

Volunteer Opportunities for Nursing Students

The following resources were gathered to help current nursing students learn more about volunteer opportunities throughout Orange County, Los Angeles County, and San Diego County. We encourage students to review opportunities early so that they are familiar with relevant application requirements and deadlines.

Orange County:

- **An Lành Free Clinic (Garden Grove)**
 - **Website:** <https://sites.uci.edu/freeclinic/undergraduates/>
 - **Description:** Open teaching clinic located in Garden Grove, open from 8 am - 1 pm on Saturdays for undergraduates to work with patients under the supervision of a physician and medical assistant. Students will gain experience in clinic operations, community outreach, public relations, and more.
 - **Eligibility:** Open to all undergraduate students
- **Children's Hospital of Orange County (Orange or Mission campuses)**
 - **Website:** <https://www.choc.org/volunteer/>
 - **Description:** Volunteers will engage in activities such as escorting families around the hospital, assisting in the Family Resource Center, offering activities for patients in waiting areas, assessing comfort needs of families on the units, discharging patients, and more.
 - **Eligibility:** Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age, commit to a 3–4-hour shift once a week, and dedicate a minimum of 100 hours of service.
- **Orange Coast Medical Center**
 - **Website:** <https://www.memorialcare.org/employees-volunteers/volunteer-orange-coast-medical-center>
 - **Description:** Volunteers will participate in activities such as providing clerical support, distributing comfort items to patients in the Emergency Room and other units, supporting companion visits with hospice patients, and greeting patients/families at the lobby reception.
 - **Eligibility:** Volunteers are required to complete a background check (SSN required), Required to submit COVID-19 vaccine/booster(s), TB tests & influenza vaccination records.
- **COPE Health Scholars**
 - **Website:** <https://copehealthscholars.org/programs/health-scholar/overview/>
 - **Description:** This program is designed to help volunteers gain clinical and administrative experience in a health care setting. Participants will assist with basic care for patients alongside healthcare professionals. Upon completion of the program, scholars will receive a completion certificate from Keck Graduate Institute.
 - **Eligibility:** Must be at least 18 years old and have a GED/high school diploma. Required to submit immunization/titer records, health insurance, and CPR certification.
- **UCI Health (Orange)**
 - **Website:** <https://www.ucihealth.org/volunteer>
 - **Description:** Student volunteers will get to work in a variety of areas within UCI Health, including the emergency room and nursing units. Volunteers can apply to any of the following programs: Child Life Program, Music to Health, Irvine Clinical Experience and more.
 - **Eligibility:** Must be at least 18 years old and be able to volunteer one 3-hour shift per week. Required to commit a minimum of 100 service hours. Must pass a health clearance and criminal background check (SSN required).

- **Providence St. Joseph Hospital Orange**

- **Website:** <https://www.providence.org/locations/social/st-joseph-hospital-orange/volunteer-opportunities>
- **Description:** Volunteers will assist in providing non-clinical basic care and support to patients on various clinical units, including activities such as greeting, escorting, and conversing with patients. Volunteers can also prepare empty treatment rooms and help with patient transfer. Gift shop positions are also open.
- **Eligibility:** Applicants must be at least 18 years of age to volunteer. Volunteers are also required to complete a background check (SSN required), submit COVID-19 vaccination documentation, and complete a health screening and TB tests. All volunteers are required to complete at least 100 hours of volunteer work.

- **Hoag (Newport Beach, Irvine, Huntington Beach)**

- **Website:** <https://www.hoag.org/education-resources/volunteer/>
- **Description:** Hoag offers volunteer opportunities at their Newport Beach, Irvine, and Huntington Beach campuses. Volunteers will assist with basic care of patients and visitors while also providing administrative support.
- **Eligibility:** Must be over 18 years of age. Interview and skill assessments are required. Must also complete a health screening, TB testing, and flu vaccination.

- **Saddleback Medical Center**

- **Website:** <https://www.memorialcare.org/employees-volunteers/volunteer-saddleback-medical-center>
- **Description:** Volunteers will engage in activities such as clerical support, escorting patients, distributing comfort items to patient in the Emergency Room and other units, companion visits with hospice patients, and greeting patients/families at the lobby reception.
- **Eligibility:** Volunteers must be at least 16 years old and commit to volunteer a minimum of 150 hours a year. If accepted, must also complete a TB Test and the annual flu vaccine.

- **Red Cross Blood Drive Volunteer - Orange County**

- **Website:** <https://www.redcross.org/volunteer/become-a-volunteer.html>
- **Description:** Volunteers at the Red Cross Blood Drive will engage with blood donors to promote blood donation, and ensure donors are re-hydrating after donation. Volunteers will also assist with greeting donors, directing doors to check in, and sanitizing donor beds and areas.
- **Eligibility:** Must be at least 16 years old, have professionalism and communication skills, and be comfortable working with people from diverse communities and backgrounds. Recommended to commit to 1 shift per month ranging between 5-6 hours for a minimum of three months.

- **Share Our Selves Community Clinic (Costa Mesa)**

- **Website:** <https://www.shareourselves.org/get-involved/volunteer/>
- **Description:** Volunteers assist with the food pantry to distribute groceries to those who experience food insecurity or homelessness. Volunteers can also work at their community programs, assisting with sorting and preparing donations for distribution to community members.
- **Eligibility:** Must be 16 years or older and must be able to lift/carry objects weighing 10-15 pounds. COVID-19 vaccination is recommended. Must be able to volunteer once a week for three months between 8 am – 5 pm

- **Seasons Hospice and Palliative Care (Orange)**

- **Website:** <https://www.accentcare.com/volunteer/>
- **Description:** Volunteers can choose to work in Direct Care or Indirect Care. Volunteers can offer their participation in a range of services such as direct care at the bedside, administrative support, pet therapy, music companionship, vigil support, spiritual comfort, multimedia support, and other crafts/activities.
- **Eligibility:** No requirements stated on volunteer page. Apply online and someone from their team will contact you.

- **Kaiser Permanente Orange County (Irvine or Anaheim)**

- **Website:** <https://healthy.kaiserpermanente.org/southern-california/pages/notices-updates/volunteer-opportunities>
- **Description:** Kaiser Hospice volunteers will have the opportunity to assist patients who have life-threatening or terminal illnesses by providing companionship, aid with errands, and more.
- **Eligibility:** No requirements stated on volunteer page. Contact the Hospice Volunteer Department for more information.

- **Orange County Free Clinic (Orange)**

- **Website:** <https://www.orangecountyfreeclinic.org/volunteer/>
- **Description:** Volunteers will be able to assist healthcare professionals with outpatient care, as well as participate in activities that give back to the community.
- **Eligibility:** No requirements stated on volunteer page. Email at ocfc@orangecountyfreeclinic.org to apply.

Los Angeles County:

- **UCLA Health (Westwood & Santa Monica)**

- **Website:** <https://www.uclahealth.org/volunteer>
- **Description:** Volunteers will supplement the regular professional staff through activities such as assisting clients over the phone, giving directions to patients and visitors, spending time with patients at the bedside, distributing activity kits to patients, and other special services.
- **Eligibility:** Must be at least 16 years old and agree to volunteer for 100 hours or more. Must have proof of Varicella, MMR, and COVID-19 vaccination. TB blood test and medical clearance is required. Background check required.

- **LA General Medical Center**

- **Website:** <https://dhs.lacounty.gov/lageneral/who-we-are/volunteer-services/>
- **Description:** Volunteers will participate in multiple tasks such as clerical duties, visiting patients at the bedside, greeting patients and visitors at the information desk, distributing resources to patients, and other programs.
- **Eligibility:** Must be at least 16 years old and be willing to commit 200 hours throughout the year. Interview required in addition to online application. Volunteers are also required to complete a background check and health clearance.

- **Children's Hospital Los Angeles**

- **Website:** <https://www.chla.org/volunteering-hospital>
- **Description:** Volunteers have the opportunity to assist patients directly, including guiding them to their hospital appointments, read books and play with children in the playroom while they wait for their appointment.
- **Eligibility:** Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and complete a health clearance. Must commit to at least 2 years and required to complete two 4-hour shifts a month.

- **Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center**

- **Website:** <https://thrive.kaiserpermanente.org/care-near-you/southern-california/los-angeles/community-events/volunteer-services/>
- **Description:** Volunteers will assist over 40 departments at the hospital. Some volunteer activities include, front desk check-in, patient discharge, music engagement, and wayfinding. Volunteers can also choose to work specifically with dementia/depression/delirium patients or participate with their music or pets program.
- **Eligibility:** Required to commit at least 200 hours, submit proof of COVID-19 vaccination with Booster, and complete a background check.

- **Cedars-Sinai**

- **Website:** <https://www.cedars-sinai.org/volunteer-services/adults/general.html>
- **Description:** Volunteers can choose to provide direct contact with patients and families or be on the administrative side. Variety of departments including information desks, cancer centers, and lobby services.
- **Eligibility:** Volunteers must go through a virtual interview process and undergo a background check and health clearance. Must also be ready to submit COVID-19 vaccination record and get the annual flu vaccine. Volunteers wishing to volunteer in the Emergency Room must be at least 21 years old.

- **Keck Medical Center of USC**

- **Website:** <https://hie.keckmedicine.org/volunteer/>
- **Description:** Volunteers will assist departments with activities such as hospital admission, physical therapy, concierge, clinics, and department specialties.
- **Eligibility:** Volunteers must be at least 18 years old, have graduated from high school, pass a background check, undergo a health screening, and submit proof of full COVID-19 and flu vaccination. Required to commit to at least 6 months/100 hours of service; complete one 4-hour shift per week.

- **UMMA Community Clinic**

- **Website:** <https://www.ummaclinic.org/volunteer-opportunities/>
- **Description:** Volunteers will have the opportunity to volunteer with different departments around the clinic. Some examples of volunteer work include event planning, taking patient vitals, and more.
- **Eligibility:** Open to undergraduate and graduate students. All volunteers are required to have completed a TB test within the last year.

- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital**

- **Website:** <https://www.mlkch.org/volunteer>
- **Description:** N/A
- **Eligibility:** Volunteers must be at least 18 years old, commit to around 8-12 hours per month, submit references, and be fluent in English. Interview and health documentation required.

- **California Hospital Medical Center**

- **Website:** <https://www.supportcaliforniahospital.org/volunteer>
- **Description:** Volunteers will be placed in units based on experience and availability. Volunteering includes cuddling babies in the NICU, working at the information desk, serving as an ER liaison, supporting special events, and more.
- **Eligibility:** Must be at least 18 years old and meet hospital immunization policies including COVID -19 vaccination, Flu vaccination, and TB Tests.

San Diego County:

- **UCSD Health**

- **Website:** <https://health.ucsd.edu/giving/volunteer/>
- **Description:** Volunteers support clinical personnel through helping staff with patients, transporting and escorting patients in wheelchairs, and running errands to the pharmacy, labs, and other areas. Other opportunities may include administrative support, greeting patients and families, providing emotional support to patients and families, cuddling newborns, and more.
- **Eligibility:** Volunteers must be at least 16 years old and commit to a minimum of 100 hours of service over a 6-8 month period. Must also meet health requirements (COVID-19, Flu, etc.) set by the hospital

- **Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCS)**

- **Website:** <https://www.fhcsd.org/volunteer-opportunities/>
- **Description:** Volunteers will have the opportunity to be placed in a variety of clinics and associated departments. Some volunteer duties include health education, clerical and event support, and patient engagement.
- **Eligibility:** Minimum age to volunteer is 18 and willing to commit to 100 volunteer hours. Must complete a background check, health screening, and annual TB test.

- **Scripps Health**

- **Website:** <https://www.scripps.org/about-us/volunteer>
- **Description:** Volunteer tasks encompass a wide range of activities, including welcoming guests, developing craft activities for patients, and assisting in rehabilitation services.
- **Eligibility:** Volunteers must be at least 15 years old, be fluent in English and able to commit to volunteering at least 3-4 hours for 6+ months.

- **Sharp Healthcare**

- **Website:** <https://www.sharp.com/volunteers>
- **Description:** Sharp Healthcare offers many volunteer opportunities across San Diego. Volunteers can participate in business services, clerical assistance, family medicine, information desk and escorts, greeter, and Hospice.
- **Eligibility:** Volunteers must commit to at least 100 service hours and one shift per week. Must also complete health screenings including vaccination records for COVID-19.