

UConn HEALTH

2026 Summer Student Volunteer Program Requirements

Open to high school students who are related
to, or referred by a UConn Health employee

(Age 15-17)

Overview:

Thank you for your interest in volunteering at UConn Health! Our Summer Student Volunteer Program was created to give high school students an opportunity to experience working at a healthcare facility and provide that introduction to what their future may be. We strive to pair students with departments across the institution to allow students the opportunity to volunteer, providing necessary services for the institution while also learning about healthcare.

Please note, *this is not a job shadow or internship experience*. If you are interested in a job shadowing experience, you may email unpaidexperience@uchc.edu. Students in this Summer Volunteer Program will be assisting with wayfinding, transporting patients, completing administration and clerical duties among other miscellaneous tasks as assigned by their department manager. Students are not permitted in operating or procedural rooms or clinical encounters.

Although this is not a job shadowing experience, students are expected to adhere to a level of professionalism equivalent to a job or classroom experience. This includes, but not limited to, professional attire, behavior and conduct.

Please read the below requirements for participation clearly. Due to the volume of applicants, please note exceptions cannot be made.



Criteria

- Applicants must be related to or referred by a UConn Health Employee.
- Applicants must attest that they have read this program requirements document prior to completing an application.
- Applicants must be age 15-17 at the start of the program. We have separate opportunities available for any college enrolled or adult volunteers. Please check our website for this information. This is per UConn Health Policy and exceptions cannot be made for students who will not be 15 at the start of the program.
- Applicants must be available for a minimum six of the eight weeks of the program. The program runs **June 22-August 14, 2026**.
- Any vacation time must be submitted prior to June 1, 2026 so that we may plan accordingly. Time off cannot exceed two weeks of the program. Those unable to meet the minimum requirements will not be eligible to participate.
- Students cannot participate in course work during their volunteer hours. If a student is taking a class or completing summer requirements they must complete those hours outside of their time as a volunteer.
- Volunteers must have reliable transportation for the hours that they are scheduled. We cannot accommodate changes once the program has begun & cannot schedule students for shifts longer than 8 hours.

Important Information

- While we do our best to accommodate siblings, we cannot guarantee they will be assigned the same days or shifts for volunteering, or that all siblings will be accepted to the program.
- Per UConn Health Policy, volunteers cannot participate in activities in the same department as a family member. Any relationships should be disclosed at the time of the application. Exceptions cannot be made per institutional and state policies.
- Anyone under the age of 18 is not permitted to volunteer for more than 8 hours per day
- Student Volunteers cannot exceed 35 hours per week.
- Placements will be an 8 hour shift at some time between 8AM and 8PM

Requirements:

1. Provide an initial application. Initial application includes:
 - a. General Contact Information
 - b. Confirmation of referral or relations to a UConn Health Employee

- c. Confirmation of availability for six of the eight weeks and for three eight hour shifts per week.
 - d. All applications are to be completed by the program participant. The application will have an attestation that the student is completing the application. Applications submitted by parents or guardians will not be considered.
 - e. Email addresses used must be the direct contact with the student volunteer, not a parent or guardian.
2. If approved to move on to the second step of the application process individuals must provide:
- a. Three Letters of Recommendation
 - b. Complete all necessary documentation in completion and by the designated due dates. Those unable to submit complete forms by due date will not be eligible for enrollment into the program. Incomplete forms will not be accepted.
 - c. All documentation that is submitted must be in PDF format. We will not accept images of forms.
 - i. Background Form – This is to have a UConn Health badge created for you. An actual background check is not completed for volunteers under the age of 18.
 - ii. Participant Release, Consent and Waiver of Liability
 - iii. Code of Conduct Expectations for Parents, Guardians and Participants with your parent or guardian
 - iv. Emergency Contact Form
 - v. Parking Permit Request Form (regardless of acceptance of a permit or ability to drive, this is a requirement)
 - vi. Proof of vaccination form & medical records for the UConn Health required vaccinations.(MMR, Varicella, and PPD)
 - d. Provide a headshot image to be used for your badge. You must be in professional clothing with a plain background and the image must be clear without filters.
 - e. Complete a 5-10 minute video interview answering the following questions – This should be sent as a link within the body of your email due to document size restrictions:
 - i. Why are you interested in joining this volunteer program?
 - ii. What does volunteering mean to you?
 - iii. What do you hope to gain from this volunteer experience?

- iv. Where do you see yourself using the skills you learn from volunteering in this program?

New Volunteer Onboarding

1. Once accepted to the program volunteers are required to complete a health clearance screening by Occupational Health at UConn Health Farmington.
2. All vacation time and availability to volunteer must be submitted by June 1, 2026
3. All participants must attend in-person orientation on June 22nd. Exceptions will not be made and all participants must attend in person.
 - a. Parents and guardians are not required to attend. This is for the volunteers only.
 - b. Student Volunteers will be required to attest that they attended orientation and understand the policies and procedures of UConn Health.

After the Program

1. All volunteers will receive an evaluation from their sponsoring department per regulatory requirements for hospital volunteers.
2. All volunteers are asked to complete a written exit interview survey providing feedback about your experience as a volunteer
3. Student Volunteers must complete 140 hours of volunteering to receive a letter of support confirming their hours. If this number of hours is not met prior to the end of the program UConn Health is unable to provide a letter of confirmation.

Timeline:

Monday, March 9, 2026	Initial Applications Open
Friday, March 27, 2026	Initial Application Due by End of Day
Monday, March 30, 2026	Second Round Notifications
Friday, April 24, 2026	Applications are Due by End of Day
Monday, May 8, 2026	Notification of Participation to Applicants
Monday, June 1, 2026	Student Volunteers must provide vacation time and days of availability
June 8-12, 2026	Placement Emails with confirmation of volunteer days
Thursday, June 18, 2026	All Occupational Health Appointments Must be Completed
Monday, June 22, 2026	Orientation from 12-4PM
Monday, June 22, 2026	Start of the Volunteering Program
Friday, August 14, 2026	End of the Volunteering Program
Friday August 28, 2026	Exit Interview Survey Due

Any questions regarding the student volunteer program should be directed to the email

volunteerservices2@uchc.edu.