Purpose: The School of Dentistry at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill offers a Postdoctoral Clinical Observer Externship program to qualified internationally trained dentists. Interested applicants are invited to apply for an externship in the following clinical areas:

- Endodontics
- Operative Dentistry
- Orthodontics
- Pediatric Dentistry
- Periodontics
- Prosthodontology

The school provides international dentists with an academic clinical environment for optimal exchange among observers, faculty, residents and staff within the school as well as the many other academic and research centers across campus.

Program: The Observational Externship program is an elective non-credit program under the auspices of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Unpaid Volunteer, Intern and Visiting Scholars policy. Depending on the desired clinical area, externs may be permitted to audit courses and seminars, participate in hands-on laboratory courses, and to observe clinical procedures within the Graduate Clinic. Each extern’s observship is individualized by the applicant and a faculty mentor based on the applicant’s interests and the program’s activities during the applicant’s stay at UNC. An extern will not be authorized to provide any dental advice or perform any other duties that have been defined as within the scope of practice of dentistry by the State of North Carolina.

Externship Fees and Other Expenses: Externship fees vary depending on the extern’s length of stay at the School of Dentistry. The minimum stay is one month and the maximum stay is 10 months.

- $5,000 (U.S.) per month
- $15,000 (U.S.) for one semester
- $25,000 (U.S.) for 10 months (1 academic year)

In addition to the program fee, externs are responsible for housing, food and medical/dental insurance fees as well as for visa, travel and personal expenses. For visa purposes, visiting dentists must be able to show that they can meet the minimum support requirements for themselves and their dependents.

Application and Selection Process: Applicants interested in this program should send the following electronically (PDF format only):

- Letter of interest (This should be a statement of intent that specifies the clinical area of interest, the desired length of stay, the proposed start date of the visit, and the goals for the visit to the School of Dentistry at UNC-CH)
- Curriculum vitae
- Copy of a current dental license in the country of your residence (If not in English, a translated and certified copy must also be submitted.)
- Two letters of recommendation (Letters should come from faculty or other professionals in dentistry who can best evaluate whether the externship would be a positive experience for your future academic / clinical career)

The application material should be emailed to Dr. Ceib Phillips, assistant dean for advanced education/graduate studies at ceib_phillips@unc.edu. Application materials will be reviewed by faculty in the clinical area of interest. Applicants will be notified whether there is sufficient interest to schedule a Skype interview with the program director and the department chair of the clinical area. If accepted into the externship program, a nonrefundable processing fee of $100 (US) is required for processing of additional application and Visa materials. Accepted applicants should allow at least
three months for processing of the application and Visa materials. Full payment of the externship fee must be received and verified before the extern’s arrival at UNC-CH.

We regret that not all applicants can be accepted into the program. No more than one extern per clinical area will be admitted at a given time.

Benefits:
Faculty Interactions: Discuss areas of common interest in education and research with faculty and residents.
Didactic Courses: Externs are encouraged to attend lecture courses, journal club and seminars.
Observing Clinics: Externs will be allowed to observe clinical activities. Externs must be accompanied at all times by the host or other faculty and have clear ID and the proper clinical attire. Externs must meet all federal and state compliance guidelines (training, immunizations, etc.) prior to observation in the clinic.
Research: Externs are encouraged to attend research seminars in the School of Dentistry. Individuals interested in participating in ongoing research projects must contact the faculty mentor prior to arriving to discuss his/her interests. Data relating to research done at UNC-CH is property of the University and may not be used elsewhere without authorization. All publications resulting from participation in the program must be approved by the principal investigator or faculty mentor and published according to prevailing ethical and professional standards.
Other: Externs may also be interested in participating in the continuing education courses offered through the School of Dentistry. Participation is encouraged but the extern is responsible for the additional fees to attend these courses. Attendance at any regional, national or international conferences is encouraged, but the individual will be responsible for all costs associated with such meetings (membership, registration, travel, etc.).

Responsibilities and Limitations
Living Arrangements: Externs are responsible for all housing, transportation and personal costs while at UNC-CH. They must make their own living and transportation arrangements. Academic Affairs may be able to guide the applicant to various resources but will not be responsible for those arrangements.
Employment at the University: Participation in the externship does not warrant any employment opportunities or acceptance into a graduate program.
Patient Treatment: Externs may not participate in any clinical care while at the University.
Professional Behavior: Externs are expected to conduct themselves within all standards of ethical and professional behavior while at the University. Professional attire is required at all times while at UNC-CH.
Health Insurance: Externs are required to have health insurance coverage while they are at the University. Please see J-1 Visa Insurance Requirements for more information.

Completion of the program does not qualify participants for licensure in the U.S. or credential them for clinical activities. Participants will receive a letter from the School of Dentistry at the end of the program stating their date of participation. No diploma or certificate will be issued.