

FUTURE DOCS

- ◆ This program, sponsored by UT College of Medicine Chattanooga and Erlanger Health System, provides high school and college students opportunities to learn about the life and career of a physician
- ◆ Students work with physicians either as clinical observers or as a research assistant.
- ◆ Youth Leadership Forum:
 - A one-week informational and observer program each summer
- ◆ Medical Explorations Program
 - A 2-week program of didactics and clinical observation during June of each summer
- ◆ Sponsored Clinical Observer
 - Allows students to observe a specific physician or department for a limited time.
- ◆ Requirements:
 - 18 years or older
 - GPA of 3.5 or higher and grade level of a high school senior or college student
 - Submit a reference letter from a teacher or



Contact Information

Jeff Atherton
CHIPS President
utchips@gmail.com

Mukta Panda, M.D.
Assistant Dean, College of Medicine
mpanda@uthsc.edu

Anna Moravec
Assistant for Medical Explorations
anna.moravec@erlanger.org

Pamela Scott
Director, Graduate and Medical
Student Education
pscott1@uthsc.edu

Visit the CHIPS Facebook page for
question forums and more
information

Chattanooga Healthcare
Inter-Professional Society



Becoming an M.D.



Jeffrey Atherton Jr.

CHIPS President
Senior Medical Student

Why should I become a physician?



Pursuing a career in medicine requires considerable sacrifice and commitment to education. Depending on which specialty is chosen, it can take from 11-16 years of post-high school education to become a board-certified physician. This includes 4 years of college, 4 years of medical school, and 3-8 years of residency training. Why do students strive so hard to become physicians? At some point in their lives, all men and women seek to make a difference in the world around them. A career in medicine allows for a lifetime of fulfillment through service to others. A physician must be inquisitive, passionate and have genuine empathy for his fellow man. If you bear these traits, a career in medicine might just be the path for you!

“People will forget what you said.
People will forget what you did.
But people will never forget how you
made them feel”

—Maya Angelou



High School Academics

High school academics should focus on adequately preparing your student for the rigors of a science-driven undergraduate degree.

High school curriculum should expose students to **physics, chemistry, biology**, and higher order math such as **pre-calculus** or **calculus**. These courses, along with the normal complement of English, foreign language and other social studies should provide a solid foundation for the pre-medical work completed in college.

Students should take the ACT and SAT standardized assessments for college admission

Undergraduate Academics

All medical schools require a bachelors degree which includes the fulfillment of certain prerequisite courses. These courses include:

- General Chemistry I & II
- Biology I & II
- Physics I & II
- Organic Chemistry I & II
- English I & II

These courses should be completed prior to the senior year of college for application purposes. While most pre-med students receive a science-centered degree, some choose to pursue a degree in other areas such as music, art, history, etc. Regardless of major, the scientific prerequisite courses must be completed prior to applying to medical school. The MCAT is a standardized test required for entrance into medical school. This exam assesses student knowledge of the biological and social sciences, as well as critical thinking and problem solving skills.

Extracurricular Activities

We all depict a unique story defined by our passions and pursuits. Medical school admission committees search for well-rounded students with personal interests cultivated outside of the school environment. We admonish students to seek out their own personal interests and, if possible, take on a leadership role in that area. Outside of personal interests, students should consider becoming involved in one or more of the following activities:

- Hospital Volunteering
- Physician Shadowing
- Medical Missions
- Pre-med Interest Groups
- Undergraduate Research
- Medical Research