Changing your Foundation Rotation

Background

Most of the Foundation Programmes are for two years and recruits to the OFS will be matched at the start of their programme to rotations that are based in 2 or 3 Trusts. Some trainees will spend all two years in one Trust. You will also be allocated at the start to the order in which you will take up your posts. The rotations are designed to provide an appropriate mix of specialties with a mixture of acute and non-acute posts as well as experience in more than one Trust. For about two thirds of the programmes this will include experience in a teaching hospital. It is common for trainees to feel happy with most of their posts but not always the whole rotation. However we have had feedback from some trainees who have found posts that they would not have chosen to do unexpectedly useful.

Commonly asked questions

Can I change the order of the posts in my rotation?

Trainees are able to swap the order of their allocated rotation but please note the following:

It is the trainee’s responsibility to approach other trainees to negotiate a mutually agreeable swap.

The Foundation School Manager can provide the contact details of trainees within the same rotation.

If a swap is agreed, the trainees concerned must put this in writing to Ann Spafford, the Foundation School Manager, at the Oxford Foundation School, confirming all changes which have been made.

The trainees must inform the medical staffing contact at the relevant trust of the changes made by the 1st June before the rotation starts in August. Details of Trust contacts can be obtained by contacting Ann Spafford at the Oxford Foundation School.

The deadline for swapping the order of a rotation is 1st April 2009; requests made beyond this date will not be considered as Trusts require sufficient time to issue trainee contracts etc.
Can I swap across rotations if I find a colleague who is also willing to swap?

Swaps across rotations are **NOT** permitted unless there are exceptional (usually personal) circumstances. Exceptional circumstances do not include your career intentions as you can make arrangements in F2 to have taster experiences in specialties that you are not working in during the rotation. If you believe you have exceptional circumstances you should contact Ann Spafford in the first instance.

**Can I swap an entire one year rotation?**

You have been appointed to a two year rotation where we have attempted to balance the experience and ensure there is no duplication. Swaps of whole rotations are not permitted unless there are exceptional (usually personal circumstances).

Anne Edwards, 1st February 2010

Foundation School Director