Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences B.S. Degree Program
Experiential Learning Credit Guide

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Training in Clinical and Research Settings

Some training opportunities in clinical and research settings have potential to count toward academic and Experiential Learning credit. Other structured opportunities that do not carry academic credit (e.g., do not appear on your academic transcript and/or require faculty or department permission) may also be approved for Experiential Learning credit in the IMS Degree Program.

Training with Academic Credit

Students can gain Experiential Learning credit through structured clinical and research training programs offered by FSU or other institutions. Generally, clinical and research experiences, conducted while enrolled in a course for academic credit, that add to the fund of science knowledge and/or clinical skills will be considered toward Experiential Learning credit hours.

However, clinical and research experiences used to fulfill lab course requirements for the IMS B.S. Degree will not be considered toward Experiential Learning credit. Students pursuing a second major should be aware that experiences used to fulfill second major requirements will not be considered toward Experiential Learning credit.

Table 1. Examples of Academic Experiences for Experiential Learning Credit in the IMS Degree Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Experience</th>
<th>Experiential Learning Credit</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Labs associated with science courses</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Core and elective courses applying towards degree credit (e.g. BSC 2085L, BSC 3402L, CHM 1046L, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified Nursing Assistant Certificate Program</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>TCC Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Internship</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Health Science Consulting, Enrolled in DIS hours cleared by the IMS Director of IMS Pre-Health Academic Programming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directed Individual Study (DIS)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Enrolled in DIS hours cleared by the IMS Director of IMS Pre-Health Academic Programming</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Training without Academic Credit

Students can gain Experiential Learning hours through structured clinical and research training programs that do not offer academic credit. Experiential Learning hours can be earned for paid or unpaid experiences. Clinical and research experiences that add to the fund of science knowledge and/or clinical skills will be considered toward Experiential Learning credit in most cases.

**Table 2. Examples of Non-Academic Experiences for Experiential Learning Credit in the IMS Degree Program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-Academic Experiences</th>
<th>Experiential Learning Credit</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certified Nursing Assistant Training/Certification/Employment</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Southeastern School of Health Sciences, TCC Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Internship</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Health Science Consulting, Enrolled in DIS hours cleared by the IMS Director of IMS Pre-Health Academic Programming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Emergency Response Training (CERT)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>FEMA’s CERT Online Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPR Training/Certification</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Southeastern School of Health Sciences; Health Science Consulting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EKG Training/Certification/Employment</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Southeastern School of Health Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Health Records Specialist Certification/Employment</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>National Healthcare Association</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Emergency Medical Technician Training/Certification/Employment | Yes | TCC Program
---|---|---
FSU Allies & Safe Zones Facilitator Training | Yes | Training 101, Training 201, Facilitator Training
Global Health Training | Yes | U.N. Foundation: Global Health Fellowship
Human Subjects Research Training/Certification | Yes | FSU Office of Research Human Subjects Training; NIH Protecting Human Research Participants
Laboratory Safety Training/Certification/Employment | Yes | FSU Department of Environmental Health & Safety
Laboratory Technician Training/Certification/Employment | Yes | |
Lifeguarding Training/Certification/Employment | Yes | FSU Campus Recreation, City of Tallahassee
Medical Assisting/Clinical Assisting Training/Certification/Employment | Yes | Health Science Consulting
Phlebotomy Training/Certification/Employment | Yes | Southeastern School of Health Sciences; Health Science Consulting
Research Internships | Yes | Summer Programs; SMDEP, REU
Scribe Training/Employment | Yes | PhysAssist, Scribe America
Tobacco Cessation Facilitator Training/Employment | Yes | Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training
Victim Advocate Sexual Violence Prevention Training | Yes | FSU Green Dot Bystander Trainings

This list is not exhaustive. Experiences will be evaluated for counting towards Experiential Learning credit when information describing the nature of the program is provided.

**Service Activities: Direct and Indirect**

Volunteering and service activities can provide students with Experiential Learning appropriate for the IMS B.S. Degree Program. Some activities provide direct health service to clients, while others only have an indirect impact. For service and volunteering activities to be considered experiential learning they must help students understand the health care system, its challenges and issues, appreciate a patient-centric delivery system, and/or understand the importance of a collaborative healthcare team. Ask yourself when committing to service or volunteering, “Will this help me learn more about my major--Pre-Health Professions, Community Patient Care, or Health Management, Policy & Information?”
Table 3. Examples of Direct and Indirect Service Activities for Experiential Learning Credit in the IMS Degree Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Activity</th>
<th>Direct / Indirect Service</th>
<th>Experiential Learning Credit</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising Walk/Runs</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Participant/Team Captain in: Dance Marathon, Light the Night, Relay 4 Life, March of Dimes, Alzheimer’s Walk, Aids Walk, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising Walk/Runs-Organizing/Leadership Position</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Primary Organizer/Leader for: Dance Marathon, Light the Night, Relay 4 Life, March of Dimes, Alzheimer’s Walk, Aids Walk, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toiletry/Medicine/Food Drive Donation</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Red Cross Drives, FSU College of Medicine Drives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toiletry/Medicine/Food Drive Volunteer</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Red Cross Drives, FSU College of Medicine Drives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Gardens</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>iGrow, Lotts Community Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disabilities Services</td>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>FSU SDRC Note taker, Companion Animal Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Bank/Pantry Food Volunteer</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>America’s Second Harvest, FSU Food Pantry, Homeless Shelter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless Shelter Volunteer</td>
<td>Direct or Indirect</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>The Kearney Center, Project Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy Programs</td>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Literacy Volunteers of Leon County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone Counseling/Referral</td>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Big Bend 211, Suicide Hotline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEM Tutoring/Teaching/Mentoring</td>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>SSTRIDE, ACE Tutoring, SSTRIDE Mentoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Services</td>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Capital City Youth Services, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Big Bend, Early Learning Coalition of the Big Bend</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This list is not exhaustive. Experiences will be evaluated for counting towards Experiential Learning credit when information describing the nature of the activity is provided.
Professional Shadowing: Observation or Active Engagement

1. Shadowing can be a deciding factor in your healthcare career choice. Some shadowing opportunities can involve working side by side with healthcare providers while others involve simply observing and seeing what they do.

2. In order for shadowing experiences to count for experiential learning credit, the activity must engage the student with the healthcare provider and patients.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shadowing Activity</th>
<th>Observation/Engagement</th>
<th>Experiential Learning Credit</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surgery Observation</td>
<td>Observation</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Red Hills Surgical Center Observation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Fair Volunteer</td>
<td>Engagement</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Activities with patients and/or providers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician Shadowing</td>
<td>Engagement</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Rounding Post-Op with a Surgeon, Shadowing a Primary Care Physician in a clinic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentist/Orthodontist Shadowing</td>
<td>Engagement</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Shadowing a dentist/orthodontist in a clinic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician Assistant Shadowing</td>
<td>Engagement</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Shadowing a PA in a clinic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shadowing in health related businesses</td>
<td>Engagement</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Shadowing a pharmaceutical rep, shadowing in medical billing or medical informatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Therapist Shadowing</td>
<td>Engagement</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Shadowing a PT in a physical therapy clinic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This list is not exhaustive. Experiences will be evaluated for counting towards Experiential Learning credit when information describing the nature of the activity is provided.