



Observership Application

Mission Statement:

The Observership Program at Virtua Health is committed to providing a meaningful learning experience for aspiring healthcare professionals. Through observation and hands-on participation in various clinical departments, our program seeks to expose participants to the diverse and dynamic world of healthcare, while fostering a culture of excellence, empathy and teamwork. Virtua's UME's mission is to inspire and prepare the next generation of healthcare leaders by providing access to quality educational opportunities, mentorship, and professional development. We are dedicated to serving our community and empowering individuals to make a positive impact on health and well-being.

Limitations for Observers:

- 1. Must be a student interested in pursuing a career in graduate medicine, specifically as an MD/DO or PA. Types of students accepted:**
 - a. Medical Student(s), M.D. or D.O.
 - b. Physician Assistant (PA) Student(s) or potential PA Student(s)
 - c. College Student(s)
 - d. High School student(s) (age 16+)
- 2. Rotations must be a minimum of one (1) week.**
 - a. Length will be approved at UME office discretion.
 - b. The number of shifts will vary based on the Clinician's schedule.
- 3. Observers are not permitted to observe their own relative due to being a potential conflict of interest.** However, alternative arrangements can be made to ensure the student's learning objectives are met, such as assigning a different preceptor within the same office. This approach will maintain the integrity and professionalism of the learning environment while providing the individual with a valuable educational experience.
- 4. If a Medical Student, must be actively enrolled in a medical school in the United States.**
- 5. For potential PA students seeking shadowing opportunities, observation hours are limited to a maximum of 30 days. These 30 days can be spread out over multiple months or across a year, but cannot exceed a total of 30 days.**

Disclosure: The primary focus of our clinician(s) is to the educational training of our Physician Assistant (PA) and Medical students. While we welcome and value the participation of observers, please note our resources and attention are primarily dedicated to the development of our students. We will make every effort to accommodate observers in a manner that does not interfere with the educational experience of our students. In addition, requests beyond the scope of MD/DO or PA cannot be accommodated by our UME department at this time.

The process to apply for an Observership follows:

1. The Observer is required to secure a preceptor clinician ***BEFORE*** completing the application.
 - a. The UME office does not participate in pairing Observers with Clinicians.
2. Confirmation of clinician agreement via e-mail must be sent to the UME office for retention.
3. Confirmation **must** be stated as follows “I, (clinician name), confirm that student, (student name), will be shadowing me from ____ to ____ and I confirm that I do not have conflict with actively rotating students with me. **(please send to UME@virtua.org)**
4. Email the completed application and all required documents to UME@virtua.org.
5. Complete a non-employee confidentiality form and waiver sent from Virtua’s IT department; can only be sent **once** e-mail from clinician is sent and application and required documents are submitted.

Documents Required for Pre-med Observer Rotations:

1. Attach copy of the Current Health and Immunizations Requirements. The immunizations listed below are all required. Exemptions must be approved through Virtua’s Employee Health.
 - a. PPD or Quantiferon Gold (Blood Test) done within the past year. If positive result within two years, Chest X-ray report.
 - b. Measles (Rubelola) Titer – positive result. If not MMR vaccine.
 - c. Mumps Titer – positive result. If not MMR vaccine.
 - d. Rubella Titer – positive result. If not MMR vaccine.
 - e. Varicella Titer – positive result. If not Varicella vaccine.
 - f. Hepatitis B. Titer –positive result. If not HEP B vaccine or signed declination
 - g. COVID Vaccine with booster or exemption, if approved by Virtua’s EHS.
 - h. Verification of Flu Shot during September – March of the current academic year.

2. Letter of Good Standing (*Must be from **current** school on letterhead with signature and include a copy of a **national criminal background check** dated no earlier than 12 months prior to matriculation or confirmation by current school of a clean national criminal background check dated no earlier than 12 months prior to matriculation*) copy of transcript is acceptable if unable to obtain letter of good standing.
3. Attach Copy of Current Government Issued Identification (*passport/driver's license*)
4. Health Insurance Card (*please attach copy of card*)
5. Signed copy of Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure Statement
6. Signed copy of Release and Waiver of Liability
7. Must complete the Bloodborne Pathogen Annual Training module **AND** AMOC 2024 training module located on the Virtua Learning System; can only be completed after receiving a provisioning letter from Virtua's IT department.
8. Must complete the following training modules **IF** you are doing an **OR related observership** (gen surg, gen surg subspecialty, orthopedics, ob-gyn)
 - a. STERILE TECHNIQUE (Competency)
 - b. GOWNING & GLOVING (Competency)

**** Please submit certificate of completion for ALL training modules when done.**