

# Doctors in Italy 2024 Informational Letter

## Target Students

Graduate and Undergraduate Nursing Students

## Location

Genoa, Italy

## Dates

April 12<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Arriving on a Saturday (April 13) allows for jet-lag recovery over weekends and a full 2-weeks for shadowing.

## Anticipated Cost

\$3,950 program fee + airfare + meals (cost will vary based on preferences) + spending money.

Hotel, in-country transportation, several meals, and cultural activities will be provided by Doctors in Italy and is included in the cost. Initial deposit of first half of total is due February 12<sup>th</sup>. Final payment is due March 12<sup>th</sup>.

## Group Size

We anticipate selecting 20 TTUHSC students.

## Program Leaders

Laura Opton, DHSc, RN, CNE; Mercedes Day, DNP, APRN, FNP-C; Kamie Parks, MSN, APRN, FNP-C; and Candace Frizzi, MSN, RN

## Living Facilities

Faculty and students will reside in a hotel near the rail station. Reliable, quality WIFI will be available in the hotel. There are several eating establishments and a laundry mat nearby.

## Educational Activities

The primary purpose of this international program is to compare and contrast the Italian healthcare delivery model to the U.S. model through observation of various departments within an Italian hospital, didactic sessions that discuss the healthcare system, and guided reflection.

To accomplish this goal, students will be partnered with Italian health care workers. Efforts are made to partner with nurses and doctors who have some mastery of the English language.

Observational rotations are scheduled for Monday-Friday, 4-6 hrs/day with 1 day off each week. Experiences will be in the hospital and possibly in outpatient clinics. Students will shadow in pairs of 2-3 with oversight provided by TTUHSC faculty and medical staff affiliated with Doctors in Italy.

TTUHSC does not require students be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 to participate in our international programs. However, Doctors in Italy may require vaccination to enter hospitals and clinics. We are awaiting confirmation from Doctors in Italy on their requirements. If you have concerns that you may not meet their requirements, please contact Doctors in Italy ([shadow@doctorsinitaly.com](mailto:shadow@doctorsinitaly.com)). You may be required to provide proof of vaccination to Doctors in Italy upon request.

## **Planned Excursions**

Doctors in Italy will provide a full day excursion and several cultural activities during the two-week immersion. TTUHSC faculty, and in-country leaders will attend planned events. Examples of activities may be a cooking class, sightseeing, group dinner at local restaurant, etc.

## **Weekends**

The Doctors in Italy team will provide options and suggestions for weekend tours, trips, and activities, including options for any budget. Potential options include excursions to Venice, Capri, and the Amalfi Coast; day trips to Pompei and hiking in Umbria; exploration of Rome's museums and relaxing on surrounding beaches. Genoa is a beautiful city to explore & students can find many things to do in Genoa if they don't want to travel. Students may leave for weekend activities after clinic ends on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Weekend activities are an additional expense and not covered in the program cost.

## **Eligibility Requirements**

To be eligible to participate in an International Program for Students, a person must be a student at the University. For the purposes of an International Program for Students, a student is defined as all persons taking courses at the University, either full-time or part-time, pursuing undergraduate, graduate or professional studies, specifically excluding School of Medicine House Staff. Persons who are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a continuing relationship with the University or who have been notified of their acceptance may be considered students.

For the purposes of an International Program for Students, a person is considered to have a continuous relationship with the University if the person was enrolled at the University for the preceding semester and:

- Is registered or preregistered for the following semester; or
- If the person has not completed the person's degree program, is eligible to continue the degree program in the following semester; or
- If the person completed a degree program in the preceding semester and is admitted to another degree program at the University for the following semester.

In addition, persons must be in good academic and disciplinary standing as determined by the person's school at the time the person applies for an International Program and at the time of the dates of travel. Good disciplinary standing is defined as relating to a student not currently on disciplinary probation; or, a student, whose disciplinary suspension, expulsion or conditions and/or restrictions imposed, if any, have been totally fulfilled in a timely manner.

Per OP 10.29, International Programs for Students, International Programs are part of a degree program. As such, schools will determine course credit being awarded for an International Program in accordance with OP 60.05.

### **Withdrawal/Refunds**

TTUHSC is not liable for funds paid for travel to airlines or the host institution/organization or other fees of any kind or character related to the trip if a person is no longer eligible or can no longer participate in the international program. As such, the person is responsible for any and all financial losses that may be incurred.

### **Pre-departure Requirements**

All students selected to participate in the trip are expected to complete the TTUHSC International Program pre-departure requirements. Additional information about the pre-departure requirements can be found at the TTUHSC Office of Global Health website: <https://www.ttuhs.edu/global-health/requirements.aspx>.

### **Team Meetings**

Selected participants will be expected to attend a series of mandatory pre-trip meetings to prepare for the program abroad. Each meeting will be conducted via Zoom and is anticipated to last approximately one hour.

### **Application**

The application for participation in the program can be found at: <https://student.ttuhs.edu/global-health/doctors-italy.aspx>.

### **Trip Specific Questions**

Please contact Laura Opton, DHSc, RN, CNE at [laura.opton@ttuhs.edu](mailto:laura.opton@ttuhs.edu)

### **General Questions about International Programs at TTUHSC**

Please contact the Office of Global Health at [globalhealth@ttuhs.edu](mailto:globalhealth@ttuhs.edu).