Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: "Will I be able to pick the sites and dates for my rotations?"
A: Students will complete the Colorado APPE Match Interest Survey in October to pick from the established 2019-2020 6 week timeframes for their rotations. Then, students will submit their rotation site preferences into eValue between December and January 21st, 2019.

EValue is an online academic suite and will assist with the matching process. EValue has the most advanced matching process on the market today utilizing optimization processes, rather than lottery processes, to create the highest ranked choices possible for the class at large. If a student wants a specific site/preceptor, then the student will make the site the highest priority and hope for the best. Students are required to submit 5 site choices for each needed rotation type so the odds of getting a sites of interest to students is high. Of course, it is not possible for every student to get all of her/his first choice(s) since many students may be vying for the same sites.

Q2: “Can I do a rotation at my work site?”
A: Possibly. Students cannot do a rotation at their work site unless it is in a different department with a different supervisor, and of course, the rotation would need to be unpaid. Students must be doing different activities with a different preceptor. The student cannot be precepted by someone who reports to the student; therefore, pharmacy directors have limited opportunities for doing rotations at their work sites.

Q3: “I want to do my rotations back-to-back. How do I schedule this?”
A: Make that request through the Colorado APPE Match Interest Survey. That said, Colorado rotations are 6 weeks. ALL students begin their rotation on the start and end days listed in the rotation dates schedule. Rotations are not offered during the Christmas and New Year holidays. In addition, availability for block 6 (January to mid-February) is limited to non-clinical electives and community pharmacy.

Q4: “Is housing available?”
A: Please see the “Colorado Rotation Requirements” document.

Q5: “Is there public transportation?”
A: Students should budget for car rental expenses for the duration of the rotation. Public transportation may be available in some locations but in most cases it does not meet the needs of students. Likewise, bike riding is not advisable unless the practice site is very close to AHEC housing and depending on the weather conditions at that time of year.

Q6: “What if I’m matched to a site that I do not want or the matched time was not my 1st choice and/or my boss will not give me the time off?”
A: First of all, make thoughtful choices when prioritizing Colorado rotation selections and only rank sites of interest. Secondly, NPTD and ITPD students will determine exactly when their rotations are to occur by completing the Colorado APPE Match Interest Survey mentioned in the first FAQ. Once results are released students will have at least two days to request small changes (e.g. change this site to that site that is still available). After that, preceptors will be notified and no further changes will be allowed. Students should refer to the rotation site availability and drop policy as listed on the DDP website.
Q7: “I have not scheduled an advising call yet. May I still sign up for the match?”
A: It depends on a couple of factors. To view the current eligibility requirements to participate in the Colorado APPE rotation match process, the rotation manual, policy and procedures, etc. go to the Colorado APPE Rotation Match website page. NTPD students should also review the experiential planning policy as found on the experiential training website page.

Q8: “Do I have to do the match process or may I still do a rotation in Colorado if I miss the match?”
A: There may be unfilled rotation sites available after the match process, in which case the student may choose one of the unfilled rotation sites. The unfilled rotation sites may or may not meet the student’s specific needs (type and/or time) so participating in the match process offers the greatest chance of getting a preferred site. The DDP office cannot guarantee all NTPD and ITPD students will have the opportunity to select a Colorado rotation from an unfilled rotation site if students do not follow the deadlines associated with the Colorado match process. The unfilled rotation sites will be available shortly after the matched rotations are posted.

Q9: “What about Visas and Colorado Intern licenses?”
A: The University of Colorado sponsors the student’s education VISA (F-1 Visa) while the student is on rotation anywhere in the US. Students will be provided with the contact information after the match. All students completing rotations in Colorado must have a Colorado intern license prior to the start of the rotation. The school will provide additional information and website links to the Colorado pharmacy board website but plan accordingly. The process to obtain these two items may take months.

Q10: “What are the immunization and certification requirements?”
A: University requirements must be up to date one semester prior to the start of the student’s APPE rotation. In addition, many sites have additional immunization and certification requirements, on-site HIPAA training and other trainings, and will not accept students who do not meet their criteria. You can email the DDP office at NTPD@ucdenver.edu or ITPD@ucdenver.edu if you have questions about the University requirements and your status.

Please note: All students doing Colorado rotations must submit to a drug test. The student must schedule the drug test in Colorado on a Thursday before the Monday rotation start date. There are some labs available in the US, outside of Colorado, but completing the drug test at one of these labs must be pre-arranged by the DDP office. Students should plan to arrive in Colorado on Wednesday, the day prior to the scheduled drug test on Thursday. Drug tests are generally completed in Denver; therefore, students should plan to stay in Denver on Wednesday night.

Q11: “What are the Preceptor/Student Relationship Requirements?”
A: An “arm’s length relationship” must be maintained between student and preceptor. For example, your preceptor cannot be your parent, spouse, work supervisor, employee, direct report, employee of your parent or spouse, etc. Students cannot complete rotations at their worksite unless it is in a different department with a different supervisor. In addition, students cannot be paid for rotation activities per ACPE accreditation guidelines.