



For Immediate Release
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Job Shadowing Leads to Healthcare Careers

Summer Scrubs 2015

Who: 100 Mobile and Baldwin County high school students

When: July 13-16

Where: Various hospitals, clinics, medical centers and the health department

Why: Students explore a career choice before college, rotating each morning to a different location – from outpatient surgery to ER to oncology to a birthing simulation lab (rotation attached)

What do healthcare careers pay? The range from \$32,000 for a surgical technician with an associate degree to \$200,000 for a doctor with a medical degree

How are students selected? Application process based on merit

Each year, dozens of high school students spend one week of their summer shadowing area healthcare professionals. This year organizers are planning the 12th annual Summer Scrubs program, where rising high school seniors get a look at opportunities in one of Mobile's largest industries.

The event is run by the Bay Area Healthcare Coalition and the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce, and began in 2004 to help the area avoid projected industry workforce shortages.

The Chamber took the initiative to catch up with a few alumni. Here's a look at their progress through a healthcare career and what they had to say about Summer Scrubs.

Josephine Baumgarten

2nd Year, Physician Assistant Program, University of South Alabama
Undergraduate Degree: Biomedical Science, USA
Summer Scrubs 2007, Faith Academy

“My experience with the Summer Scrubs program was the starting point towards my decision to choose a career in healthcare. After participating in Summer Scrubs, I was motivated to begin volunteering in the Treehouse at USA Children's and Women's hospital. I feel these opportunities not only helped me with future endeavors, but also solidified my passion for the medical field.”

Cady Beedy

2nd Year, Medical Student, USA

Undergraduate Degree: Biology, The University of Alabama

Summer Scrubs 2007, Bayside Academy

“Summer Scrubs was my first view of the provider side of healthcare and really sparked my interest in furthering my pursuit of a career in healthcare.”

Bo Brunson

1st Year, Medical Student, USA

Undergraduate Degree: Chemical Engineering, The University of Alabama

Master’s Degree: Chemical Engineering, The University of Alabama

Summer Scrubs 2007, Fairhope High School

“During that summer, participating in the Summer Scrubs program, I saw what it meant to be a doctor, the challenges they face, and what it takes to really care for patients. I knew then, this was something I wanted to do with my life.”

Dominique Crain

2nd Year, Medical Student, USA

Undergraduate Degree: Biology, The University of Alabama

Summer Scrubs 2004, Baker High School

“Summer scrubs was a program that introduced me to the field of medicine. It provided me with a first-hand experience of what a physician does in their daily practice. I observed many basic procedures and my very first surgical procedure at the age of 14 during the program. In addition, we learned how to perform lifesaving procedures such as CPR and utilization of an AED. My experiences in Summer Scrubs provided me with an insight of what it was that I wished to do for a career; hence it had a major impact on my decision to become a physician.”

Jaclyn Garner

Speech Therapist, Mobile Infirmary

Master’s Degree: Speech Language Pathology, University of South Alabama

Undergraduate Degree: Communicative Disorders, The University of Alabama

Summer Scrubs 2005, Mobile Christian

“Summer Scrubs opened my eyes to the wide variety of potential healthcare careers available to me. The experience taught me that I truly did want a future career in healthcare.”

Kari Rodgers

Cardiovascular Perfusionist, Northeast Georgia Health System Medical Center

Undergraduate Degree: Cardiopulmonary Science, University of South Alabama

Certificate in Perfusion Technology, Texas Heart Institute

Summer Scrubs 2004, McGill-Toolen

“Summer Scrubs helped me to confirm that I wanted to work in the medical field by introducing me to many positions. I saw how rewarding it can be to have a career that involves helping people. Everyone I worked with during Summer Scrubs was positive and encouraging.”

Blake Tennant

2nd Year, Medical Student, USA

Undergraduate Degree: Biology, Birmingham Southern

Summer Scrubs 2006, UMS High School

“Summer scrubs really showed me the excitement that is present in the healthcare field. While in

the program I saw a baby being born and I also saw an open heart surgery. Before this program I had shadowed doctors, but I really hadn't witnessed any life changing or exciting events in healthcare."

At the conclusion of this year's effort, nearly 1,700 students will have participated in the program since its inception. Participating Mobile and Baldwin sites for 2015 are:

- Alabama Orthopaedic Clinic PC, Mobile
- Diagnostic and Medical Clinic, Mobile
- Mobile County Health Department, Mobile
- Mobile Infirmary, Mobile
- North Baldwin Infirmary, Bay Minette
- Providence Hospital, Mobile
- Springhill Medical Center, Mobile
- South Baldwin Regional Medical Center, Foley
- Thomas Hospital, Fairhope
- USA Children's & Women's Hospital, Mobile
- USA Medical Center, Mobile
- USA Mitchell Cancer Institute, Mobile
- Victory Health Partners

Editors: For assistance during July 13-16, Ashley Horn will be your contact. She can be reached at 251.431.8623, ahorn@mobilechamber.com and 251.586.2367. Also, attached is a spreadsheet that shows what schools the students attend and where they will be during the week.

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