

GUS MCGUINNESS

Targeted Rural UnderServed Track

WWAMI
TRUST
UW MEDICINE

Montana

Entering Class of 2018

TRUST seeks to provide a continuous connection between rural, small city underserved communities, medical education, and health professionals in our region. Our goal is to create a full-circle pipeline by guiding qualified students through a special curriculum that connects continuity communities in WWAMI to the University of Washington School of Medicine and its network of affiliated residency programs in an effort to help meet the workforce needs of the region.



Hello Libby! I am incredibly excited to spend time in the Libby community as a 2018 TRUST student with Dr. Greg Rice and everyone else at the Libby clinic. Being afforded the opportunity to become a medical student with the UW School of Medicine and to be a TRUST Scholar in Libby is a dream come true.

My upbringing was split between the United Kingdom in England and Colorado. In Colorado, my family and I would often drive to my grandparents' ranch on the border Colorado and Wyoming. These trips galvanized my passion for the mountains and hard work. We were always busy fixing the tractors, building dams, and cutting firewood. The idea of becoming a rural physician first occurred when I went to college at Montana State University where I completed a degree in Microbiology in 2015. Throughout college, I constantly found myself drawn towards the small towns and lonely dirt roads throughout Montana, so much so, that I created and implemented a science outreach program for small ranching towns.

There are many aspects of rural living that have positively impacted my life. Most significantly, living in Hamilton, as a research fellow at Rocky Mountain Laboratories for the past two years has taught me that I not only want to live in a small community but I strongly desire to contribute directly to the community I live in. Now that I have the opportunity to do just that in the TRUST program, I know that my love for and commitment to small rural towns will only grow as I find myself positively contributing something back to the people and places that have shaped who I am today.

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I have always loved to explore and in my spare time I enjoy hiking, trail running, ice climbing, and mountaineering. That being said, I can hardly wait to become a part of the Libby community, not only to meet its people and have a positive impact on their lives, but also to explore the surrounding wilderness.

Thank you for this wonderful opportunity!

Gus



<http://depts.washington.edu/fammed/education/programs/trust>