Chaplain Internship Programs

The Chaplain Internship Program provides students with two options to earn one unit of clinical pastoral education (CPE) credit.

- One option is a full-time internship, (Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., offered during the summer for 11 weeks.

- Option 2 is a part-time externship offered in the fall as well as in the winter/springtime for 18 weeks. The externship meets for one half day per week of education time as well as an additional 10-12 hours of clinical time the rest of the week. The education time is a set time that the student must attend in order to earn the necessary educational requirements of one unit of CPE. The clinical hours are scheduled collaboratively around the student’s own schedule and the needs of the hospital.

In addition to the clinical hours and education time, both the summer interns and externs participate in our on-duty call schedule. The on-duty student serves as the only chaplain on sight for the hospital system through the night and will respond to a variety of requests for spiritual support.

*Please note, most extended unit students are surprised by the reality of how much work is required. The class time is only a quarter of the total time required to earn one unit. CPE requires a certain amount of reading. Patient visits are written up in detailed verbatim form that demands considerable reflection and process notes about ministry and learning are also required. Students can expect to spend an additional 2-3 hours a week in reflection and preparation for class time. The curriculum is designed to engage personal, pastoral and professional issues in a multi-cultural and interdisciplinary environment. Our faculty is made up of two CPE supervisors along with two clinical managers and five staff chaplains.*

Minimum requirements for admission are a high school degree (or GED) and authorization by a religious body to provide a ministry of spiritual care under supervision.

To apply, applicants must complete the standard ACPE application available on our educational program website listed below. Once all of the materials and the application fee ($35) are received, qualified applicants will be interviewed by ACPE supervisors.

Accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc. and recognized by the U.S. Department of Education
Tuition for the internship program is $400 per unit and is required at the beginning of each unit. Applications and further inquiries can be made to:

Roper St. Francis
Pastoral Care Department
2095 Henry Tecklenburg Dr.
Charleston, SC 29414
Phone: (843) 402-2856
Fax: (843) 402-2849
Email: david.hutchinson@rsfh.com

Further details about the CPE program and application can be found online:
www.rsfh.com/pastoralcare