**Summer Research Program First-Year Medical Students**

**2017 Application Instructions**

**Calendar:**
- **February 7th** – Summer Research Job Fair, 5th Floor Gallery (noon – 1pm) for those searching for a faculty mentor
- **March 17th** – Applications due for students applying for NIH support
- **March 27th** – Applications due for all other students
  *Applications should be submitted to Linh Trinh, Summer Research Program Manager, Office of Educational Programs – Jjl 315*
- **April 10** – Approximate date students notified of stipend awards
- **Late April** – Participants Meeting ➔ Mandatory Attendance
- **May 22** – Orientation and first day of the program ➔ Mandatory Attendance
- **July 28** – Closing program and last day of program ➔ Mandatory Attendance
- **Fall Semester** – Research Forum ➔ See program requirements

**Participation in Program:**

MS-1 Students in good academic standing may be supported in the Summer Research Program in three ways: (1) as NIH stipend recipients*, (2) as fully faculty-supported, (3) as recipients of Dean/faculty matching funds. As determined by a Summer Research Program review committee, stipends will be delegated based on the merit of the student’s research proposal.

* NIH stipend money is dependent on renewal of NIH funding each year.

**NIH Restrictions:**

Individuals holding an MS or a PhD degree in the Health Sciences, or who are in a formal program leading to the MS or PhD degree, as well as individuals on temporary or student visas, are NOT eligible for grant funding.

**To Select a Research Mentor:**

- McGovern Medical School at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) MSI students may begin their search for a 2017 summer research project and faculty mentor any time after matriculation.
- All McGovern Medical School faculty members engaged in research are eligible to act as a student mentor.
- A “Research Job Fair” will be held early in the second semester where students still seeking a mentor can meet faculty and department representatives to discuss available research opportunities.
- All students should discuss financial support with their faculty mentors.

➢ To receive available NIH-NIDDK summer stipends, student research in the areas of diabetes and digestive and kidney diseases is required. The following is a partial list of research topics in these areas:

- **DDK**
  - Diabetes
  - Obesity
  - Metabolic diseases
  - Digestive diseases
  - Hematological diseases
  - Cystic Fibrosis
  - Urological disorders
  - Kidney disease (Nephrology)
  - Liver and intestinal diseases (Hepatology)
How to Apply to the Program:

- Make an appointment with the faculty mentor of your choice to discuss potential projects.
- Inform him or her of the dates for the (10-week, 40 hours/week) research program, and that your stipend should be discussed; if you are not supported by NIH.
- With your faculty mentor, write a 1-2 page project proposal. The project proposal should be in your own words. Extensive verbatim excerpts from faculty grants will not be accepted.
- Fill out an application form. Both you, and your faculty mentor, must sign the application.
- Compose a 200-words-or-less personal statement outlining the major reasons you are interested in the Summer Research Program using the following as a guidelines:
  1. Why are you interested in doing research?
  2. Describe previous research experience
  3. Why did you select the research you chose?
  4. Why did you select your proposed faculty mentor?
  4. Additional considerations regarding your proposed research?
- Submit your application, one copy of your project proposal, and your personal statement by March 17th (NIH applicants) or March 27th (all others).

Layout of the Proposal: (Your research plan should address the following questions)

TITLE

SPECIFIC AIMS: What do you intend to do? List your specific objectives and describe concisely what the research project is intended to accomplish and any hypotheses to be tested.

BACKGROUND AND SIGNIFICANCE: What has already been done? -- Briefly sketch the background to the present proposal, and state concisely the scientific merit and importance of the research project.

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODS: Describe the design and the procedures you are going to use to accomplish the specific aims of the 10-week project.

ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

You will be required to submit an abstract on your research.

For more information, contact Linh Trinh, Program Manager, 713.500.5105 or Linh.H.Trinh@uth.tmc.edu