FINDING a DOCTOR for Non-Students

All Duke Students' basic health care needs are provided by the Duke Student Health Center. The annual Student Health Fee covers these services. Unfortunately, the Student Health Fee DOES NOT cover health care for a student’s or scholar’s family. Health Care in the USA is very expensive and quite different from other countries! The US has a pay-for-services system. This means that an individual is responsible for one’s own health care costs. Without insurance, an office visit to see a doctor for a minor illness will cost around $200; a normal pregnancy and delivery will cost at least $20,000; an appendectomy with 2 nights in the hospital can cost at least $25,000. – This is why you must purchase health insurance! Health Insurance is required for all J-1 and J-2 visa holders.

Health Insurance for Dependent Visa Holders

- F-2 dependents: Sign up for the Duke Student Health Insurance Family Plan.
- J-2 dependents of students: May sign up for a Duke Student Health Insurance Family Plan.
- J-2 dependents of visitors who are not Duke employees: See Duke Visa Services website for required enrollment details.
- H-4 visa holder: Sign up for a Duke Employee Health Insurance Plan.

Emergency Care

If you become ill (cold/flu) or have minor injuries (that are not life threatening), go to Urgent Care. You do not need an appointment for urgent care, although you can schedule one per phone or online. Visiting an Urgent Care facility costs much less than visiting the Emergency Room (ER), which might you at least $2000 - $3000. DO NOT go to the Emergency Room unless you have a serious Emergency.

What services do Urgent Care facilities provide?
They provide diagnosis, treatment and management of urgent medical conditions and minor trauma when a patient's primary care physician is unavailable. If you do not drive, you will have to take a taxi or ask a friend to drive you. See our handout Taxis.

Durham Locations:

  1821 Hillendale Road, Suite 24-A, Durham, NC 27705. 919.328.3942, Hours: daily 8am- 8pm (incl. weekends and holidays)
  5716 Fayetteville Road, Durham, NC 27713. 919.525.3869, Hours: Daily 8am- 8pm

Chapel Hill Location:

  1407 East Franklin Street, Chapel Hill 27514. 919.913.0996, Hours: Mon-Fr 8am–8pm | Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays: 8am–4pm

How to find a doctor for you or your family?

It may take several weeks or more to see a doctor for the first time. It is wise to schedule a basic checkup for you, your spouse and/or children with a doctor soon after you arrive to Durham.

- Call the Patient Referral Center at 800.633.3853.
- Ask for Basic/General Check-up appointment. Tell them you are new to the country and don’t have a primary care physician (doctor), yet. They will ask for your address and find a doctor who can take new patients.
- Basic checkups are not covered by HTH insurance.

Clinics affiliated with Duke University Medical Center (for both children and adults)

- Duke Primary Care Timberlyne 77 Vilcom Center Drive, off of Weaver Dairy Road in Chapel Hill, NC 27514. 919.942.8500

Minute Clinics located in Durham

MinuteClinic® walk-in medical clinics are staffed by nurse practitioners and physician assistants* who specialize in family health care. We care for children and adults, every day with no appointment needed.

Inside Target Store - http://www.target.com/c/clinic/-/N-54x94
  4307 Durham Chapel Hill Blvd, Durham, NC 27707

  3573 Hillsborough Road, Durham, NC 27705
  5311 Roxboro Road, Durham, NC 27712