



Dear Future Healthcare Explorer,

Erie County Medical Center is home to the region's only Level 1 Adult Trauma Center, Regional Center of Excellence (COE) for Transplantation and Kidney Care, Regional COE for Behavioral Health, Center for Cancer Care, Center for Orthopaedic Care, Center for Rehabilitation, more than 30 Outpatient Specialty Care services – and the home of **Healthcare Explorers**, an immersive summer internship experience for high school students (10th, 11th, & 12th graders). As a Healthcare Explorer, you will have the opportunity to have hands on experience across our campus. Exploration topics include Surgical Services, Transplantation, Emergency Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, and so much more.

If selected to be an explorer, you will work side by side with our dedicated healthcare professionals to “test-drive” careers in the healthcare profession while gaining valuable networking opportunities and career advice, all while connecting with students across the Western New York region. This resume-enhancing experience is the perfect addition to college applications or job applications.

This program is extremely competitive, typically with hundreds of applicants. Due to the limited number of sessions offered for 2026, program capacity will be capped at 90 students with priority given to seniors. Interested students are encouraged to apply as early as possible, as your application will be considered in the order it was received. **Applications will be accepted through April 30, 2026, or until program capacity is reached, whichever comes first.** A waitlist will be established with priority given to waitlisted students for the following year. No paper applications will be accepted. Once your application is received, it will be pre-screened for quality and completeness. If accepted into the program, you will be contacted for placement. The time commitment for this program is two days from 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM, totaling 12-hours. Students will receive breakfast and lunch, a t-shirt, Healthcare Explorers notebook as well as two (2) NFTA Day Passes if transportation assistance is needed. There is no cost to this program.

Students will be placed in **one** of the three sessions below based on preference and availability:

Session 1: Tuesday, July 14th & Thursday, July 16th

Session 2: Tuesday, July 21st & Thursday, July 23rd

Session 3: Tuesday, July 28th & Thursday, July 30th

Eligibility to participate in this program will include:

- Student enrolled in 10th, 11th, or 12th grade
- Completed electronic application with supporting documents.
- One (1) letter of recommendation from current teacher, coach, or principal (no friends or family)
- Video Entry answering the question: *Why do you want to participate in this program?* (90-Seconds)

If you have any questions, please reach out to our team at healthcareexplorers@ecmc.edu We're excited to welcome the next generation of healthcare professionals!



Application Checklist:

Your application is our first impression of **you**. Please pay close attention to the directions to ensure your application is completed fully and all required documents are uploaded.

The final date to submit your electronic application is **April 30, 2026***

* Due to a limited number of sessions in 2026, program enrollment will be capped at 90 students, with priority given to seniors. Applications will be reviewed in the order received and accepted through April 30, 2026, or until capacity is reached, whichever comes first. Interested students are encouraged to apply early.

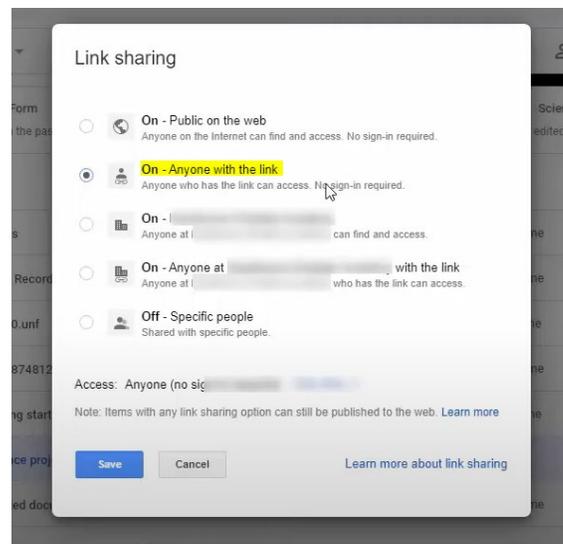
No paper applications will be accepted.

To be considered for this program, you must meet **all** the following criteria:

- Student will be in 10th, 11th or 12th grade in the fall of 2026
- Completed Electronic Application
- Signed & Uploaded Guardian Permission Form
- Signed & Uploaded Media Consent Form
- Completed & Uploaded Recommendation Form **(No friends or family)**
- Video submission (90-seconds) Question: Why do you want to participate in this program?**

*Video Submission Tips/Instructions:

- **Answer the following question:**
Why do you want to participate in the Healthcare Explorers program? (90-seconds max)
- Upload your video to **GoogleDrive** utilizing your personal account
- Please make sure you state your name, school and grade level in the introduction of your video
- When sharing the link on your application, please make sure it is set to 'Public' or 'Anyone with the link'
- If your link is NOT set to these settings, we will not be able to consider your application.





How to Apply

Visit: <https://www.ecmc.edu/ecmc-foundation/events/healthcare-explorers/> or scan the QR Code to complete your application. Your exploration starts NOW!



Questions? Please reach out to us at: healthcareexplorers@ecmc.edu

We look forward to meeting you this summer!





Guardian Permission Form

(Print student full name) _____ has my permission to participate in the **Healthcare Explorers** program at Erie County Medical Center and is physically able to do so. I understand that their eligibility is contingent upon their good health, complete application, and supporting documentation. I further understand that it is **my** responsibility to arrange for their transportation to and from ECMC.

_____ Date: _____
Signature of Guardian

Print Name

Relationship



NON-PATIENT CONSENT - Minor
For Photography, Promotion, Communication, Publication
Healthcare Explorers Program

Student's Name (PLEASE PRINT): _____

I am the guardian of and hereby grant permission to **Erie County Medical Center** Corporation to take and use photo/video article of my child for use in publicity, illustration, publishing (including the electronic form), or other lawful uses as may be determined by ECMCC.

____ (initial)

I understand that I will not be compensated by ECMCC for the use of this photo/video article for above purpose(s) or similar.

_____ X _____
(DATE) (Guardian's SIGNATURE)

(Print Guardian's Name)



Recommendation Form

This document is to be completed by a teacher, coach, tutor, or faculty member who can most accurately answer the questions below. **No family or friends.**

Student's Name: _____

High School: _____

Please rate the student's ability in each of the following areas:

	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Not able to evaluate
Willingness to learn				
Ability to complete assigned duties				
Responsibility				
Dependability				
Interpersonal skills				
Empathy for others				
Honesty				
Maturity				
Personal appearance/grooming				
Willingness to follow rules				
Ability to follow instructions				

Why should this student participate in the Healthcare Explorers Program?

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

PRINT NAME _____ TITLE _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____