

OBSERVER REQUESTS FOR STUDENTS & PHYSICIANS

Note: Until recently both the UT College of Medicine Chattanooga’s Clinical Observing Program and Erlanger’s Job Shadowing Program were suspended due to the pandemic. Due to the large number of UT and senior Visiting Medical Students that are being scheduled, the University has not resumed our Clinical Observing Program. We will re-evaluate our capacity by the first of the year.

Recently Erlanger has re-opened its Job Shadowing Program; however, it does not typically involve requests from students to “shadow” physicians. Until the University’s Clinical Observing Program is able to resume, the Erlanger Job Shadowing Program has agreed to assist on a case-by-case basis for students who meet the criteria set by Erlanger and have already identified a physician member of the Erlanger Medical Staff who is willing to be responsible for supervising the observation only experience. The Job Shadowing Office does not try to find a physician to supervise the shadowing.

The Erlanger webpage for Job Shadowing is:

<https://www.erlanger.org/job-opportunities/job-shadowing> and the email to contact is jobshadowing@erlanger.org.

Erlanger limits its job shadowing sessions to no more than 20 hours per student. Also, Erlanger has stipulated that candidates must be 18 years or older in the Emergency Department, Surgery (OR’s), and Intensive Care Units as well as anywhere in Children’s.

On the website denoted above, an application for shadowing can be downloaded from that page.

We will post updates on our websites if changes are made but we do not anticipate these experiences being available during the remainder of 2021.

Physician Requests for Observing Experiences

The University of Tennessee College of Medicine Chattanooga Graduate Medical Education (GME) Program does not offer or provide the opportunity for any physician externships or observing experiences. Due to restraints imposed by the Claims Commission Act of 1985, the UT College of Medicine Chattanooga GME Program is unable to provide any sort of liability coverage (for the visiting individual or the institution) to cover this type of activity. In addition, Erlanger Health System cannot provide liability coverage. This means that individuals who are already physicians, including non-licensed physicians, are NOT permitted to participate in clinical sponsored observing experiences.

Only Residents* from **other ACGME or AOA accredited programs** may be approved to participate in a visiting clinical rotation in a UT Program by submitting a “Visiting Resident Application” for a Clinical Rotation at the University of Tennessee. (See GME Policy #180 – Visiting Resident Approval.) Detailed requirements are included in the application form included in GME Policy #180.)

Student Requests for Observing Experiences

At this time the University’s Clinical Observing Program for Students requesting to briefly observe physicians within the hospital remains suspended.

*The term “Resident” refers to both Resident and Fellow trainees.

Revised and Approved by the GMEC 5/16/2017. Administrative edits 03/27/2020 and 06/25/2021.