



Assignment 1.8: My Professional Development Plan

Instructions: Use this worksheet to map out your long-term professional goal as a series of short-term goals and steps. As you do this, think about the skills that you need to develop and the steps it will take to identify and secure your preferred position. Set your long-term goal for one year after graduation

Today's date:

26 July, 2025

Long Term Goal:

To get into a Dermatology Residency Program pursue a career in academic or clinical dermatology

Short Term Goal 1:

Achieve academic excellence and develop a solid knowledge base in dermatology-related medical sciences.

Steps:

By When:

Resources Needed:

Achieve top grades in pre-clinical courses, especially anatomy, pathology, microbiology, and immunology

By the end of my third medical year (June 2027)

Professors, Friends and Family

Begin early preparation for USMLE Step 1/ IFOM1 using targeted dermatology resources.

By beginning of July 2025

USMLE/ IFOM resources (First Aid, Robbins, Pathoma, Sketchy)

Go into clinics with certified dermatologists to gain clinical exposure early.

By beginning of August 2025

Family Networks and Friends

Affiliation with a dermatology professional society (e.g., Lebanese Society of Dermatology)

By the end of my fifth medical year (July 2027)

Conferences or Workshops

Short Term Goal 2:

Strengthen clinical skills and dermatology-specific exposure in clinical years

Steps:

By When:

Resources Needed:

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| Develop relationships with dermatology faculty for mentorship and future recommendations. | By the end of my first clinical year (June 2028) | Hospitals and Nursing homes dermatology faculties |
| Prepare thoroughly for USMLE Step 2 CK and aim for a competitive score. | By the end of med school (June 2029) | Medical References (Guyton & Halls's, Robbins, Lippincott) |
| Engage in dermatology case-based learning sessions, journal club meetings, and hospital grand rounds to deepen clinical understanding | By the end of my clerkship phase (June 2029) | Clinical skills practice sessions |
| Prioritize dermatology and relevant sciences & cases (e.g., pathology, rheumatology, infectious diseases). | By the end of my 5 th medical year | Clinical Rotations & Books |

Short Term Goal 3:

Build a strong research and extracurricular profile in dermatology.

| <u>Steps:</u> | <u>By When:</u> | <u>Resources Needed:</u> |
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| Present findings at local or international conferences. | By end of medical school (June 2029) | Dermatology-related NGOs or campaigns |
| Join a dermatology research project or initiate a small case series. | By end of medical school (June 2029) | Research mentors and principal investigators |
| Volunteer in community skin health awareness or screening programs. | By end of medical school (June 2029) | Access to patients and clinical records |
| Publish in dermatology journals or student medical journals. | By end of medical school (June 2029) | PubMed and other research webs |

Short Term Goal 4:

Develop a strong residency application portfolio and build effective interview skills.

| <u>Steps:</u> | <u>By When:</u> | <u>Resources Needed:</u> |
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| Network with dermatology residents and program directors. | By fall of final year (November 2029) | Residency advising and personal statement review services |
| Prepare thoroughly for residency interviews. | By fall of final year (November 2029) | Mock interview sessions or tutors. |
| Apply to away electives at strong dermatology programs. | By fall of final year (November 2029) | Financial support for interviews/travel |
| Write a focused personal statement reflecting my interest in dermatology. | By fall of final year (November 2029) Mock interview sessions or tutors | My WRN course acquired skills |