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 onsite 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 1,000 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:

- Access Community Health
- AIM Specialty Health
- American Medical Association
- Center for Translational and Policy Research for Chronic Diseases
- City of Hope
- Global Health Initiative
- Harvard Medical School
- Horizon Hospice & Palliative Care Inc.
- Howard Brown Health Center
- J.E.H. Foundation For Pancreatic Cancer
- MacLean Center for Medical Ethics
- MD Anderson Cancer Center
- Project Health/Health Leads
- Strive Next Step
- TEACH Research
- University of Chicago Medicine
- World Health Organization

Workshops and Guest Speakers
UCIHP 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 the Affordable Care Act with the VP of the Advocate Illinois Masonic Health System
- Health Policy seminar with the Vice President of the American Board of Medical Specialties
- Panel Discussion on Careers in Mental Health Therapy
- Panel Discussion on Careers within Health Care Beyond the Stethoscope
- Presentation on Communication Skills for Future Physicians with the director of the Fussy Baby Network
- Presentation on Physician Professionalism with a vascular surgeon and medical educator

Special Events
UCIHP Careers in Health Professions students have access to enriching opportunities. Past special events have included:

- Dinner and Q&A with our faculty in the sciences
- Lecture with the U.S. Deputy Surgeon General
- Health Professions Career Fair

“UCIHP provided me the opportunity to develop a view of medicine which encompassed the bio-psycho-social model of medicine, preparing me to jump in to medical school as a well rounded humanistic medical student. Without UCIHP I would have been clueless entering the medical school application cycle.”

JUAN P. APARICIO

UChicago Degree AB’09, Biological Sciences
Home Anchorage, AK
Occupation Medical Student at UPenn Medical School
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.

Health Policy Scholars
For those 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, D.C.

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.

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.