

MEMORIAL  HOSPITAL
MEDICAL
EXPLORING™
DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE

2026-2027
PROGRAM YEAR



WHY BE AN EXPLORER

- Learn about healthcare career opportunities
- Meet professionals from various fields and backgrounds
- Hands-on experience, activities, labs, and learning
- Job shadowing opportunities
- Networking opportunities
- Real-world experience before entering the field
- Scholarship opportunities
- Preparation for planning your career path
- Job opportunities at Memorial Hospital

Memorial Hospital's Medical Explorers Program is Your Step to a Healthcare Career

3 Employment

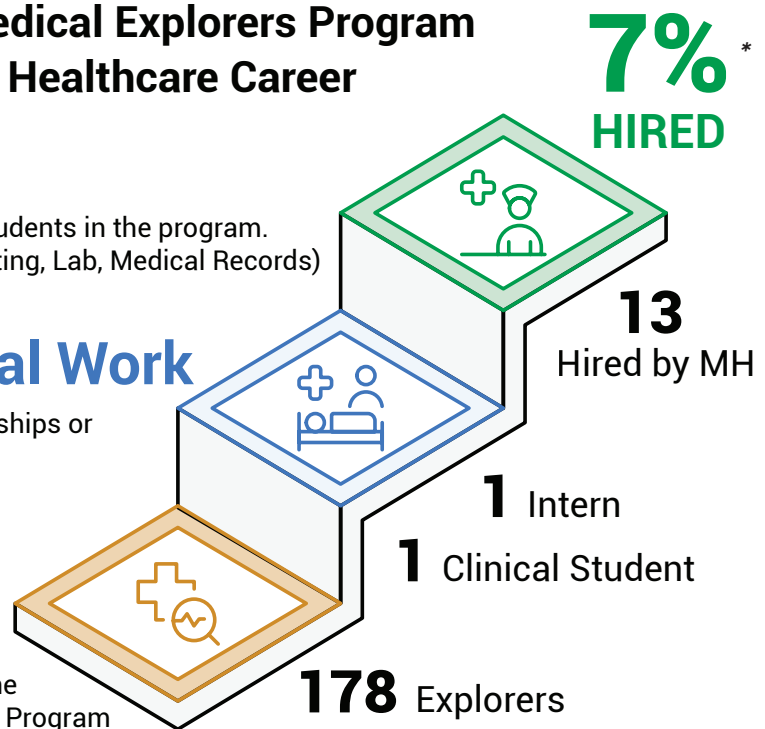
Memorial has hired 12 (8%) of the students in the program.
(Nursing, Diagnostic Imaging, Admitting, Lab, Medical Records)

2 Internship/Clinical Work

Two students have completed internships or clinical work at Memorial Hospital.

1 Medical Explorer Program

Over 175 students have enrolled in the Memorial Hospital Medical Explorers Program since 2019.



**Many past Explorers are still currently enrolled in higher education programs and not looking for employment yet.*



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WHAT IS MEDICAL EXPLORERS?

The Memorial Hospital Organization, MH, is a registered Boy Scouts of America Medical Explorers Post 8618.

Who Can be an Explorer?

The program is for high school and college students who are interested in Healthcare Careers. Whether you already know what occupation you would like to pursue or you have not decided on a specific career field yet, through Medical Explorers you will have opportunities to learn about many careers, participate in hands-on activities and meet healthcare professionals.

Program Summary

The MH Medical Explorers program is offered as a free, 8-month program, with a minimum of one group meeting/event held each month, September through April. All meetings are held at Memorial Hospital unless otherwise indicated on the schedule for the program year. (Provided at the first meeting of the year.)

Qualifications for Medical Explorers Program:

Must be a graduate of 8th Grade and 14-20 Years of Age | GPA of at least 3.0

1ST YEAR EXPLORER APPLICATION FORMS DUE BY APPLICATION DEADLINE, SEPTEMBER 1:

- ✓ Online Application Form
- ✓ Most Recent School Transcript or Grade Report with GPA
- ✓ Copy of Vaccination Records
- ✓ Letter of Interest in Program: 2-3 paragraphs or more explaining your interest in the Medical Explorers Program or a healthcare career.

2ND YEAR+ EXPLORER APPLICATION FORMS DUE BY APPLICATION DEADLINE, SEPTEMBER 1:

- ✓ Online Application Form
- ✓ Most Recent School Transcript or Grade Report with GPA
- ✓ Letter of Interest in Program: 2-3 paragraphs or more explaining your interest in the Medical Explorers Program or a healthcare career.

Please Include Attachments During Initial Registration

or Email to Mariah Bargman, Program Director, at mbargman@mhchester.com

Additional forms will be completed and signed at the first meeting which requires attendance of the Explorer and parent/guardian. If applicant is unable to attend, another date needs to be scheduled with the Program Director prior to the meeting to complete paperwork.



JOINING MEDICAL EXPLORERS

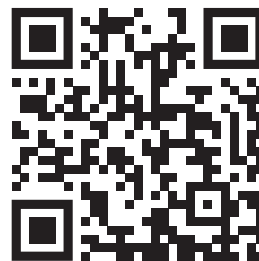
Students interested in the program are required to submit a completed application by September 1, 2026.

Apply online at www.mhchester.com/exploring

Submit completed applications through the website and include attachments or email attachments prior to the deadline.



Email:
mbargman@mhchester.com



Scan to Register
online

PROGRAM OUTLINE



The Memorial Hospital Medical Explorer Program is offered at no charge to the participants. All registration fees and required apparel are paid for by Memorial Hospital and the Auxiliary. All class materials and educational supplies are provided by Memorial Hospital.



PRESENTATIONS & HANDS-ON DEMONSTRATIONS

The presentations and programs for each year are adjusted to provide a variety of educational experiences from the departments and organizations listed below. Students that participate in the program more than one year, will continually learn new things and hear from new professionals in healthcare.

- Hospital Support Staff
 - Pharmacy
 - Nursing
- Operating Room Nursing & Anesthesia
- Laboratory
- Cardiopulmonary
- Diagnostic Imaging
- Specialty Providers
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Language Pathology
- Family Healthcare Providers
- Ambulance and First Responders
- Helicopter Emergency Medical Service
- Dentistry
- Chiropractics
- Optometry
- Educational Organizations
- Mental Health Services
- Mortuary Science
- AND Other Healthcare Organizations

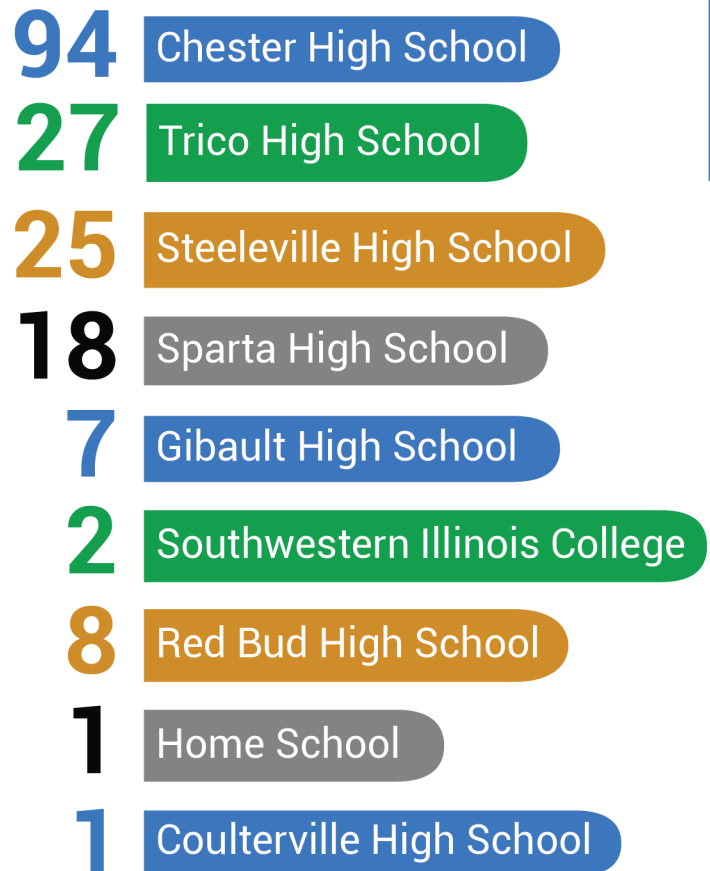


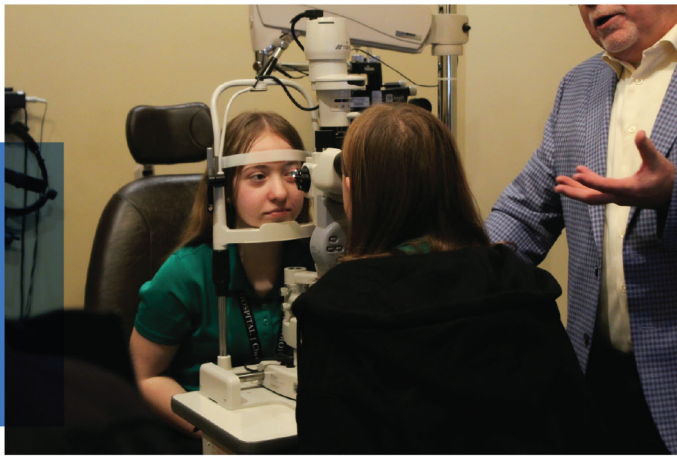
ACTIVITIES MAY INCLUDE:

- Vital Sign Assessment
- Mock-Patient Scenarios
- Department Tours
- Suturing & IVs
- Ultrasounds & X-Rays
- Equipment Demos
- Q & A's
- AND MORE

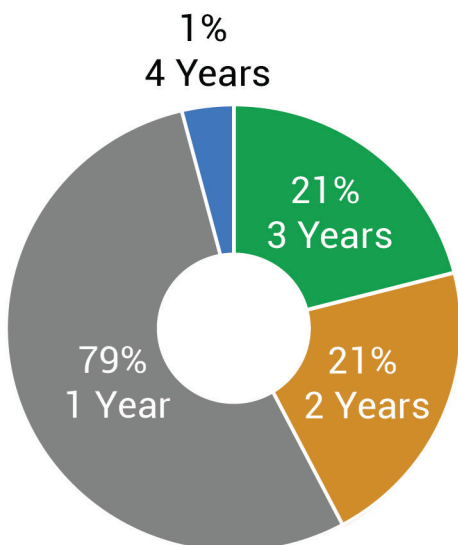
Over 175 Students

Enrolled Since 2019





Get More Out of Your Experience By Participating More Than 1 Year



“ This program is amazing!
I highly recommend to
anyone who is not sure
what they want to do later
on in life that is with the
medical field. ”

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AT MEMORIAL

HEALTHCARE CAREER	Job Shadowing Available by Appointment	Age 16+	High School Diploma	Certificate Program (6 weeks to 6 months)	Program Completion	Associate Degree	Bachelor Degree	Master Degree	Doctorate
BUSINESS OFFICE									
Accountant	•					•			
Chief Financial Officer	•						•		
Admitting Representative			•						
Admitting Supervisor	•					•			
Patient Account Specialist	•					•			
Third Party Biller	•		•						
CARDIOPULMONARY									
Respiratory Therapist	•					•			
Sleep Technician	•					•			
CHEMOTHERAPY & INFUSION									
Infusion Nursing Assistant	•			•					
Registered Nurse	•					•	•		
DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING									
CT Tech	•					•			
MRI Tech	•					•			
Radiology Tech	•					•			
Mammography Tech	•					•			
Ultrasound Tech	•					•			
DIETARY									
Cook	•		•	•					
Dietary Clerk			•						
Dietary Supervisor	•			•					
Dietitian	•						•		
Director of Dietary	•					•			
Food Preparer/Traypasser		•							
Head Cook	•		•	•					
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES									
Floor Technician			•						
Housekeeping		•							
Surgical Housekeeper			•	•					
Linen Clerk			•						
HUMAN RESOURCES									
Director of HR	•					•			
Payroll	•					•			
Education Specialist	•					•			
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY									
Director of IT	•			•			•		
IT Tech 1	•			•					
IT Tech 2	•						•		
LABORATORY									
Directory of Laboratory							•		
Medical Lab Technician	•					•			
Phlebotomist	•			•					

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

There will be a limited number of students accepted.
Applicants will be notified of acceptance no later than September 5.



ATTENDANCE

Students are asked to attend 50% of the Post meetings/events. Meetings are typically held on Wednesdays or Thursdays September through April.



VOLUNTEER TIME

Students are asked to complete 2 hours of volunteer time during the program duration. These hours can be at Memorial Hospital or in the community. More details will be provided at the first meeting.



HOSPITAL EVENTS

Students are encouraged to participate in Memorial Hospital community events including: Health Events, Information Events, Youth Education Events, and Parades.



Explorers who meet attendance and volunteer requirements by the last meeting of the program year, will be awarded an Exploring pin.



PARTICIPATION

We understand that many of our Explorers are involved in school sports and extracurricular activities that may conflict with our meeting dates/times. If a student misses 3 meetings or more, job shadowing time can be scheduled for the student to make-up meetings that were missed.

Volunteerism is an important part of community involvement and growth. We encourage all students to actively volunteer in an area that fits their interest.

Memorial Hospital holds several events throughout the year that present the opportunity for student participation and these hours can go towards volunteer time and National Honor Society time.

If a participant is unable to meet attendance and volunteer time requirements, this does not remove them from the program, but they are asked to contact the program director to discuss any issues with meeting requirements and keep an open line of communication.

“ I am thankful that Medical Explorers helped me to choose my career path. ”



SIGN-UP FOR THE REMIND APP

TEXT: Text 81010 with message @mhexp2026

SEARCH IN APP: mhexp2026

JOB SHADOWING

Medical Explorers are able to schedule as many job shadowing hours as they would like with different departments. These times will be scheduled with the program director upon completion of a job shadowing form. Scan the QR code here or visit <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/R3v7Tzv9D3> to request a scheduling time.



Job shadowing hours can be scheduled into the summer months during the program year but we do ask that each student try to complete shadowing by August of their active program year.

Students can sign-up for as many departments as they would like. Please note, that not all departments may be available for job shadowing and students can request special placement by contacting the program director. (See pages 8-9 for options.)

Sign-Up for Job Shadowing:

1. Complete a TB Gold Test* (*see info below*)
2. Fill out form at link/QR code above.
3. The program director will confirm availability with the department(s) and confirm your shadowing time(s) with you.

NOTE: The best times to job shadow are during regular business hours (M-F 8a-4p). Great days for students to job shadow are school holidays, early dismissals, or holiday breaks, this ensures the best opportunity to observe high activity in the departments.

Job Shadowing Requirements:

- **Job Shadowing Release Form** – Completed at first meeting with paperwork.
- **All vaccinations and proof of vaccinations** must be provided to shadow.
- ***TBGold Test** - this blood test is required for all healthcare personell, volunteers, and students at Memorial Hospital. This testing is provided at no charge. A form will be provided for testing once a shadowing time has been scheduled.
- We ask that all students please **wear their Medical Explorer shirt** during Job Shadowing.
- Students are to bring their **Program Worksheet** (provided at first Medical Explorers meeting of the program year) with them so each department can sign-off on their scheduled job shadowing time.

Job Shadowing Procedure:

- Upon arrival, enter the Main Entrance (Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm) or ER Entrance (Saturday and Sunday).
- Inform the volunteer or admitting person of the department you are here to shadow with. They will call the department to have someone come greet you and escort you to your destination.
- When your job shadowing time has ended, if you are unsure of how to exit the building or find your way to your next shadowing location, please ask someone to assist you.

Questions about job shadowing, contact the program director, Mariah Bargman at 618-826-4581 ext 1373 or mbargman@mhchester.com

GUIDELINES

CONDUCT

Medical Explorers are a representation of their school and of Memorial Hospital when they are on any Memorial Hospital campus.

Explorers are expected to conduct themselves with professionalism, responsibility, accountability, and integrity.

Examples of misconduct include, but not limited to:

- Poor attendance
- Use of profanity, disruptive behavior, fighting, destruction of property
- Violation of patient privacy/HIPAA
- Inappropriate phone/camera/social media use

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

- If an Explorer is unable to attend a scheduled program event, please contact the program director within 2 hours of scheduled time. **RSVP Reminders will be sent out prior to each meeting via email and the Remind app.**
- If an Explorer will be a little late due to a conflicting practice or event, please notify the program director.
- Explorers are expected to have their own transportation planned for arrival and departure.

COMMUNICATION

- **Explorers are expected to provide a personal email address and phone number for program contact purposes.**
- Explorers are expected to be responsible for all their communications, including the use of social media.
 - You may NOT claim to be speaking on behalf of Memorial Hospital or any affiliates.
 - Information regarding patients or photographs of patients are strictly prohibited and are grounds for immediate program termination.

DRESS CODE

- Explorers are expected to dress appropriately:
 - Clean, neat, modest
 - **Participants are asked to wear provided Medical Explorers shirts and ID badges at all meetings, scheduled job shadowing, and other events.**
 - Memorial Hospital will provide needed attire for areas where necessary.
 - Your provided ID badge will need to be worn above the waist at all times.

EXPECTATIONS

- The student will be committed to the program.
- The student will maintain good academic standing.
 - Suspension and discipline could result in program termination.
- The student will communicate with the program director consistently and inform them of any absences or schedule conflicts.
- The student will follow the program's guidelines.

PROTOCOL FOR DISMISSAL

- Verbal warning.
- Written warning.
- Failure to improve will result in termination of program.

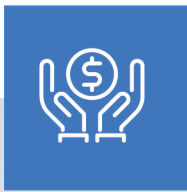
“ I really enjoyed getting to see all the departments in the hospital and learning about all the behind-the-scenes that goes on. I also enjoyed having the opportunity to job-shadow at any department in the hospital. I really enjoyed this program and I learned so much!

”

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL VALUES

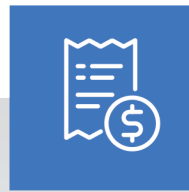
EDUCATION & ADVANCEMENT

Memorial Hospital values each one of our staff members and encourages self-improvement and career growth. The goal of Memorial Hospital's educational assistance programs is to help recruit, develop, engage and retain high-quality employees so the best quality healthcare can be provided to our community. A healthy community supports sustainability and longevity for those who live here.



Scholarships

Scholarships are available to qualifying high school seniors, college students, and employed students who meet specified criteria and who are selected by a scholarship committee.



Tuition Reimbursement

Tuition reimbursement is available to all regular Full Time and Part Time employees that have served one year of continuous 20+ hours weekly of service.



Student Loan Repayment

The Student Loan Repayment Program authorizes the repayment of all or part of an outstanding federally-insured student loan obligation incurred by a current employee or employee candidate.

LEARN MORE

To learn more about the **Scholarships** offered by Memorial Hospital, visit our website at www.mhchester.com/students. For additional information please contact the Administrative Office at 618-826-4581 ext. 1299 Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm or email abradshaw@mhchester.com.

To learn more about **Tuition Reimbursement** or Memorial Hospital's **Student Loan Repayment Program**, please contact Human Resources at 618-826-4581 ext. 1260 Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm or email HDept@mhchester.com.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

High School Seniors

MEDICAL EXPLORERS SCHOLARSHIP - Memorial Hospital offers a Medical Explorers Scholarship Program starting in December and ending in April of that program year. The scholarship is for High School Seniors and College Students who are members of the Memorial Hospital Medical Exploring Post. Upon completion of the 6-hour job shadowing program and submission of a reflection essay and application essay a scholarship is awarded by the Memorial Hospital Auxiliary. The winner is selected by a committee based on the student's performance in the program and essays. For complete details about the Explorers Program visit: www.mhchester.com/exploring.

Nursing Students

MULLINS SCHOLARSHIP - A Memorial Scholarship from Mrs. Maria E. Mullins in memory of her husband, William E. Mullins. Any person residing in Randolph County may be eligible to apply for a scholarship or loan provided they have been accepted for admission to a recognized school for the study of nursing. Scholarship recipients must agree to return to Memorial Hospital (a.k.a. Randolph Hospital District), Randolph County, Chester, Illinois to practice their profession for two or more years upon completion of: Nurses training and successful state licensure, post graduate training (if approved by the Scholarship Committee), or all class work required for certificate of graduation. **Applications are accepted April 15-June 1** annually. Download an application at: www.mhchester.com/students

AUXILIARY NURSING SCHOLARSHIP - The Memorial Hospital Auxiliary Nursing Scholarship is designed to provide residents of Randolph County, Illinois financial assistance when pursuing a degree in a field of nursing. The purpose of the scholarship is to promote a nursing career at Chester Memorial Hospital by providing money for tuition and fees to residents of Randolph County. The scholarship award of up to \$1,200.00 will be given to any selected resident of Randolph County who will be completing the RN Program of study during the current academic year. The prospective graduate of a LPN Program will qualify for a \$500.00 scholarship award. The school attended need not be an Illinois institution; however, it must be accredited or recognized as an approved program by appropriate agencies. **Applications are accepted April 15-August 31** annually. Download an application at: www.mhchester.com/students

“ The staff was always so helpful and inviting. They always encouraged us to ask questions and to come job shadow them. This program helped me to find the occupation that I want to go to college for. ”



Career Paths of Former Explorers

- ▶ Occupational Therapy
- ▶ Social Work
- ▶ Speech-Language Pathology
- ▶ Nursing
- ▶ Health Administration
- ▶ Labor & Delivery Nurse
- ▶ Pharmaceuticals
- ▶ Military Paths
- ▶ Surgeon
- ▶ Physician Assistant
- ▶ AND MORE



Contact Information

Memorial Hospital
1900 State Street - Chester, IL 62233
618-826-4581
www.mhchester.com/exploring

Email: mbargman@mhchester.com

POST ADVISOR:

Brett Bollmann, CEO

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON & PROGRAM DIRECTOR:

Mariah Bargman, Marketing & Community Relations

EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

Susan Diddlebock, Chief Nursing Officer

COMMITTEE MEMBER:

Apryl Bradshaw, Administrative Assistant