

Elective Preceptorships: A Flexible Way to Teach

The UBC Family Practice Residency Program is seeking community family physicians interested in hosting local or visiting residents for short elective placements. Electives are a great way to support resident education with a short, flexible time commitment, typically two to four weeks.

Elective rotations help residents broaden their clinical experience and explore different models of family practice. By offering an elective in your clinic, you'll give residents valuable exposure to community-based family medicine while also getting a feel for whether precepting is a good longer-term fit.

Benefits of hosting a resident for an elective:

- Low time commitment: 2–4 weeks only — a great way to “test drive” precepting.
- Stipend provided: \$100 per day as an acknowledgment of your teaching support for UBC residents.
- Collegial connection: Join a community of physicians who value mentorship and education.
- Practice enhancement: Residents often bring fresh knowledge, enthusiasm, and new perspectives.
- Recognition: Preceptors receive a *UBC Clinical Faculty Teaching appointment*, acknowledging your contribution to medical education.
- Succession Planning: A great way to build connections with residents who may be interested in locuming or joining your team in the future.

What's Expected of Me as an Elective Preceptor?

We know that hosting a resident for the first time can feel like a big step. For short-term electives, the expectations are straightforward and designed to be flexible. As a preceptor, your role is to:

- Provide a welcoming and safe learning environment where the resident feels supported.
- Adapt teaching to the resident's level of training and individual learning needs.
- Use teachable moments in day-to-day clinical work to help residents apply their knowledge in practice.
- Optionally provide weekly coaching notes to give residents constructive feedback and track progress.
- Complete a brief evaluation form at the end of the elective.

For a more detailed overview of preceptor roles, please see the UBC Preceptor Guidelines [here](#).

How to Get Involved

Interested in hosting a resident for a short-term elective? Contact the Victoria Electives Coordinator, Katie Macquarrie, at katiemacq@uvic.ca to express your interest or learn more about the process.

FAQ

What Would Be My Role/Expectation?

UBC provides a detailed [Preceptor Role Description](#), but in general, your role is to:

- Create a positive and supportive learning environment where residents feel comfortable asking questions and exploring new skills.
- Guide learning and skill development by sharing your clinical knowledge and reasoning as opportunities arise.
- Offer constructive feedback on performance in a way that helps residents grow.
- Model effective professional practice through your approach to patient care, communication, and clinical decision-making.
- Complete a brief evaluation form at the end of the elective.

What Can I Expect from My Resident?

Expectations for residents are outlined in the [Resident Benchmarks document](#). Residents practice under an educational license, meaning that all clinical work must be supervised and approved by their preceptor. As a preceptor, you are responsible for reviewing the resident's work to ensure it meets your standards before signing off on it.

Logistics & Time Commitment

- **What is the time commitment?** Elective placements typically range from 2–4 weeks in duration. Some R2 residents can be approved to do one-week elective placements.
- **How will I be contacted?** You can choose whether residents reach out to you directly, or whether all requests are coordinated through the Victoria Elective Coordinator.
- **How many electives do I need to commit to?** As many or as few as you wish—there is no obligation to host once you express interest, and you can accept or decline requests based on timing and fit.
- **How much notice will I receive?** You are welcome to set your own expectations for required notice. Residents should ideally book electives 3–6 months in advance.

What is the Remuneration?

UBC provides a stipend of \$100 per day for precepting any UBC resident, which is payable annually to all clinical faculty. Please note that this stipend does not apply to visiting residents from other Canadian programs.

In addition, the LFP Payment Plan supports bedside teaching at a rate of \$130/hour as part of your direct patient care time. Relevant details from the LFP Payment Plan include:

Services provided by Students, Residents, and Trainees

- Patient Interaction Codes are payable to supervising physicians for patient care provided by students, residents, and trainees related to clinic-based services.
- For in-person patient care, the supervising physician must be present in-person.
- For virtual care (phone or video), the supervising physician must be available in-person, by phone, or by videoconference in a timely manner appropriate to the acuity of the service being supervised.
- The maximum number of Patient Interaction Codes payable in a single calendar day is 50 (applies to all codes except 98022).
- The supervising physician must review the patient interaction and sign off on the medical record or other auditable document by the end of the next workday.

What if We Are Providing Virtual Care from Home on a Day We Have a Resident?

As many preceptor offices have shifted to a hybrid model, the Residency Program has adapted to support resident learning in virtual and remote care settings. Resources are available to help you teach effectively in this environment, including practical tips and strategies, which can be found under [Academic Teaching Resources](#).

Residents can participate in virtual patient care under your supervision, allowing for a flexible and safe learning experience while maintaining quality patient care.

Ongoing Involvement:

If you find that you enjoy hosting residents for short-term electives, there are opportunities to become more involved with the program. The Victoria site is always looking for community physicians who are interested in serving as primary family practice preceptors, working with a resident throughout their two-year residency.

UBC Residents vs. Visiting Residents: What's the Difference?

Hosting a resident is rewarding in either case, but there are a few differences:

- **Stipend:** UBC residents receive \$100/day; visiting residents do not. Regardless, the main value comes from mentoring and engaging with future colleagues.
- **Recruitment potential:** Visiting residents are often originally from Victoria or considering moving to Victoria post-residency, making this a great way to connect with potential future locums or physicians to join your practice.
- **Learning and supervision:** Both UBC and visiting residents practice under your supervision, bringing fresh perspectives, energy, and up-to-date knowledge to your clinic.