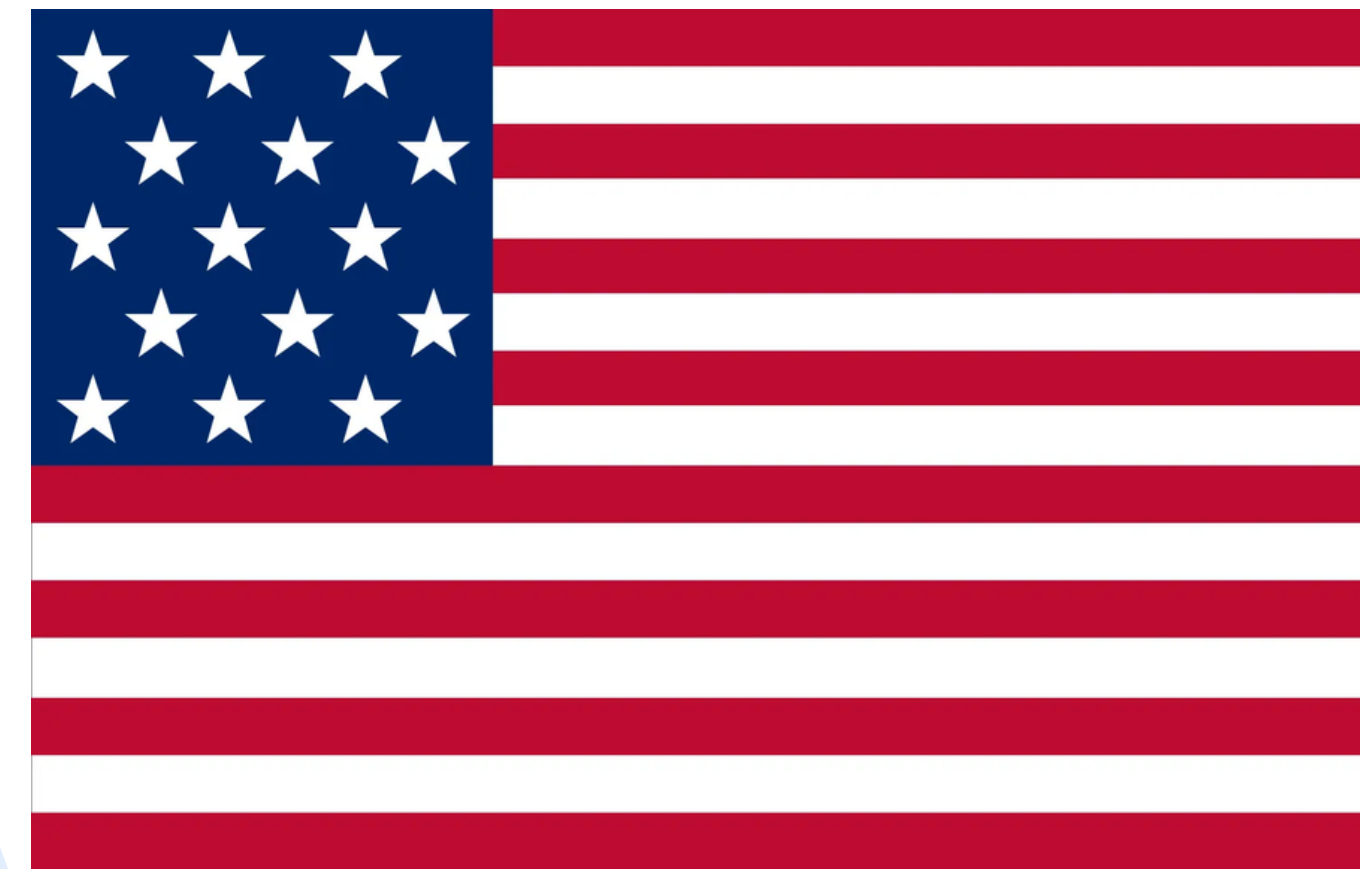


PATHWAY TO WORKING IN THE U.S.

Chloe Parezanovic
Family Medicine
UBC, Kelowna, Canada



My Journey

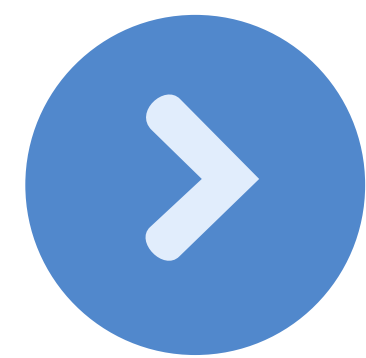
**Graduated
MSE
July 2023**



**Started work as a
Research
Associate
September 2023**



**Applied to U.S.
match September
2024, Canadian
match November
2024**



**Matched to
Canada
March 2025!!!
:)**

**During med
school:**

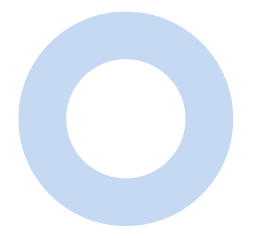
- **Passed USMLE Step 1**
 - **2 months elective in UK, 1 month in US**

2023:

- **Worked on publications**
 - **Started studying for USMLE Step 2/ MCCQE1**

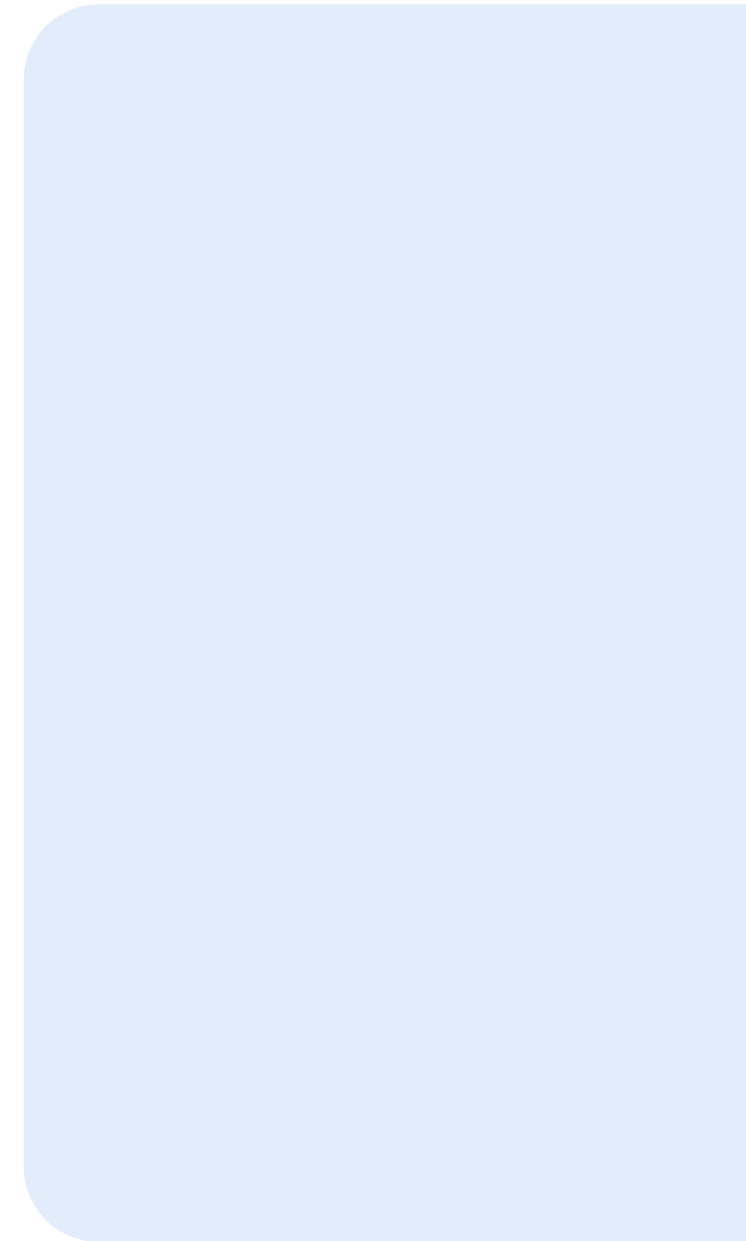
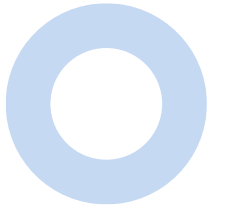
2024:

- **Took MCCQE1 in May**
- **Took USMLE Step 2 in August**
 - **Took NAC OSCE in September**
- **US Clinical Experience in September**



Overview of Residency in the U.S.

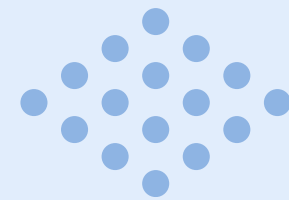
- **Can apply directly after medical school**
- **Must pass USMLE Step 1 and 2, and get ECFMG certification**
- **Match rate for IMGs = 61% for U.S. citizens, 57% for non-U.S.**
- **Highest match rates for IMGs = Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Pediatrics, Psychiatry**



Residency Application Timeline

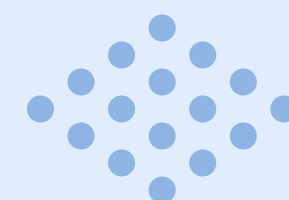
Final year of med school

- Step 1 USMLE
- Step 2 USMLE (at least start prep)
- Do rotations in US if possible
- **OBTAIN CROATIAN MEDICAL LICENSE** (before leaving Croatia)



From grad to application

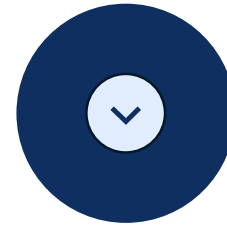
- Upload med school documents (transcripts, diploma) to ECFMG portal
- Apply for ECFMG Certification ASAP
- Take OET (English language proficiency exam)
- Get US Clinical experience (at least 2 months - in the specialty you're applying for!!!)
- US Research experience if possible
- Register for ERAS + NRMP



Application to match

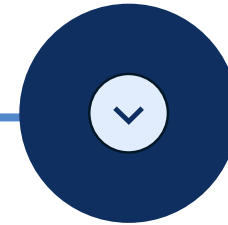
- Submit application ON opening day at opening time!!!
- Interview Prep
- Wait for interview invites on Thalamus, virtual interviews
- March = Match day!

Exams



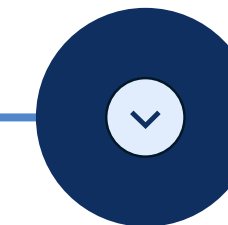
Step 1 USMLE:

- **Pass/ Fail**
- **UWorld, Anki**
- **Make sure you are ready and pass on first attempt!**
- **1200\$ for exam, 400-600\$ for UWorld**



Step 2 USMLE:

- **Your score matters!!!**
Look up average score for your specialty.
- **UWorld!!!**
- **1200\$ for exam, 400-600\$ for UWorld**



OET:

- **Needed to apply for ECFMG certification.**
- **ALL IMGs must pass it, even if you are a U.S. citizen**
- **450\$ for exam**

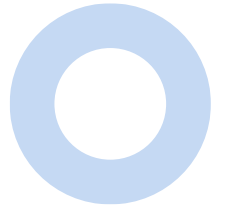
ECFMG Certification

- **ECFMG must be completed before Rank Order List deadline (late February)**
- **For IMGs, it is highly preferable to be certified BEFORE APPLYING!! (September)**
- **<https://www.ecfm.org/certification/>**
- **Pathway 1 = Already Licensed to Practice Medicine in Another Country**
- **<https://www.ecfm.org/certification-pathways/pathway-1.html#eligibility>**



ECFMGTM
A Division of Intealth

Educational Commission for Foreign
Medical Graduates



ERAS

Application

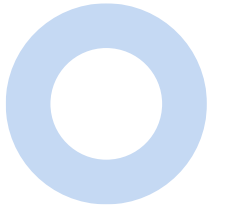
MyERAS Portal

Requirements:

- **CV / Experiences**
- **Personal Statement**
- **Letter of Recommendation!!!!**
- **MSPE**
- **USMLE Transcripts**

Can make account in June → start filling everything out and then send in application AS SOON AS IT OPENS! (September)

<https://auth.aamc.org/account/#/login>



Where to find program info?

Residency Explorer Tool

<https://students-residents.aamc.org/apply-smart-residency/residency-explorer-tool>



Residency Explorer™ Tool

[About](#)
[Data](#)
[Help](#)
[FAQ](#)

 Change Specialty: Family Medicine Go

Residency Explorer™ Tool

- [Home](#)
- [My Profile](#)
- [Explore](#)
- Refine By:
- Location ▾
- [Visas Accepted or Sponsored](#)
- Osteopathic Recognized
- Special Tracks ▾
- Type of Positions Available ▾
- ✕ Clear Filters
- [Compare](#)
- [Logout](#)

Explore Programs

Data reflect statistics for the entire program, not a specific track (e.g., preliminary, categorical). Use caution when interpreting results. Data are limited to the previous cycle only and may be based on small sample sizes. Data may not generalize to future cycles. Learn more about appropriate data interpretation and use by reviewing the [Residency Explorer guidance resources](#). Residency programs may periodically update or remove their interview information to maintain accuracy. Before finalizing your application, please check back to ensure you have the most current interview details.

Search Program Name:

Filters:

Display Applicant Type(s): MD x DO x US IMG x Non-US IMG x ✕ ▾

[✕ Clear Compare List](#)

Compare Programs

1 to 50 of 768 results for Programs

Sorted by: [?](#) % of 2024 Applicants Invited to Interview (Interview Rate)

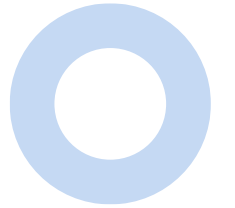
Compare	My Profile Alignment	Program	% of 2024 Applicants Invited to Interview (Interview Rate)								City	State	Region
			Signal	No Signal	In-State School	Out-of-State School	MD	DO	US IMG	Non-US IMG ↓			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0/0	ECU Health Medical Center Program	81%	58%	88%	57%	58%	66%	50%	64%	Greenville	NC	South Atlantic
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0/0	Marion Health Program	-	-	67%	39%	0%	18%	33%	54%	Marion	IN	East North Central
<input type="checkbox"/>	0/0	BAYCARE HEALTH SYSTEM (ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL-SOUTH/TAMPA FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS) PROGRAM - Family Medicine, Riverview, FL	-	-	100%	42%	33%	71%	42%	38%	Riverview	FL	South Atlantic
<input type="checkbox"/>	0/0	South Texas Health System GME Consortium Program	-	-	-	58%	33%	60%	60%	38%	McAllen	TX	West South Central
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0/0	Good Samaritan University Hospital/St. Joseph Hospital Campus Program	-	-	45%	29%	17%	43%	25%	35%	Bethpage	NY	Middle Atlantic
<input type="checkbox"/>	0/0	Houston Healthcare System Program	63%	31%	60%	33%	29%	64%	25%	31%	Warner Robins	GA	South Atlantic
<input type="checkbox"/>	0/0	Community Health of Central Washington Program	58%	63%	97%	60%	79%	73%	52%	31%	Yakima	WA	Pacific

1 - 50 of 768 items

Interviews

- **Done through Thalamus platform or Zoom, log-in through your ERAS account → VIRTUAL**
- **Some programs have 'optional' social mixers as well**
- **Want to get to know you as a person, be yourself!!!**
- **Make sure you know the program WELL, not just surface level. Find some unique aspects of the program that make you want to match there.**

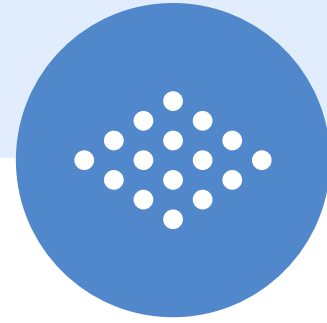
- **After interviews, you submit your Rank Order List → Make sure you rank where you WANT to go, not where you think you matched.**





Tips & Reflections

- **Get your Croatian medical license BEFORE leaving Croatia if possible!!!**
- **LORs are GOLD, get at least 2 in YOUR wanted specialty! At least 1 close to application submission as well**
- **Everything takes time - make sure you give yourself time and know all the deadlines**
- **Instagram account: matcharesident is super useful to follow**
- **It is a challenging process, but many have done it and it is definitely possible!**
- **Stay motivated and work hard, but remember to take care of yourself throughout the process.**



**THANK
YOU!**



Email:

chloe.parezanovic@gmail.com

Whatsapp: +1 403 918 9384