

THE Stethoscoop

November 3, 2025

UPMC Altoona's Student Nurse Newsletter



Apply now for a paid internship

UPMC offers a paid student nurse internship (SNI) program for those who have completed their junior year or equivalent. The program spans 10 weeks, from the middle of May to late July. Interns select a unit where they

work directly with an experienced preceptor.

The SNI program:

- Builds confidence providing direct patient care with guidance from a preceptor.
- Develops essential skills in professional development, leadership, and patient safety via hands-on education.
- Establishes relationships with nursing leadership and hospital recruiters.
- Helps discover your passion by taking advantage of a variety of shadowing experiences.

What you should know

- Applications open now through March 15*
- Final interviews now until mid-April
- Internships begin May 18 and end July 24

* Dependent on applicant volume



Student nurse interns 2025

"The program was great! I had a great time in the Neuro ICU and learned so much. My preceptor and the staff in Neuro and other ICUs were so helpful. I felt so confident going back to school. I actually had an interview right away!"

—Former SNI Caitlin Harshberger, PCT-NS
UPMC Altoona, 7E

"I'm really glad I did it. You learn so much more at the hospital because you're one-on-one with the registered nurse. It really helped me gain confidence and feel more comfortable communicating with patients. I just got hired this week!"

—Former SNI Danis Miller, PCT-NS, UPMC Altoona, 7E

"I feel the program is beneficial in gaining and applying critical thinking skills to real-life scenarios. The interns gain so much confidence after completing the program. They learn how to communicate with patients and collaborate with the health care team. I wish they had a program like this when I was in nursing school."

—Nancy White, MSN, RN
UPMC Altoona clinical educator/SNI program coordinator

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Student nurse internships
Student Nurse Internship information



Nursing students
<https://careers.upmc.com/nursing>



Graduate nurses
UPMC Altoona GN Opportunities



New unit educators enhance care

UPMC Altoona's Education Department is adding unit-based educators. Bedside educators give patients more one-on-one time with staff and will promote:

- Learning individual and unit-based educational needs
- Overall growth
- Increased communication
- A positive learning environment



"Having unit-based educators is great! It's awesome to have educators at the bedside that we can collaborate with in real-time. It empowers the staff to be part of the solution to challenges we're facing on the units." —Jared Crawford, RN, MICU

UPMC Altoona Plain Language Descriptions

The following chart is a handy reference for UPMC Altoona Plain Language Descriptions for MEDICAL EVENT ALERTS.

Plain Language Event Type	Description
Code Blue Adult	A medical emergency, often cardiac or respiratory arrest, involving a critically ill or unresponsive adult who may require resuscitation. A specialized response team is needed immediately. <i>Formerly known as Condition A in some facilities.</i>
Code Blue Pediatric	A medical emergency, often cardiac or respiratory arrest, involving a critically ill or unresponsive child who may require resuscitation. Pediatric-trained responders are needed immediately. <i>Formerly known as Condition A in some facilities.</i>
Condition Help	A patient or family member has requested immediate medical assistance because they are concerned about a change in the patient's condition and feel urgent help is needed.
Obstetric Emergency	A pregnant patient is experiencing a sudden medical complication requiring immediate response from the obstetrics team.
Outside Medical Emergency	A person outside of the hospital building or on hospital property is experiencing a medical emergency and requires assistance from hospital responders. 911 may be called if appropriate.
Rapid Response Adult	An adult is showing early signs of clinical deterioration. A specialized team is called to provide immediate assessment and intervention to prevent further decline before a medical emergency like cardiac or respiratory arrest. <i>Formerly known as Condition C in some facilities.</i>
Rapid Response Pediatric	A child is showing early signs of clinical deterioration. A specialized team is called to provide immediate assessment and intervention to prevent further decline before a medical emergency like cardiac or respiratory arrest. <i>Formerly known as Condition C in some facilities.</i>
STEMI Alert	A patient is experiencing a ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), a serious type of heart attack. The heart team is activated for urgent care to restore blood flow.
Stroke Alert	A patient is experiencing or suspected of having a stroke. The stroke response team is activated to provide immediate assessment and treatment to minimize brain injury.
Trauma Alert	A patient with potentially life-threatening injuries from an accident or violent event en route or has arrived. The trauma team is activated for rapid evaluation and care.
Specialty Medical Event Alert	
Difficult Airway	A specialized team is required to manage an emergent airway situation, often involving difficult intubation or ventilation.

Most student friendly unit contest reminder

Vote for the most student friendly unit for Fall 2025 by **Nov. 15.**



Please SCAN the QR code or click **WEB LINK** to cast your vote.

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