



8 Curriculum Vitae Tips for a Successful Match

STRENGTHEN YOUR CV TO HELP WHEN APPLYING TO RESIDENCY PROGRAMS.

DON'T WAIT, START NOW

Start building your CV early. Seek out leadership, research, extracurricular, or volunteer opportunities. Update your CV as you progress through medical school.

KEEP IT SHORT

Your CV should be easy to read and your top accomplishments easy to identify. Pick two or three good reasons why programs should choose you over other applicants.

BE CONCISE

Your CV should be succinct and direct. Avoid explanatory sentences. You can provide more context and information in your personal statement.

MAKE IT ORDERLY

Arrange your CV in reverse chronological order, with your most recent experiences and positions at the top. Ensure dates and titles are clearly marked and easily identified.

HIGHLIGHT YOUR UNIQUE QUALITIES

Your CV should build upon the application form you will submit to a program. Highlight information that is unique to you and let the accomplishments spotlight specific qualities.

BE HONEST

Be honest and specific about your accomplishments and the level of participation in a project or activity.

CUSTOMIZE IT

Review, restructure, and rewrite your CV for each residency program application. Customize to a program's unique focus or characteristics.

GET EXPERT ADVICE

Examine CV samples for ideas on how to improve your own CV. Ask a mentor to review your CV or take advantage of review services at conferences or events held by your school or student organization.



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For more tips and a sample CV, visit: aafp.org/cvtips