

UConn | UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Applying to the University of Connecticut Clinical Engineering Internship Program

The admittance process begins with the student's application to the UConn College of Engineering Graduate Program (grad.uconn.edu). These applications are due by January 1st every year for full consideration for the following fall semester. The program only admits students in the fall semester.

On the application students should select Biomedical Engineering (BME) >> MS >> Clinical Engineering. The application requires an undergraduate transcript, an essay by the student, a resume and two letters of reference. UConn's College of Engineering does not accept students with an undergraduate GPA of less than 3.0. Students that require an F-1 VISA to study in the United States are not eligible for the Internship Program.

Completed applications are reviewed in January and students are chosen for the interview phase of the process. During February and March, interviews are conducted for internship positions starting in fall of the upcoming academic year. The interviews will be conducted via phone / WebEx with the hospitals participating in the program. Each year typically, 10 to 12 funded UConn internship positions become available. Some hospitals have two students and therefore have one opening each year and some hospitals take one student every other year.

Each student is expected to interview for every opening. When a student is invited to interview, they should expect to meet and interview with the clinical engineering staff at each hospital accepting an intern that year. During the interviews, candidates may meet the director of clinical engineering, the current intern(s) and perhaps others in the clinical engineering department. The interview format will vary from hospital to hospital, but the CE staff and the interns will ask the candidates' questions about their background and interests and the candidates will have a chance to ask questions about the hospital or the internship experience there. The candidates should be prepared for 12 - 16 formal interviews. The successful candidates prepare for these interviews as they would prepare for a formal job interview because they may be working at this hospital for 21 months.

At the end of the interview process, the students are expected to rate each hospital. Similarly, the clinical engineering departments rate each student candidate. During the first week of April, a matching process takes place to identify which students will be assigned to which hospital. When the decisions are finalized, each student is contacted with the results.

Hospitals in the program this past year include Baystate Health Systems (*Springfield, MA*), Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (*Boston, MA*), Boston Children's Hospital (*Boston, MA*), Brigham and Women's Hospital (*Boston, MA*), Geisinger Medical Center (*Danville, PA*), Hartford Hospital (*Hartford, CT*), Kaiser Permanente (*Berkeley, CA*), Massachusetts General Hospital (*Boston, MA*), Oregon Health & Science University (*Portland, OR*), Rhode Island Hospital (*Providence, RI*), UConn Health Center (*Farmington, CT*), UMASS Memorial Medical Center (*Worcester, MA*), VA Capital Health Care Network (*Linthicum, MD and Clarksburg, WV*), VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (*Los Angeles, CA*), VA North Texas Healthcare System (*Dallas, TX*) and Yale New Haven Hospital (*New Haven, CT*).

If the candidate is accepted to the program, they must arrive at their assigned hospital in August the week prior to the first week of classes. This early arrival is necessary to complete any paperwork, physical exams and orientation classes. This initial week will also allow interns to receive an assigned work location, tour the hospital to become familiar with the layout and meet key hospital staff. It is recommended that the internship student select a living location near their assigned work location as they are expected to be at their internship location nearly every weekday.

Contact Dr. Dave Kaputa (david.kaputa@uconn.edu) or Carol Davis-Smith (carol.davis-smith@uconn.edu) for questions about the internship program.