



LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY

Radiation Therapy Required Observation



A key component for admission into our radiation therapy program is observation in a radiation oncology department.

This provides opportunities for prospective students to see first-hand what the profession is about. We encourage prospective students to observe radiation therapy treatments and to talk to therapy professionals and graduates of our programs.

How many hours of observation are required?

Each applicant must complete 24 hours of career observation as part of the application process for this program. Students must have their observation done by the end of April and completed before their interviews. Observation hours can be completed at any radiation oncology department.

What do I wear to patient observation appointments?

Dress professionally. Lab coats or scrubs are preferred or professional dress for patient-care setting. No open-toe shoes. Tattoos must be covered. Piercings must be limited to no more than one per ear. Jewelry should be minimal due to safety reasons.

What are the risks and hazards of observation?

As a prospective student observer you might be asked to sign a waiver of liability before you are allowed in a clinical/hospital setting. You may be exposed to environmental hazards commonly found in a hospital radiation services setting (i.e. x-ray radiation hazards, exposure to contagious diseases, etc.). You must also adhere to the patient confidentiality policies of the facility. (HIPPA)

How do I request observation time?

If you would like to do your observational hours at LLUMC, Contact Dolly Kisinger by email dkisinge@llu.edu for further instructions. If you choose to observe at another radiation therapy site, you will need to contact the chief therapist/supervisor at that site to schedule observation time. (Note: Remember to print off the observation form from the web site and take it with you. Include valid email and daytime phone number. If you have any other program-related questions please email: studyradsci@llu.edu)

Where do I park?

If observing at LLUMC you will need to park in "Lot X" located near Centennial Complex building off of Stewart Street and walk over to the hospital. This may take an additional ten to fifteen minutes to walk across campus.

Where to report for observations?

When observing at Loma Linda University Medical Center, (LLUMC) report to the radiation therapy department on B level. Identify yourself to the receptionist and ask to have Ruben Jimenez paged. He is the clinical supervisor for LLUMC and will instruct you as to what your schedule will be for your time at LLUMC.

During your observation, you will:

- Have the opportunity to schedule an appointment with the program director or clinical coordinator, and they will answer any questions you may have.
- Observe patient immobilization and treatment set-ups, conventional and proton radiation therapy treatments.
- Talk to therapy professionals and or graduates of the program.

How do I make the most of my 24 hours of observation time?

- Come with a basic knowledge about radiation therapy and our programs, either from researching the profession and our program information online or by asking pertinent questions during the observation time.
- Be prepared with pertinent relevant questions during observation time for both clinical faculty and therapy professionals.
- Come with a high desire to maintain high standards for didactic and clinical performance, and present that desire during observation time.
- Engage and demonstrate a willingness to learn while you observe.
- Show professional manners, such as being on time, dressing professionally, and interacting with patients and staff in an appropriate manner.
- Show enthusiasm and motivation for successful completion of the program.
- Ensure that the chief tech completes the observation form, so you can give it to the program director during the application process.

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