



**Students Interested in Orthopaedics & Research (SOAR)**  
*Description and Curriculum*

Dr. Steven Chudik's SOAR Program is a one-year educational curriculum designed to expose interested and motivated undergraduate and pre-med students to the fields of clinical practice and medical research and gain valuable experience to help them make career decisions and support their application to medical school. The SOAR Program is sponsored by the Orthopaedic Surgery and Sports Medicine Teaching/Research Foundation (OTRF).

**Program Goals**

- To expose the student to a busy orthopaedic surgery and sports medicine practice.
- To provide the student a clinical experience with an opportunity to closely observe and participate in education level-appropriate, hands-on aspects of patient care.
- To broaden the student's knowledge base about the diagnosis and management of musculoskeletal injuries and conditions.
- To foster and strengthen the student's interest in the process of medical research through involvement in ongoing research projects.
- To prepare the student for future educational opportunities and career decisions.

**Learning Objectives**

- To gain an understanding of the "behind-the-scenes" workings of clinical medicine and patient care.
- To develop a basic knowledge base regarding musculoskeletal conditions and injuries.
- To develop hands-on clinical skills including, but not limited to, suture and staple removal, brace application, injection preparation, casting and wound care.
- To develop effective patient communication and education skills.
- To better understand the process of medical research and develop skills necessary to take a question and develop it into a research project that can then be conducted.



## Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine Teaching & Research Foundation

### **Student Requirements and Eligibility**

- A commitment to provide excellent patient care.
- A strong desire to learn and develop skills within the field of orthopaedic surgery, sports medicine and research.
- To uphold and abide by the highest standards of professionalism during the program.
- To maintain all codes of professional conduct including HIPAA.
- To be member of multidisciplinary sports medicine team.
- Enrolled in good standing in undergraduate pre-med courses, or medical school

### **Student Responsibilities and Core Competencies**

Under the direction of the supervising physician, the student will be held accountable for mastering the following responsibilities and core competencies: responsibilities:

- Room patients
- Organize all clinically relevant information such as studies, films, medical records, etc.
- Assist with ordering X-rays, MRIs, CT scans, other diagnostic tests or labs
- Remove sutures and staples and provide simple wound care
- Apply casts, braces, or other assistive devices
- Instruct patients on gait training or therapeutic exercises
- Provide patients with post-visit patient materials
- Assist with clinic flow, paperwork and chart management
- Assist with chart organization
- Assist with running reports

### **Physician Responsibilities**

- Mentor the student so they may master the above learning objectives.
- To uphold and abide by the highest standards of professionalism.
- Supervise all actions of the student to insure a proper standard of care.
- Be receptive to questions from the student and be willing to explain the thought process behind diagnosing patients and developing treatment plans.
- Communicate on a daily basis with student as to their performance.



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### **Application Process:**

- Download, print and complete the SOAR Program application available at [otrfund.org/](http://otrfund.org/). Send the completed application along with the following items:
  - Provide resume/curriculum vitae
  - Submit undergraduate transcripts
  - Include one letter of recommendation

Send your completed application, required documents and materials to:

OTRF SOAR Program  
c/o Dr. Steven Chudik  
1010 Executive Court, Suite 250  
Westmont, IL 60559

Please direct all questions to our email, [contactus@chudikmd.com](mailto:contactus@chudikmd.com)