

UCSF School of Medicine • Bridges Curriculum Clinical Immersive Experiences (CIEx) in F2

Frequently Asked Questions

Co-Directors: Sarah Goglin, MD and Leslie Sheu, MD • Curriculum Coordinator: Sara Clemons

What is a CIEx (Clinical Immersive Experience)?

CIExes are elective opportunities meant for career exploration or skills building in areas of clinical interest. Students will have six 2-week blocks during which they will participate in three to four 2-week CIExes.

CIExes are broken down into 4 different categories:

- *Integrative: students spend time in different specialties to learn about particular disease/organ systems in an integrative way (for example: hematology elective include times in the lab to look at smears, time with pathologists to look at bone marrow biopsies, and time seeing in- or outpatients with hematologic diseases)*
- *Subspecialty: students spend time on a subspecialty service, seeing patients and participating in a team that often includes fellows and attendings.*
- *Apprenticeship: students spend time with one or two attendings (in clinic, in the hospital, in the OR) to better understand a day in the life of somebody in their specialty of interest.*
- *Clinical skills building: students spend time focusing on a particular skillset, e.g. clinical skills, diagnostic reasoning, EKG reading, etc.*

When do students sign up for CIExes?

All students will sign up for CIExes in mid-November prior to the start of their F2 year. We acknowledge that student career interests may change, so students are welcome to add/drop CIExes up to 8 weeks prior to a CIEx start date (though students will not be able to sign up for a CIEx if it is already full).

- *CIExes are offered throughout the year from January to December in 2-week blocks (some are 4-week blocks). However, not every CIEx is offered every block, and most CIExes can accommodate only 1-2 students at a time.*

What is the schedule for CIExes?

During a two-week CIEx, students will spend a total of 8 days in the elective. Students will be away one week on Wednesday for their Foundational Science Day (with the FCM seminar/IDS113 curriculum), and the other week for their Family and Community Medicine day which will vary by student (but will never be on Monday). They will have weekends off.

Where will CIExes be held?

CIEx locations vary based on the clinical site.

Are CIExes mandatory?

Yes, students are required to participate in 3 CIExes during F2. Depending upon availability, students may optionally complete a fourth CIEx.

How do students in PISCES, KLIC, VALOR, or Model ZSFG participate in CIExes?

All students must complete 3 CIExes during F2, regardless of track. Students in PISCES, KLIC, or VALOR should check with their directors about preferred CIExes

How do students in Fresno participate in CIExes?

Fresno will have site-specific CIExes. Kasan Jones, kjones@fresno.ucsf.edu is the administrative contact.

What are the grading requirements?

All CIExes are pass/fail; attendance and active participation are required to receive a passing grade. Students must also complete 2 SMART goals at the start of the CIEx and a self-reflection at the end of each CIEx.

What if a student's area of interest is not represented in the course catalog?

Unfortunately, not all specialties have the capacity to accommodate students in their clinical setting. However, if students or faculty notice opportunities to develop a CIEx, and have a CIEx faculty lead in mind, we would welcome the opportunity to engage with the faculty lead to create a CIEx. Please reach out to Sarah Goglin (sarah.goglin@ucsf.edu) and Leslie Sheu (leslie.sheu@ucsf.edu).

Who is the main contact?

Please reach out to Sara Clemons (sara.clemons@ucsf.edu) for questions or concerns.