

# Guatemala

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The **Guatemala (Trifinio) Global Health Elective** consists of a one month clinical rotation which occurs in the Southwest Trifinio area of Guatemala, at the Center for Human Development Clinic (CHD). Collaborations between the Fundacion para la Salud Integral de los Guatemaltecos CU, the Regional Hospital in Coatepeque and University of Colorado School of Medicine faculty are well established for a number of Departments including Pediatrics, OB/GYN, Laboratory Medicine, Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, and Nursing Midwifery.

The elective is structured and focuses on clinical, research and educational activities. The elective is supervised by faculty members in the respective departments who will serve as your mentor and Dr. Antonio Bolaños, the Director of the CHD Clinic at the Trifinio.

A maximum of two residents/fellow slots are available per month. Availability is not guaranteed for all months as availability depends on faculty availability for supervision, coordination of slots among numerous other programs, and other external factors.

**Who is eligible for Global Health Electives?** Residents/Fellows who are in good standing in programs at the University of Colorado School of Medicine may apply to do electives in Guatemala. Residents/fellows who are on probation or participating in remediation plans are not eligible. In order to be considered for an elective in the Guatemala Trifinio site, the resident/fellow must complete and submit an application and indicate an “elective month” for the period they intend to do this rotation.

**Where is the location of the Global Health Elective?** The Guatemala (Trifinio) Global Health Elective is currently being offered at the Southwest Trifinio site located 45 minutes south from the town of Coatepeque, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala. The area is located in the coastal lowlands, home to approximately 23,000 people from 20 different communities. The Center for Global Health and the Jose Fernando Bolaños Foundation have developed a Center for Human Development Clinic and community programs in the area where rotators will gain experience caring for children and families from local communities.

**Where can I get more information on the Global Health site?** More information about our Global Health site can be found at:

<http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/PublicHealth/research/centers/globalhealth/projects/Pages/Guatemala-Signature-Site.aspx>

<http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/PublicHealth/research/centers/globalhealth/education/Pages/Global-Health-Elective.aspx>

**How much time will it take to prepare for my Global Health Elective?** Preparation normally begins six months prior to travel.

**Is a Global Health Elective for me?** Residents and fellows applying to the Global Health Elective program must be in good standing with their residency program and the University of Colorado Graduate Medical Education Office/Post-Doctoral Office. Your application must be supported by your Department and Program Director. Residents/Fellows who participate in Global Health Electives should be flexible and willing to step in where needed. In many instances, set schedules are not given ahead of time.

A Global Health Elective is a wonderful opportunity to understand clinical presentation and management of common diseases in a resource-poor environment, as well as understand alternative health systems in cultural settings.