

UChicago Careers in Health Professions

UChicago Careers in Health Professions (UCIHP) is a comprehensive, four-year, pre-professional program that provides College students with the resources and support to develop a customized portfolio of knowledge, skill sets, and experiences required for advanced study or employment in health and medicine. As early as their first year, pre-health students are advised on how to assess their strengths, hone their interests, and identify appropriate course work, research, internships and clinical opportunities.

Advising

The UCIHP team works closely with pre-health students to ensure they are prepared for both the application and job search processes. UCIHP frequently partners with other campus offices, including the University Community Service Center, Study Abroad and the Office of the Dean of Students in the College to provide advising tailored to each student's interests and strengths.

Career Exploration

UCIHP supports students and alumni as they explore the many health professions. The program offers panels and workshops featuring health professionals, many of whom are alumni, throughout the academic year. Students have access to an online library with internship, career, and volunteer information. In addition, UCIHP invites admissions representatives from top schools to meet with pre-health students.

Metcalf Internship Opportunities

Each year, the Jeff Metcalf Internship Program provides over 1,500 UChicago undergraduates with paid, substantive internship opportunities in a wide range of fields, across the country and around the world. Health Professions focused employers include:

- American Medical Association
- Center for Asian Health Equity
- Center for Global Health
- Centers for Disease Control
- City of Hope
- Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
- Harvard Medical School
- Health2047
- HealthSystemOne
- JourneyCare Hospice Organization
- MacLean Center for Medical Ethics
- MAPSCorps
- MD Anderson Cancer Center
- Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Research Center
- NextStep
- TEACH Research
- University of Chicago Medicine
- World Health Organization

Degree AB'16
Home Dayton, NJ
Occupation UCPIP Fellow, Cook County Hospital



STEPHANIE BI

"The UCIHP team was integral in helping me decide that taking a gap year before attending medical school was right for me. As a UChicago Public Interest Program (UCPIP) Fellow at the Cook County Health and Hospitals System (CCHHS), I am gaining unique finance, public health, and business analytics perspectives to medicine that will surely inform and enrich my future clinical career."

Degree AB'14
Home Yonkers, NY
Occupation Pritzker School of Medicine Student



CATHERINE CASTRO

"I received a tremendous amount of support from UChicago and UCIHP as a pre-medical student. At every step of my path, I was offered mentorship and numerous opportunities that made me a knowledgeable applicant and prepared me to enter the field of medicine."

Workshops, Health Professions Fair, and Guest Speakers

UChicago Careers in Health Professions workshops are held throughout the academic year and cover an array of current topics and issues in the field of medicine and health. Some workshops and speakers include:

- Discussion of trends in health care with the President of UChicago Medicine
- Health Professions Fair and Symposium, welcoming over 40 health professions school admissions representatives to campus
- Health Policy seminar with the Former Director of the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority & Neighborhood Recovery Initiative
- Presentation on Physician Professionalism with a vascular surgeon and medical educator



Treks

UChicago Careers in Health Professions students visit health, medicine and policy institutions in Chicago and other locations in order to expose them to a wide range of careers and workplaces. Past trek site visits have included:

- New York, NY to visit schools of the health professions
- Washington, D.C. to explore health policy employers
- Madison, WI to experience biotech opportunities

UCIHP Karen Katen Scholars Program

The UCIHP Karen Katen Scholars Program offers summer fellowships that pair student researchers with faculty mentors focused on bench science and features an intensive 10-week seminar on current issues in health and medicine. In the seminar, fellows debate topics in health policy, medical ethics, and health disparities while honing their presentation, analytical, and professional skills. The program culminates in a student-led research symposium attended by faculty, administrators, and research colleagues.

UCIHP Potter Fellows in Community and Social Medicine

The UCIHP Potter Fellows in Community and Social Medicine program offers summer fellowships that pair student researchers with faculty mentors focused on areas related to community health outreach and the social context of health and medicine. The UCIHP Potter Fellows in Community and Social Medicine join with the Katen Scholars to participate in an intensive 10-week seminar on current issues in health and medicine. In the seminar, fellows debate topics in health policy, medical ethics, and health disparities while honing their presentation, analytical, and professional skills. The program culminates in a student-led research symposium attended by faculty, administrators, and research colleagues.

UCIHP Summer Research Fellows Program

UCIHP has partnered with the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, WA, MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX, and the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York, NY to offer students the opportunity to engage in internships focused on cancer research.

Global Health Summer Research Fellowship Program

In partnership with the Center for Global Health at the University of Chicago, students are given the opportunity to pursue global summer internships in various countries around the globe. Students are paired with projects that match their geographic and topical interests and will spend part of their summer on-site with a UChicago faculty mentor and the remainder of their summer in-country with a local mentor to help shape and execute their project.

Health Policy Scholars

For those first-year students who are highly interested in health policy careers, UCIHP offers a selective multi-year track program to further explore and hone their interests. Health Policy Scholars participate in a monthly seminar, led by an expert within health policy, complete two elective courses pertaining to their interest, and have the opportunity to attend a health policy-related trek to Washington, DC.

Center for Care and Discovery

UChicago Medicine opened the Center for Care and Discovery in 2013. The 1.2-million-square-foot facility provides the optimal setting for patient care and collaborative clinical research. At the Center for Care and Discovery, College students will continue to have unparalleled access to clinical, volunteer, and research opportunities.

Clinical Excellence Scholars

First-year students who wish to deeply explore the intricacies and challenges of the doctor-patient relationship are invited to apply to the selective Clinical Excellence Scholars program, in partnership with the Bucksbaum Institute for Clinical Excellence and UChicago Medicine. Clinical Excellence Scholars participate in a monthly seminar, the "Joel Schwab, M.D. 'On Being a Doctor' Series," where they learn about the career path of a physician while also addressing broader issues pertaining to the doctor-patient relationship such as health disparities, professionalism, or effective communication. The Scholars also participate in Bucksbaum Institute lectures, enroll in 1 course relating to the doctor-patient relationship, and participate in a year-long volunteer and shadowing program at UChicago Medicine.

Application Support

UCIHP provides comprehensive support to College students and recent alumni throughout the 18-month process of applying to health professions schools. Through a series of interactive seminars, personal essay consultations, practice interviews, and opportunities for reflection and feedback, students are equipped to produce highly competitive applications to schools that best match their interests.

Health and Medicine at UChicago: Research and Clinical Training

As undergraduates at a top research university, College students have opportunities to take part in independent or team research projects alongside graduate students, medical students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty members. Each year, UChicago undergraduates co-author papers published in scientific and medical journals, including Endocrinology, American Journal of Physiology, Journal of Evolutionary Biology, Genetics, Immunity, Journal of Biological Chemistry, and Journal of Neuroscience.

The Pritzker School of Medicine

The Pritzker School of Medicine Accelerated Medical Scholars Program permits exceptional undergraduate students who have demonstrated outstanding potential to begin medical school during their fourth year in the College. Upon the successful conclusion of the first year of medical school, scholars receive the bachelor of arts in professional option: medicine.



MICHAEL WARREN

Degree AB'16

Home St. Petersburg, FL

Occupation Yale University School of Medicine Student

"The incredible advisers at UCIHP helped me at every step along the way during my time at UChicago: not only with ensuring that I completed the requirements for medical school, but also helping me balance my time to pursue meaningful activities that allowed me to grow as both a student and a person. I can honestly say that I wouldn't be here without them!"



JONATHAN PAN

Degree AB'15

Home Naperville, IL

Occupation Analyst, AT Kearney

"What I will remember most about UChicago was how the professors, students, and community fostered my love of life-long learning. This was a key reason why I decided to take two gap years to explore management consulting. Even though I worked in a field unrelated to medicine, UCIHP has helped me seamlessly transition back into the rigorous application process."