

At the University of Connecticut School of Medicine, the Clinical Skills Assessment Program assists students as they learn bedside manners, the skills of taking a medical history, completing a physical examination, counseling, and communicating with patients. It relies on individuals trained to portray a medical problem and then evaluate students as they encounter the situation. The people who do this work are called Patient Instructors (PI).

We look for individuals who have the interest and skills to work effectively with medical/dental students in this role. The specific skills we look for are good communication skills, the ability to learn a script and act it out as the patient, comfort answering sensitive questions, ease and ability to provide constructive feedback, and the willingness to have a variety of physical exam maneuvers performed on you by students.

Patient Instructors work part-time and do not have steady hours. PIs work from one half day to five half days a week. Some weeks it could be one full day and one-half day. During a half-day they see 4-8 students, portray the case for each one, score each student's performance, and typically give the students feedback. PIs are carefully trained before they begin working with students because they must be accurate in portraying the case and scoring the students. PIs are also trained to give feedback to students on the content and process of the students' work.

We employ people of all ages who can make a commitment to working with students in specific programs. Individuals with medical problems and those with none are equally welcome. At times, the Patient Instructor's own experience is used for parts of a case, but most are authored by faculty and then matched to the age and sex of the potential PI.

Please complete the enclosed application and return it to the address on it. We will contact you when we are conducting interviews for specific programs.

Teresa Sapiuha-Yanchak, M.A., Associate Director  
Sandy Scippa, M.D., Director  
Clinical Skills Assessment Program

**Clinical Skills Assessment Program – Patient Instructor Application**  
**University of Connecticut School of Medicine**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #s: (cell): \_\_\_\_\_ (home): \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Education: \_\_\_\_\_

Relevant experience (as actor, teacher, healthcare professional, patient, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to be a patient instructor? \_\_\_\_\_

The schedules vary depending on program needs. Programs run in the mornings and/or afternoons Monday through Friday, typically between 8:00-11:00am and 1:00-5:00pm. What is your availability?

How did you hear about the Clinical Skills Assessment Program?

Are you a state employee?  yes  no      Are you a retired state employee?  yes  no  
If yes, what department? \_\_\_\_\_ % time \_\_\_\_\_ Employee # \_\_\_\_\_

Demographic information: In order to meet Federal and State reporting requirements and to evaluate the effectiveness of our testing program, it is necessary that the following information be supplied. This data is not for discriminatory purposes.

<p><u>Gender:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Female</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Male</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Nonbinary</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Transgender</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other, self-describe: _____</p>
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<p><u>Race/Ethnicity:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Asian Amer. Or Pacific Islander</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Amer. Indian or Alaskan Native</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> White</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p>
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Language(s) able to speak other than English: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to:  
Teresa Sapieha-Yanchak, MA  
Clinical Skills Assessment Program  
UConn School of Medicine  
263 Farmington Avenue  
Farmington, CT 06030-2824