**STUDENT VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME – MEDICINE AND NURSING**

Our programme is extremely popular and we can only offer a limited number of places each month.  The application dates are on our web page. Please note that each application date has a corresponding interview/induction date. **Applicants must be able to attend the corresponding induction date.**  These dates are not inter-changeable. All inductions take place at the Lister Hospital.

Before you apply to join the student volunteer programme, please read these notes carefully and make sure that you meet the criteria and can provide the documents we need.

**In addition to the application form, you will need to read the** [**privacy notice**](https://www.enherts-tr.nhs.uk/content/uploads/2019/11/Volunteer-Privacy-Notice.pdf) **and print off the agreement and the health questionnaire (see links below) to complete and send to us.**

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| **The application process:** |
| * Applications will only be considered if the application is made between 07:00am and 08:00am on the application date (see timetable on web page). |
| * Places are offered on a first-come first-served basis within that time frame. |
| * If your application is successful we will email you within 24 hours and ask you to submit your ID documents, [volunteer agreement](https://www.enherts-tr.nhs.uk/content/uploads/2019/11/Volunteer-Agreement.pdf) and [health questionnaire](https://www.enherts-tr.nhs.uk/content/uploads/2019/11/Health-at-Work-questionnaire-student.pdf). *(Please check your junk mail folders to ensure our email hasn’t mistakenly been sent there)* |
| * We will also ask you to provide sufficient evidence of identity for us to undertake a Disclosure & Barring Service check (DBS). |
| * There will be a non-refundable fee of £40 per student which covers the cost of ID, uniform and administration. This will be collected at the induction should you be accepted to join the programme. Please contact the Voluntary Services office if you have any concerns regarding this fee. |
| * We will apply to your school for a character reference. |
| * Assuming that all our registration checks are satisfactory, the fee has been paid and you have attended the induction, we will agree a start date with you. |

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| **Before you apply, using the checklist below, please make sure that you meet the criteria for the programme and can supply the documents we need.** | **✓** |
| I am aged 16-18 |  |
| I am working towards a career in medicine or nursing |  |
| I live within the following postcodes: AL1, AL3 – AL10, SG1 – SG19 |  |
| I can commit to one 3 hr shift a week for 15 weeks at the Lister Hospital |  |
| I can attend the induction (date on web page) at the Lister Hospital |  |
| I can provide the required ID documents (see list below): |  |

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| **We need 4 ID documents in total including one piece of photographic ID. One of your documents should also be a letter from your head teacher or college principal confirming your address.** |
| **In addition we need 3 documents from the list below:**  Current passport (any nationality)  Valid UK driving licence (full or provisional, both parts)  Full or short British birth certificate, issued in the UK or Channel Islands  Birth certificate from overseas if issued by UK authorities overseas e.g. embassies, High Commission and HM Forces  Adoption certificate – issued in UK or Channel Islands  Cards carrying the PASS accreditation logo (UK and Channel Islands)  Letter from head teacher or college principal  Bank/building society account statement (UK or EEA) (dated within the last 3 months)  Bank/building society account opening confirmation letter (dated within the last 3 months) |

As a patient companion, you will be allocated a 3-hour shift on the same ward for a 15-week period where you will you will have an opportunity to improve your communication skills, learn about multi-disciplinary working and increase your knowledge of medicine and nursing as a career.

There is a choice of three shifts – breakfast (08:00 – 11:00), lunch (11:00 – 14:00) and supper (17:00 – 20:00). Think carefully about your choice of shifts as you will need to do the same shift for the entire 15 weeks. Please give us as many options as possible as places are limited.

During your shift you will focus entirely on the patients.

Meal service is an extremely important part of the day and everyone from the housekeeper to the ward manager will be involved. From completing menu cards to delivering the meals, opening packages, cutting up food, to feeding patients, your help is invaluable.

You will always be guided by the nursing team on the ward and you may be asked to:

* Spend time with patients who would like someone to talk to or need distraction.
* Read to a patient, quietly chat or simply hold their hand.
* Assist with meal service and drinks.
* Let staff know if the patient is uncomfortable or in pain.
* Find a knitted blanket or shawl if the patient is chilly.

At the end of your 15 weeks you will return your log sheet and ID badge to us. We will then send you a letter confirming your attendance. This is a useful piece of evidence for your UCAS application.

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| **Making the application for a medicine/nursing placement** |
| Complete your [application form](https://www.enherts-tr.nhs.uk/content/uploads/2019/11/Application-Form-Medicine-and-adult-nursing.pdf) and submit it by email to [Studentvol.enh-tr@nhs.net](mailto:Studentvol.enh-tr@nhs.net) quoting “medicine” or “nursing” in the subject line. Make sure you submit it on the right day at the right time. See webpage for details. **Please do not apply until you have all the documents we need.** |