

Internship Essentials

Minnesota Internships

Many MN hospitals provide paid or non-paid internships for nursing students between junior and senior year. Many acute care settings participate with the board of nursing and educators to design high quality standardized internship programs. Deadlines for application are often early December with notification and acceptance deadlines in February.

- Seek information about available internships early... often posted online by early November.
- Career Services and online searches are good sources for internship information.
- Be in touch with the internship faculty if you have questions about a program.
- Plan to participate in the summer internship course; this is required by the Board of Nursing.
- Plan to spend at least 250 hours in an internship; this is the course design.
- Federal programs like the VA Valor program or an IHS program do NOT require you take an internship course. Talk with Nancy if you are applying for one of these internships to be sure of requirements.

Out of State Internships

If you are interested in participating in an internship out of state, there are several steps YOU must take to make this possible.

- Find an agency that has a formal internship program.
- Provide to the internship faculty a description of the internship program... this may be a program description or a job description of the nurse intern role.
- Provide contact information for your contact at the agency to the internship faculty.
- Contact the state's board of nursing to learn about that state's requirements.
 - What does the student need to do to legally participate in an internship program in that state?
 - If the student must be actively registered in a course in a nursing program, what requirements must the school meet?
- Contact the internship faculty with the above information ASAP. It may take several months for the University to arrange for the necessary contracts, etc.

An internship is an incredible opportunity.... Students consistently express how valuable the experience is to their confidence and ability. It is also a substantial responsibility. The nurse intern is, in effect, practicing nursing without a license under the supervision of a (non-faculty) registered nurse. The internship faculty member is available to answer your questions via email or in person... be in touch!