

Expedition Fund Award Report 16/17

Before the trip

As a medical student, I am always looking for opportunities to widen my horizon within the medical field. This summer, I was fortunate enough to be accepted to participate in a clinical observership at the surgical department of the Children's of Alabama Hospital, one of the biggest paediatric hospitals in the US. Through this placement, I expected to develop my interest in surgery, improve my medical knowledge, while experiencing and learning about culture in the US.

Since the US is a relatively costly country to travel to, this trip required a lot of careful organising and budget planning. The availability of the Expedition Fund made this process easier and made it financially viable for me to travel to the US.



Photo of the Children's of Alabama Hospital.
Taken from its website

Clinical placement

The clinical experience was truly eye opening. During the placement, I have learnt about a range of paediatric conditions and how they are managed with surgery; this invariably helps tremendously with my studies in the field, and paved the way for future opportunities in surgery. From observing clinical practices in the US, I realised that patients are often managed differently in the US compared to the UK; this taught me that in the future, I should keep an open mind and pay attention to



Photo of me with other medical students

clinical practices in different countries. I had the opportunity to work with doctors and medical students from around the world; from this, I learnt about differences in medical practices and cultures between countries, which helps with my communication with medical professionals from different backgrounds.

Traveling after

After completing the placement, I took the opportunity to travel to a few cities, including Washington, New York, and Boston; to experience the American culture, and to meet fellow travellers from around the world. Here are some photos I took during my exploration:



← Photo taken in front of National Gallery of Art, Washington

Photo taken in Central Park, New York →

