

Sample Letter of Application / Motivation

Phone: (+49-6131) 999116
e-mail: medicusr@asklepios.de

55118 Mainz
Rheinallee 24
Germany

January 19th, 2004

The Secretary
Admissions Office
Banting University Medical School
2000 Inuit Drive
Cattoona, (Province) SL3 7NV
Canada

Re: Medical Clerkship

Dear Madam or Sir,

I am a 4th year medical student at Mainz University in Germany. I would like to apply for an elective period (one month) at Banting University Medical School, preferably in the paediatrics department.

The clinical subjects that I studied during the last three semesters were the physical examination of patients, emergency medicine, general pathology, clinical chemistry, pharmacology, microbiology, public hygiene, industrial medicine, forensic science, and internal medicine.

Paediatrics is, however, my preferred branch because it includes nearly all major medical fields, and, besides, I enjoy working with children. I have already gained more than average experience in this area, having worked in the University's paediatrics department as a part-time auxiliary nurse since November 2002. I have already completed elective periods in gynaecology and obstetrics at another Mainz hospital (Hildegardis Hospital), where I attended and assisted at several births.

As I am seriously considering specializing in paediatrics after I qualify as an M.D., I am keenly interested in acquiring more theoretical knowledge and practical skills in this area, especially in the taking of medical histories and nursing care. I would hope to be given the opportunity to learn a great deal from clinical staff at Banting University Medical School, helping with history taking and P.E., also being present at rounds and when various medical procedures are performed. In addition, I would hope to be able to take part in appropriate programmes of further education, should these be on offer.

It might be appropriate to mention that I am reasonably familiar with laboratory work. Experimental work is required for my doctoral thesis which is under way at the institute of human genetics.

It is my hope to learn more about medical education and health care systems in other countries, and to experience other methods of hospital organisation and provision of medical care. Canada is my first choice as a foreign country for my clerkship, both because fellow students have spoken very highly of medical education there, and because I visited Canada in summer 1996 and fell in love with the country. I am very eager to return, if possible, this summer.

I enclose a curriculum vitae and a reference from the Dean of the Mainz University Medical School. Please contact me if you require any further details or documents (e.g. certificates for courses I passed). I hope to hear from you in the near future.

Yours faithfully,