

Sample email from a Chief Resident that addresses some important considerations for graduating residents that may not otherwise be addressed by the program.

### **"Important issues to consider when budgeting for your PGY-4 year"**

**Interviewing for fellowship/jobs:** Most places that you interview at for fellowship do not pay for hotel accommodations

- One tip that I learned from a prior 4th year, was asking if you do stay at a hotel, for the federal employee rate, which we are entitled to as a consequence of being employees at the VA hospital.
- The cost for the interviewing and transportation will vary depending on how many places you apply to, etc.

### **Neurology Boards, cost \$2,500 for 2015**

- Sign up deadline was by 2/16/2015 for this year, otherwise there was a late penalty additional cost
- Boards are usually given in September
- I believe you do need to have your licensing approved by the time of your boards, there is a timeline with many dates on the boards website in the manual they have for neurology boards

### **State licensing—cost and application process varies per state**

- There is an organization called the FCVS, through the Federation for State Medical Boards, that is essentially an agency that compiles all the necessary paperwork for your licensing
- Each state is different in terms of the requirements--some require to use the FCVS, such as Ohio, and others give you the choice, such as Massachusetts
- Ohio requires that if you apply for a license in Ohio, you must use the FCVS
- Cost of applying with FCVS, baseline cost is \$350 dollars for your initial profile, for additional profiles it is an additional \$95, but you also will have to pay for them to obtain your medical school transcript, etc. from talking with my classmates they feel they ended up paying around \$450 total for the FCVS or a bit more than this.

### **Neurology AAN conference:**

- Have \$2000 stipend from neurology residency, will only be able to claim this after you submit your receipt
- Registration for conference costs this year 2015 \$400 to \$500
- Have to consider lodging, transportation, and food costs as well.

### **Beyond residency costs:**

- Moving costs, apartment, etc., if moving cities for fellowship/job
- License renewal--additional few hundred dollars
  - For the state to which I am applying, which is Massachusetts, this license renewal date is dependent on my birthday. I need to have my license to sit for my boards in September, and have January birthday, which means that I will have to renew my license before next January, which is the cost of the entire license again, a few hundred dollars I will have to pay again by the end of this year for renewal of my license