



Study
Abroad
Foundation

SAF Korea Study Tour
University of California, San Diego
Healthcare Innovation & Medical English

Location

- La Jolla, California

Admission Requirements:

- GPA
 - 2.5/4.0
 - GPAs below 2.5 will be considered on a case-by-case basis

Official Arrival Date

- Sunday, January 10, 2027

- Minimum English Proficiency Score by Test

Official Departure Date

- Saturday, January 23, 2027

- TOEFL (Old Format): 80
- TOEFL (New format): 4.0
- IELTS: 6.5
- iTEP: 5.0
- TOEIC: 750
- Duolingo English Test (DET): 105

Application Deadline

- Monday, October 12, 2026

Program Fee:

- 10-12 students: \$5250/student
- 13-15 students: \$5150/student
- 16-20 students: \$5050/student

Note: The program can be condensed to a two-week format if necessary.

*Minimum 10 students to run the
program.*

Maximum 20 students

Academic Information

- Academic & Co-Curricular Programming: 30 hours
- Non-credit
- Credential: Certificate of Completion

Program Outline

This proposed two-week program is designed to provide students with an introduction to healthcare delivery in the United States through experiential learning opportunities that introduce students to healthcare delivery, biomedical research, healthcare innovation, and professional communication in the San Diego area. Together, these components provide participants with opportunities to strengthen their professional English communication skills, deepen their understanding of the U.S. healthcare system, and explore emerging trends that are shaping the future of medicine.

Program Components

University of California, San Diego

UC San Diego consistently ranks among the world's leading public research universities and is internationally recognized for its contributions to medicine, science, engineering, and innovation. The university's collaborative culture encourages the exchange of ideas across disciplines, creating an environment where education, research, and innovation work together to solve today's most pressing healthcare challenges.

The UC San Diego Division of Extended Studies partners with faculty, researchers, healthcare professionals, and industry experts to develop customized educational programs that combine academic excellence with practical, real-world learning. Our programs are designed to introduce international students to emerging trends in healthcare while strengthening their professional skills and cross-cultural understanding.

Located in San Diego, participants also benefit from proximity to one of the world's most dynamic life sciences and biotechnology clusters. The region is home to internationally recognized hospitals, research institutes, biotechnology companies, and healthcare innovators, providing a rich setting for exploring the future of medicine and healthcare. Together, UC San Diego and the San Diego life sciences community offer an inspiring environment in which students can deepen their understanding of healthcare, strengthen their professional communication skills, and gain new perspectives that support their future careers in medicine.

The UC San Diego campus features three trolley stations for the Blue Line of the San Diego Trolley. This provides direct access to prominent destinations like the Gaslamp District (San Diego city center), Little Italy, University Towne Center Mall, Old Town (a popular tourist destination), and various stops near

different San Diego communities. Additionally, several public bus lines stop at UC San Diego and UC San Diego shuttles also provide access to some local housing areas and hospitals.

Orientation

SAF staff will provide pre-departure support for the program, including a virtual pre-departure program orientation. Once on-site, SAF & UCSD Extended Studies staff will provide orientation programming; this will feature:

- Welcome & check-in assistance at accommodation
- On-Site Orientation – focusing on logistics, health & safety, and academics
- Welcome dinner
- UCSD campus tour

Accommodation

SAF will arrange double-occupancy accommodation in off-campus apartments. Students will be placed in two-bedroom apartments with two students sharing a bedroom. Each apartment & bedrooms is furnished, including

- Twin beds
- Desk

- Dresser
- Bed linens & towels
- Shared bathrooms
- Full-kitchens
- Laundry facilities
- Internet

The property features a swimming pool, fitness center, and public gathering spaces. It's also located near public transportation, providing an easy 15-minute commute to the UCSD campus.

No meals are included other than those indicated in the program schedule. Students will be able to prepare meals in their apartments, but there are also several restaurants and eateries located nearby as well as on the UCSD campus.

Program Components

Healthcare Innovation Experiences

Explore healthcare innovation through interactive seminars, healthcare-related site visits, research and innovation center visits, simulation experiences (where available), expert presentations, and discussions with healthcare professionals. Activities are designed to introduce students to current issues, emerging technologies, and interdisciplinary approaches that are transforming healthcare.

Medical and Professional English

Develop the communication skills needed to participate effectively in international healthcare and academic settings through instruction in medical terminology, clinical vocabulary, healthcare communication, case discussions, professional presentations, and collaborative teamwork. Language

instruction is integrated throughout the program and supports students' active participation in all program activities.

Faculty Seminars

Interactive seminars led by UC San Diego faculty and guest experts may include topics such as Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare, the U.S. Healthcare System, Precision and Personalized Medicine, Biomedical Innovation, Digital Health, Public Health, Medical Ethics, and Healthcare Entrepreneurship.

Healthcare Innovation Showcase

The Healthcare Innovation Showcase serves as the culminating academic experience of the program.

Program Overview

During the first week, students will explore a variety of healthcare innovation topics through seminars, guest speakers, healthcare innovation experiences, and interactive discussions. Based on these experiences, students will form small teams around a shared area of interest, selecting from a curated list of healthcare innovation themes such as artificial intelligence, precision medicine, digital health, biotechnology, public health, robotics, or other emerging topics introduced during the program.

Throughout the remainder of the program, each team will gather observations, ask questions, and connect ideas across seminars and experiential activities. Rather than conducting extensive outside research, students will synthesize what they have learned through their UC San Diego experience and consider how their chosen innovation is shaping the future of healthcare.

On the final day of the program, each team will deliver a 10 to 15-minute professional presentation during the Healthcare Innovation Showcase. Presentations will highlight:

- The selected healthcare innovation or challenge;
- Key concepts and insights gained throughout the program;
- Current opportunities and challenges associated with the innovation;
- Potential implications for patient care, healthcare delivery, or biomedical research; and
- The team's reflections on the future of healthcare and the role of innovation in improving health outcomes.

The Showcase provides an opportunity for students to demonstrate critical thinking, collaboration, and professional communication while celebrating the knowledge and perspectives gained during their time at UC San Diego. Faculty, guest speakers, and fellow participants will be invited to engage with students through questions and discussion following each presentation.

Learning Outcomes

- Describe key features of the U.S. healthcare system and current trends influencing healthcare delivery.
- Explain how innovation, biomedical research, and interdisciplinary collaboration contribute to advances in medicine.

- Apply healthcare terminology and professional English communication skills in academic and healthcare-related contexts.
- Analyze contemporary healthcare challenges using knowledge gained through seminars, discussions, and experiential learning activities.
- Evaluate the potential impact of emerging technologies and innovations on patient care and healthcare systems.
- Collaborate effectively in multicultural teams to investigate, synthesize, and communicate complex healthcare topics.
- Engage confidently in discussions with healthcare professionals, researchers, and peers from diverse cultural and academic backgrounds.
- Deliver a professional team presentation that integrates evidence and insights gathered throughout the program.

Learning in the Heart of Healthcare Innovation

Located in one of the world's leading centers for healthcare innovation, biotechnology, and biomedical research, UC San Diego offers students an exceptional environment for exploring the future of medicine. Throughout the program, participants will engage with the people, organizations, and ideas that are advancing healthcare through scientific discovery, interdisciplinary collaboration, and technological innovation. In addition to classroom instruction, students will have opportunities to learn from faculty, researchers, healthcare professionals, and industry experts through presentations, discussions, and experiential learning activities designed to complement the program curriculum.

Potential Learning Experiences

- Healthcare organization visits
- Research institute visits
- Biotechnology company visits
- Faculty lectures and guest presentations
- Panel discussions with healthcare professionals
- Interactive case discussions
- Simulation or demonstration experiences, where available

Examples of Potential Learning Partners

The San Diego region is home to internationally recognized healthcare organizations, research institutes, and biotechnology companies that contribute to one of the world's most dynamic life sciences ecosystems. Depending on scheduling and availability, participants may engage with professionals and organizations such as the following to gain insight into healthcare innovation, biomedical research, and the future of medicine.

- **UC San Diego Health** – An internationally recognized academic health system providing advanced patient care, medical education, and clinical research.
- **Moore's Cancer Center** – San Diego's National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center and a leader in cancer research and treatment.
- **Altman Clinical and Translational Research Institute (ACTRI)** – Advancing clinical and translational research to improve patient care and accelerate scientific discovery.
- **Shiley Eye Institute** – A nationally recognized center for ophthalmic care, research, and education.

- **Rady Children's Hospital** – One of the nation's leading pediatric hospitals, recognized for specialized care and innovative research.
- **Scripps Research** – A world-renowned biomedical research institute dedicated to translating scientific discoveries into new therapies.
- **Sanford Burnham Prebys** – An internationally recognized independent research institute advancing discoveries in cancer, neuroscience, immunology, and rare diseases.
- **Illumina** – A global leader in genomics and DNA sequencing technologies that continue to transform precision medicine and biomedical research.

Learning partners, guest speakers, and site visits are selected based on educational objectives, scheduling, and organizational availability. The examples above represent the types of organizations that may contribute to the program and are subject to change.

Cultural Excursions

Students will also experience the culture & charm of Southern California through one cultural experience arranged by SAF. Potential activities include:

- **San Diego Seal Tour** – Splash into San Diego's most unique sightseeing adventure! Both tour bus and boat, the San Diego SEAL Tour journeys through San Diego by sea AND land. Unique "Hydra-Terra" amphibious vehicles are Coast Guard approved, ensuring you a safe, one-of-a-kind experience. Your fully narrated tour will tour the historic streets of San Diego before making its way into San Diego's Big Bay.

- **Birch Aquarium** – Birch Aquarium is a public aquarium in La Jolla and serves as the public outreach center for Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California, San Diego. The aquarium houses more than 3,000 animals representing over 380 species, and its hilltop site provides views of La Jolla Shores and the Pacific Ocean.
- **Comic-Con Museum** – San Diego is home to the world’s largest comic book convention and multi-genre entertainment event. You can experience the magic and creative spirit of this event through this year-round experience focused on comics and popular arts.

The cultural excursion will be determined closer to program date, depending on final enrollment and activity availability.

Student Services

In addition to the coordination of program features above, SAF & UC San Diego Extended Studies will arrange the following:

- Arrival transportation for students who arrive by set time on official arrival date
- Public transportation passes
- Medical & evacuation insurance coverage
- Welcome event & escort on first day of class
- Emergency support via SAF emergency phone line
- Guidance on airport departure transportation
- Official completion certificate issued by UCSD Extended Studies

SAF staff will also accompany students on all orientation & cultural activities listed in the program calendar.

UCSD Extend Studies staff will accompany students on the site visits and provide a closing & certificate ceremony on the final day of the program.

Program Fee Inclusions

The program fee is inclusive of the following:

- 30 hours of instruction and academic programming, including:
 - Medical & Professional English instruction
 - Faculty seminars and expert presentations
 - Healthcare innovation experiences
 - Healthcare innovation showcase
- 1 cultural activity
- Virtual & on-site orientation
- Welcome event with meal
- Farewell ceremony
- Double occupancy accommodation in off-campus apartment
- Public transportation passes

- Medical & evacuation insurance coverage
- Certificate of Completion issued by UC Extended Studies
- SAF support & services, including 24/7 emergency support

Tentative Schedule:

	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
	<u>January 10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>
AM	<i>Arrival Day</i> Airport Transfer	Welcome, Orientation, & Program Introduction (2 hrs) Campus Tour (1hr)	Faculty Seminar: The U.S. Healthcare System (2hrs)	Healthcare Innovation Experience (2hrs)	Faculty Seminar: Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare (2hrs)	Guest Expert Presentation: Biomedical Innovation (2hrs)	Cultural Activity (3hrs)
PM	Housing Check-In Welcome Event	Medical & Professional English: Healthcare Communication (1.5hrs)	Medical & Professional English: Medical Terminology & Clinical Vocabulary (1.5hrs)	Healthcare Innovation Showcase Introduction & Team Formation (1.5hrs)	Medical & Professional English: Professional Communication (1.5hrs)	Interactive Case Discussion & Showcase Planning (1.5hrs)	<i>Free Afternoon</i>
	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>

	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>
AM	<i>Free Day</i>	<i>MLK, Jr. Holiday</i> <i>No Programming</i>	Healthcare Innovation Experience (2hrs)	Faculty Seminar: Precision and Personalized Medicine (2hrs)	Healthcare Innovation Experience (2hrs)	Program Reflection, Certificate Ceremony & Closing Remarks (2hrs)	<i>Departure Day</i> Housing Check-Out
PM			Medical & Professional English: Case-Based Communication (1.5hrs)	Healthcare Innovation Showcase Team Workshop (1.5hrs)	Healthcare Innovation Showcase (1.5hrs)	Farewell Reception & Networking (2hrs)	

Note: Schedule is for illustrative purposes. Specific seminar topics, guest speakers, healthcare innovation experiences, and experiential learning activities will vary based on educational objectives, faculty availability, and organizational scheduling.