

Dental Care Center Volunteer Program

The volunteer program (shadowing/observing) for the School of Dental Medicine (SDM), Dental Care Center offers the opportunity for students 18 years +, undergraduate students to only observe (no assisting of any kind) pre-doctoral dental students, post-doctoral dental students and residents in a dental setting. The program provides a rotation schedule that will allow the student to experience all the specialty dental care programs.

- A volunteer must first complete the volunteer process offered at the Hospital Volunteer Office, 444-2610.
- Once a volunteer is cleared by the Hospital Volunteer Office they will sign up to volunteer at the SDM, Dental Care Center by submitting the required information listed on the Volunteer website for the Dental School.
- Volunteers are accepted for each semester ONLY as stated on the date posted on the Volunteer website for each semester. There will be no volunteers accepted after the Orientation session at the Dental Care Center.
- All NEW volunteers must attend the Orientation at the Dental Care Center. (Date and time is given at the time of sign up). Failure to attend Orientation forfeits the volunteer spot.
- The volunteer must sign the “Volunteer Sign-In Book” at the reception desk when they arrive and leave. They are **not permitted to sign out at the same time they sign in.**
- If a volunteer must be absent on a scheduled day they are responsible to notify Margaret Bakos by e-mail prior to the scheduled time slot. Failure to do so will jeopardize continuing as a volunteer. More than two absences in a row will forfeit their volunteer position.
- All volunteers begin with the General Practice Residency Program for the first 4 weeks. Then they are rotated to the various specialty programs that are available during their time slot. Each rotation is for 4 weeks of actually being in the clinic not 4 weeks in a row if you miss any days.
- After a volunteer completes the 4th week they must e-mail Margaret Bakos margaret.bakos@stonybrookmedicine.edu immediately to state they have finished their 4 week rotation. This e-mail should include their name, day and time slot. Then they will receive the new rotation department by e-mail.
- The specialty programs offered are Periodontics, Orthodontics, Pediatric Resident Program, Children’s Dentistry and 4th year student clinic.
- The volunteer program is one time slot a week for one semester.
- The time slots are Monday – Thursday; 10:00 – 1:00 or 2:00 – 5:00. No volunteers are accepted during lunch from 1:00 – 2:00. Depending on the clinic activities during the summer will dictate when volunteers can observe. Normally only continuing volunteers participate in the summer.
- Besides signing in the volunteer book at the reception desk each volunteer must also report to the designated supervising staff for each specialty program as assigned.
- Volunteers are also needed to do light clerical duties and fill goody bags.
- Dress code: shoes (no open toes shoes/sandals) or clean sneakers, clean pants/slacks (no jeans, capri’s, shorts, sweat pants or low cut pants), shirt worn under volunteer jacket (no low cut top), long hair must be neatly pulled back in a clip, no hats may be worn.
- There are a few lockers available for personal items. The lockers are only used when you are volunteering. Volunteers must bring their own lock (cannot use the lockers without a lock) and may have to share lockers with other volunteers.
- Letter of recommendation will be provided, upon request, after completion of volunteer program.