

2009

Summer Health Care Intern Program

Student Brochure

*Funding for this program
is provided through a contract with the
Office of Rural Health & Primary Care,
Minnesota Department of Health.*



What is the Summer Health Care Intern Program?

This program brings students and health care employers together, giving students experience in a health care environment and employers the opportunity to become more involved in their community. Participating Minnesota hospitals, nursing facilities, home health agencies, medical clinics, assisted living residences and physicians employ students between Memorial Day and Labor Day for six to 12 weeks at good wages.

What kind of experience will students receive?

You may work in only one department or rotate through various departments. You will not be expected to perform duties not associated with the health care industry such as mowing lawns or general maintenance.

Possible areas of intern employment

- ★ Radiology
- ★ Laboratory
- ★ Occupational Therapy
- ★ Nutrition/Dietary Services
- ★ Business office
- ★ Transport
- ★ Pharmacy
- ★ Activities/Special Events
- ★ Inpatient Care
- ★ Respiratory Therapy
- ★ Chaplaincy
- ★ Social Services
- ★ Music Therapy

Possible intern duties

- ☞ Register patients
- ☞ Clean and sterilize instruments
- ☞ Schedule appointments
- ☞ Transport lab specimens
- ☞ Clean, restock and prepare exam rooms
- ☞ Prepare and pull charts
- ☞ Transport patients/residents/clients
- ☞ Computer data entry
- ☞ Accompany residents to appointments
- ☞ Nutritional services
- ☞ Social activities/special events
- ☞ Companionship
- ☞ Health care data collection

Who is eligible?

You must have completed either your junior or senior year of high school and must intend to complete graduation requirements. Or, you must be a post-secondary student enrolled in a Minnesota educational institution or be a resident of Minnesota enrolled in an out-of-state program. Post-secondary students must be enrolled, or plan to be enrolled, in a two- or four-year health care degree program, with the intention of completing the program.

“This program gives high school students a chance to decide if they like the medical field. It helped me in my career planning decisions.”

— Summer Intern Student

How do students participate?

Your first step is to call physicians or human resources departments of Minnesota hospitals, medical clinics, nursing facilities, home health agencies and assisted living residences in your area to find out if they participate in the program. When you locate a participating facility, you must:

- ✓ complete an employment application;
- ✓ provide a letter of recommendation from a health occupations or science educator to the employer; and
- ✓ interview with the employer for the intern position.

If your area hospitals, medical clinics, nursing facilities, home health agencies, assisted living residences or physicians do not currently participate, you can urge them to become involved by asking them to contact Sarah Bohnet, Minnesota Hospital Association, at sbohnet@mnhospitals.org or (651) 603-3494.

Visit the Minnesota Hospital Association’s website at http://www.mnhospitals.org/index/Summer_Intern_Program/ for more information and a list of participating facilities.

Support for this program provided by:

- ✎ Care Providers of Minnesota
- ✎ Minnesota Health & Housing Alliance
- ✎ Minnesota HomeCare Association
- ✎ Minnesota Hospital Association

“I have never had such a wonderful summer job in my life. I couldn’t have imagined learning so much in such a short amount of time and enjoying it!”

— Summer Intern Student