

2008

Summer Health Care Intern Program

Employer Brochure

Funding for this program is provided through a contract with the Office of Rural Health & Primary Care, Minnesota Department of Health. It is administered by a group of stakeholders comprised of hospitals, nursing facilities and home health representatives.



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, medical clinics, nursing facilities, home health agencies, assisted living residences and physicians employ students between Memorial Day and Labor Day for six to 12 weeks for at least minimum wage; up to half of the intern's hourly wages will be reimbursed.

Possible areas of employment/observation

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

What are the employer's obligations?

- ✓ Employers must pay at least minimum wage.
- ✓ Employers must provide an application for students and interview candidates for the internship.
- ✓ Employers must provide an orientation for the students.
- ✓ Employers can employ no more than five students from any one school.
- ✓ Employers must employ at least one secondary student for each post-secondary student employed (if there are sufficient qualifying secondary-student applicants).
- ✓ Employers must be willing to evaluate the program.

How can facilities participate?

Any Minnesota hospital, medical clinic, nursing facility, home health agency, assisted living residence or physician can participate in the Summer Health Care Intern Program by completing the application.

Minnesota Hospital Association will contact all applicants to establish a grant agreement.

What students qualify for the program?

Students must have completed either their junior or senior year of high school and must intend to complete graduation requirements. Or, they 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.

How do I hire the interns?

You should begin by contacting local high school and post-secondary health care careers programs, or by placing an advertisement in area newspapers. Employers should have students complete an application and then conduct interviews with qualified candidates. You should request a letter of reference from students as well. School counselors and students may also contact your facility.

“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

Possible intern duties:

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

Students should not be expected to perform duties not associated with the health care industry such as mowing lawns or general maintenance.

Apply online!

Employers may apply online at <http://www.mha-apps.com/shcip/> by the April 21, 2008 deadline.

“The students were an asset to our office.”

— Summer Intern Employer

Who do I contact with questions?

If you have questions regarding the Summer Health Care Intern Program, please contact Sarah Bohnet at the Minnesota Hospital Association
Tel: (651) 603-3494; (800) 462-5393 or sbohnet@mnhospitals.org.

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