

Summer Physician Observer Program

Program Overview

St. Luke's offers college students, who are at least rising juniors, an opportunity to apply for the Pre-Med Observer Program. This program is designed to assist students in deciding if becoming a Physician is the best career choice. Participants will have an opportunity to observe Physicians within the Bethlehem Campus, in various specialties as well as the entire multidisciplinary healthcare team. The students are also encouraged to visit a number of diagnostic and treatment areas to understand the role they play in the patient's care. This program runs mid-May through June 30.

The purpose of this program is not to accumulate patient contact/observation hours, but to guide students in making a career choice. Individuals strictly in need of direct patient contact hours can do so through our volunteer experiences. Please see the college student volunteer opportunities page for a brief description and application package.

Program Requirements

In order to be considered, applicants who are rising juniors with a minimum CUM GPA of 3.25 and those who are rising seniors with a minimum CUM GPA of 3.4. Please make sure your schedule will permit you to observe at least once a week in the morning from 7 – 11 and one afternoon a week from mid-May through June 30th. You are required to observe a minimum of 60 hours during the session.

To apply for the Pre-Med Observer Program, please send the following to: Volunteer Services, St. Luke's University Hospital, 801 Ostrum St., Bethlehem, PA 18015. Applications for the summer program are due by March 1st. **Space is limited and only complete application packages will be considered.**

1. **Letter of intent** (personal statement) addressing:
 - a. your interest in being a Physician
 - b. previous experience that supports this decision
 - c. what interests you in healthcare
 - d. what you hope to gain from the experience
 - e. what extra-curricular activities/jobs you actively participate in and when do they meet
2. **Letters of recommendation** from your professional advisor and a professor in your major field (or suitable replacement) noting interpersonal skills and academic abilities.
3. **Current resume**
4. **Official transcript**
5. **Availability** – please include timeframes of four hours or greater during when you're available to observe between Monday – Friday 7AM – 5PM; please include the date upon which you will be available to begin participating following completion of your spring semester final exams

****It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that items #2 & 4 are sent to Volunteer Services by the school representative.***

Documents will be reviewed by Volunteer Services and the Senior Associate Dean to determine who will be accepted into the program. Acceptance notifications are sent via email about 2 weeks after the due date.

Please email Volunteers@sluhn.org with any questions.