

Summer Internship Program for Student Nurses

- ✘ Designed to allow you to become part of an acute care staff before graduation.
- ✘ Helps improve nursing skills, competency and confidence.
- ✘ May help you decide your nursing career path after graduation.

Description

- ◆ Thirty-two hour, 10 Week, Summer Work-Study Program
- ◆ Individualized clinical experience with an RN preceptor
- ◆ 1st week in June thru the 1st week in August



Requirements

- ◆ Enrollment in an accredited nursing school program.
- ◆ Full-time status as a nursing student in good academic standing.
- ◆ Have successfully completed one semester of relevant clinical experience.
- ◆ Provide an Official transcript from School of Nursing.
- ◆ One recommendation from Clinical Nursing Faculty (form attached).
- ◆ Submit application by mid-February.

Quotes from previous Student Interns:

“I can't believe how much I've grown as a nurse in just ten weeks. It was really an experience of a lifetime. I feel much more confident about my career in nursing as a result of this internship.”

– Katherine Campbell, ICU

“The internship went above and beyond my expectations. I have acquired so many skills and so much knowledge this summer. I would highly recommend the program to other nursing students.”

– Karin Grant, ED

◆—————◆
To request application packet:

Rosanna Colangelo, Nursing Education, Rockville General Hospital

31 Union Street • Vernon, CT 06066 • (860) 872-0501 ext. 5659

email: RColangelo@echn.org

Introduction

The ECHN Summer Internship Program for Student Nurses is designed to allow you to become part of an acute care staff before graduation. Being part of the hospital staff will help you to improve your nursing skills, competency, and confidence. This experience will also help you to choose the type of nursing you want to do after graduation and where you will work.

The Internship Program has the dual benefit of clinical experience and mentoring by your RN preceptor. The program provides structured training and experience. Areas offered include Medical/Surgical, Critical Care, Emergency, Obstetrics, and Perioperative Nursing.

The program provides an opportunity for students to more easily transition into their nursing career.

ECHN is committed to this program and to your success as a participant in it. We will support you fully by helping you to adjust to an acute care setting and in providing an environment that is conducive to your career development and professional practice.

Description

- ◆ 10 week summer work-study program during the summer before the senior year.
- ◆ Internship provides a concentrated experience for the student to apply knowledge and skill in a structural clinical environment under the supervision of a Registered Nurse.
- ◆ Designed for the mature, self-motivated student who can adapt to a fast-paced environment.

Objectives

The ECHN Summer Intern will . . .

1. Achieve objectives through patient care assignments under the supervision of an RN preceptor, coordinated by a Clinical Instructor from the University of Connecticut. The student will provide direct patient care and gain experience in performing clinical nursing skills.
2. Increase level of clinical competence and clinical judgement by relating nursing theory to practice.
3. Refine communication skills through interactions with patients, families, and health team members.
4. Develop professional relationships with unit staff.
5. Demonstrate increased professional accountability.
6. Assume responsibility to seek new learning experiences.

Program Components

The ECHN Summer Intern will . . .

1. Work at either Rockville General Hospital or Manchester Memorial Hospital in a per diem status for 10 weeks, 32 hours per week.
2. Be provided a working relationship with an assigned RN preceptor.
3. Follow preceptor on his/her schedule.
4. Be designated as an ECHN Summer Intern.
5. Be required to attend:
 - Orientation Program
 - Clinical Seminars
 - Closing Session
6. Receive an hourly stipend of \$13.00 per hour.
7. Receive weekend and shift differentials when applicable.
8. The intern will not be eligible for hospital benefits such as vacation time, sick time, insurance, etc. due to per diem status.

Requirements

Intended for full-time nursing students who:

- ◆ Are enrolled in an accredited nursing school program.
 - ◆ Have successfully completed Fundamental Nursing Skills Laboratory.
 - ◆ Have completed at least one semester of clinical experience and a pharmacology course in their School of Nursing Program.
 - ◆ Are in good academic standing.
 - ◆ Are Certified in CPR by the AHA or ARC.
 - ◆ Submit an official transcript from School of Nursing, one ECHN recommendation form from Nursing Faculty (attached), an updated resume by mid-February to the address below and complete an ECHN employment application on-line.
- Rosanna Colangelo**
Nursing Education
Rockville General Hospital
31 Union Street
Vernon, CT 06066
Email: rcolangelo@echn.org
Phone: (860) 872-0501, ext. 5659.
- ◆ An Interview may be requested.
 - ◆ If accepted into the program, provide health data, undergo a pre-employment physical, and enroll in the course Summer Internship in Acute Care Nursing thru the University of Connecticut Department of Continuing Education

**Summary of Student Evaluations of Summer Internship Program 2010
Eastern Connecticut Health Network/University of Connecticut School of Nursing**

The interns were requested to evaluate whether the program facilitated their growth in each of the program objectives by completing a program evaluation form. The program objectives, which were determined collaboratively by the faculty advisor and the interns, were as follows:

1. To provide patient care and gain experience in performing clinical nursing skills under the direction of a registered nurse preceptor or their faculty advisor.
2. To increase level of clinical competence and clinical judgment by relating nursing theory to practice.
3. To refine communication skills through interactions with patients, families, and health team members.
4. To assist patients and their families in learning about their disease and the care that will be needed at home.
5. To assume responsibility in seeking new learning experiences.

Item # 6 related to the role of the preceptor.

Item # 7 related to the role of the faculty advisor.

For Items # 1-7, The interns rated their experience using a rating scale from 1 to 4, with 4 being the highest rating (agree completely) and 1 being the lowest rating (disagree). There were 5 interns at MMH and 3 interns at RGH. Each intern's ratings in the first seven items were averaged and listed below.

For Items #8-11 Comments were solicited from the interns about their summer experience.

Summary of Overall Scores for the first 7 items at each clinical site:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Overall Score</u>
ICU - MMH	4.0
ED - MMH	3.9
SCU- MMH	4.0
3N - MMH	3.9
2E - MMH	4.0
ED - RGH	4.0
ICU - RGH	3.6
Bissell II - RGH	4.0

Item #8- What I liked best about the Summer Internship Program

The complete experience in critical care nursing- not only the skills, but how to be a complete nurse through critical thinking.

Being able to provide nursing care, not just follow a nurse. Refining communication skills, becoming more efficient, working as an aide as well.

It was involved enough where we got to see our patients progress with treatment and helped us to know the process of how to treat patients in the hospital. It gave me a great sense of the care needed to make patients healthier.

I liked having the opportunity to work as both an aide and a nurse. It gave me great perspective and also allowed me to pick up additional hours.

Doing things not normally done in school clinical, like documenting on the computer, giving discharge instructions, giving report, talking with other members of the healthcare team.

I have gained so much confidence in communicating with patients, and also in my skills.

I really liked feeling like a part of the staff, having other nurses and doctors interact with me about my patients. You really can't get that in clinical.

I really enjoyed working as a student nurse and an aide. It taught me how much they really need to work together. I also enjoyed working with different nurses because it gave me exposure to many experiences and ways of performing tasks.

Item #9- What I liked least about the Summer Internship Program

Too short, however I understand the length of the program completely. I just had an amazing experience and would love more, but in reality I have nothing negative to say.

Blank

Can be tough at times to give medications due to the fact that the student cannot pull medications from the pyxis, but no issues arose due to it.

While I realize that orientation is part of hospital policy, I felt some parts of it were not applicable to my role as a student nurse and I would have benefitted from more time on the floor.

I would have been fine with it being longer! Other than that it met all of my expectations.

It was sometimes hard to work with different nurses because everyone has their own way of doing things, but it was also good to be exposed to different styles so that I can decide how I will perform certain tasks.

Sometimes I missed opportunities or certain skills that I hadn't done yet because they were not my patient. This is truly my only complaint from my experience.

I can honestly say that there isn't one thing I didn't like about the internship. It was a great experience and I loved every minute of it!

Item #10- Did the summer internship meet your expectations?

Exceeded them.

Yes!! - More than so.

The internship I hoped would help me with the thinking skills and procedures that we don't get to see during nursing school, which in the end, more than met my expectations.

Absolutely! Prior to this internship the only time I had spent working in the hospital was during clinicals. In addition to my nursing skills, my ability to interact with patients and just my own comfort level improved dramatically.

Yes- I feel much more prepared to go into my next clinical experience.

Yes! It was a very good experience! I have become so much more confident, and I feel like I am more prepared for my med-surg clinical rotation in the Fall.

Yes, I learned so so much!

Yes, the internship exceeded my expectations. I feel that I have learned and grown so much in these 10 weeks and my confidence has increased tremendously! I am so thankful I had this experience and have taken so much from the opportunity.

Item # 11- Comments and/or Suggestions

I feel so much more confident and well rounded as a nurse and will feel confident as a new grad- this is a huge step ahead of the pack. I have learned so much that will help me in my future career.

The internship was a huge confidence booster and I feel as though all my skills have improved. I feel this internship was more valuable than it would have been to just work as an aide.

left blank

This was a fantastic experience for me and I hope that it continues to be for future students!

It would be nice to float to the ED for a more acute experience for a day or two.

left blank

left blank

Thank you for giving me this experience!!

**Summary of Pre and Post Skills Assessment by Interns and Preceptors 2010
Eastern Connecticut Health Network/University of Connecticut School of Nursing**

Each intern completed a skill self-assessment rating (20 items) at the beginning of the internship experience and again at the end. Interns' preceptors also completed the instrument to assess the students' skill levels at the beginning and end of the experience. The site of the interns' experiences was at MMH or RGH as indicated. The rating scale was from "1" to "4" with 4 being "Highly Proficient/Independent," 3 being "Very Proficient/Minimal Guidance Needed," 2 being "Somewhat Proficient/Moderate Guidance Needed," and 1 being "Never Done/Maximal Guidance Needed." The average of these ratings by the interns and their preceptors, as well as the change in rating from pre to post assessment, are presented below.

<u>Site</u>	<u>By Intern</u>			<u>By Preceptor</u>		
	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Change</u>
ICU-MMH	2.8	3.35	+0.55	1.7	3.35	+1.65
SCU-MMH	2.6	3.55	+0.95	2.4	3.25	+0.85
3N-MMH	2.4	3.35	+0.95	2.2	3.45	+1.25
2E-MMH	2.3	3.45	+1.15	1.4	3.65	+2.25
ED-MMH	2.5	3.5	+1.00	2.7	3.3	+0.6
ICU-RGH	2.4	3.1	+0.7	2.0	2.8	+0.8
BII-RGH	2.8	3.6	+0.8	1.7	3.3	+1.6
ED-RGH	2.2	3.35	+1.15	2.2	3.5	+1.3

Overall Average change in rating as reported by interns +0.9

Overall Average change in rating as reported by preceptors +