

Type of Rotation

1. Obviously you want to pick a specialty you are interested in.
2. If you are trying to decide between two specialty choices, schedule one rotation in each. You can always try to change a rotation if you change your mind later.
3. While you are at any military location, you can always interview or “drop by” other programs at that same location. For example, let’s say you are interested in Internal Medicine and Emergency Medicine. You schedule an EM month at a military hospital. During your stay at that base, you can contact the Internal Medicine department and maybe “work a few shifts” during your off-time from ER. Then you can ask to interview for an Internal Medicine spot while you are there, as well as interview for an ER spot.

Note: Program directors understand you may still be split. Be honest about what you are looking into, and always tell them that once you make your decision, you will let them know. This is better than telling a Program Director you are 100% dedicated to his field and then find out that you interviewed in two other fields as well at the same hospital.

4. If you are sure you know what specialty you want to match into, pick two rotations in the same fields at different locations.
5. Occasionally students will want to do a specific rotation at a specific location, but there are no spots open in that rotation. If all else fails, you can pick a different rotation at the same hospital and then “drop by” the program you were really interested in (much like the above mentioned tactic for seeing two programs at a hospital). Pick a rotation where you will likely have some free time (ER, radiology, pathology).