

Student Nurse Externship Program

Frequently Asked Questions



1. Do I need my CNA license at the application deadline?

No, but you must have it by May 1st.

2. Can I take a class during the summer?

Students may take online classes with no clinical component, but no classes that have clinical rotations or that require in-class attendance.

3. Can I submit my application components at different times?

Yes, as long as we receive all of them by the deadline.

4. Can I work another job during the summer?

This summer externship is your first priority. You must work your preceptor's schedule and cannot request certain days off to meet other job requirements. You must also attend the education sessions.

5. Can I go on vacation during the 10 weeks?

You can go away on your days off, but are expected to be at work when your preceptor is scheduled as well as attend all education sessions.

6. My sister (brother, friend etc.) is getting married – can I attend if I am scheduled to work?

We work with all the students for special, pre-planned circumstances and ask that students let us know in advance.

7. Who should complete my letters of recommendation?

We would like them from at least one clinical instructor and one faculty instructor. We do not want them from employers.

8. How long after the interview process will decisions be made?

We will try to have all decisions made within three weeks.

9. Do you have a wait list for those not offered?

If someone declines an offer, we will extend an offer to another student – we do not have a wait list per se.

10. How many students will go through the interview process and how many will you select?

We will interview between 120 and 130 applicants and will select between 45-50 students.

11. Will I get one of my top two choices for units if selected?

We try to place students on their units of interest, but not everyone will get their first or second choice. When we make you the offer, we will tell you the unit at that time and you can decide then if you want to accept.

12. Do you place students on ICUs?

We place students on almost all of our units at UMMC including, ICU, IMC and Med/Surg.

13. Can I stay on as a student nurse after the externship program ends?

If there is position available, we will try and transfer you to a student nurse role. If no positions are available for your unit, we will try to find a position on another unit.

14. If I transfer to a student nurse role, do I have to stay on the same unit as my externship?

No, if other units have student nurse positions available, you may interview for another area.

15. I won't be able to work as a student nurse once school starts, but can I work over winter break?

No, you must be working during the fall semester to work during winter break.

16. Can I work on other units during the externship?

No, but may do share time on another unit on your day off (this is voluntary and not paid)