

East Carolina University **LINC SCHOLARS**

LEADERS IN INNOVATIVE CARE



What is LINC?

LINC stands for **Leaders In INnovative Care**, a one-of-a kind program of advanced study for up to 10 competitively-selected medical students per year that will lead to graduation with a **Distinction in Health System Transformation and Leadership**. The LINC Scholars track includes greater clinical exposure to person-centered care as well as classroom and applied experience leading to enhanced knowledge and expertise in patient safety (PS), quality improvement (QI), population health, and interprofessional team-based care. The LINC scholar will also learn leadership and change management skills during clinical practice application with assigned mentors at the clinical systems level.

In addition to participating in planned enhancements to the longitudinal curriculum for all medical students, LINC Scholars will:

- Gain advanced expertise in 21st Century healthcare skill acquisition focused on quality improvement through scholarly projects.
- Develop collaborative practice skills by participating on PS/QI committees and taskforces and mentored experiential learning projects.
- Develop leadership and change management skills including basic strategies to improve organizational culture, patient and family engagement, and an understanding of the complex nature of health care delivery.

Why LINC?

Healthcare is undergoing a substantial transformation. Patient safety concerns have risen to the forefront of public concern since the Institute of Medicine report “To Err is Human” asserted that systemic failures of health care delivery are responsible for the majority of medical errors. Health care of the future must be evidence-based, standardized, reliably delivered, efficient, equitable, and patient-centered. This will require new models of care that emphasize systems-based, collaborative practice accomplished in partnership with patients, families and communities. The LINC Scholars program is specifically designed to not only provide training for medical students in these competences but also to develop leadership skills so LINC Scholars can be on the forefront of improving healthcare today and in the future and providing safer, higher quality care to their patients.

What will be required of LINC Scholars?

- Additional clinical exposure and successful completion of two summer session courses between the M1 and M2 years. A summer stipend will be provided.
- Longitudinally-integrated, online course and project work that continues in the M3 year.
- An M4 Capstone Practicum month in which LINC Scholars will participate in an interprofessional quality improvement project at a clinical site.
- Presentation of longitudinal e-portfolio and project work prior to graduation.

Why should I consider LINC?

Participation in LINC will:

1. Prepare students to enter residency with enhanced preparation to lead and contribute to health system changes focused on improving care for individuals and populations.
2. Promote students’ ability to work at a more advanced level with other members of the health care team.
3. Distinguish students as having earned a special Distinction during their medical school training in health care’s newer competencies, which are of significant interest to residency directors and future employers.

Contact

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