Program Guidelines

Summer Student Research Program (SSRP)

I. PROGRAM OBJECTIVE:
The goal of the SSRP is to provide an outstanding and educationally rewarding research opportunity to entering, first and second-year NJMS medical students as well as undergraduates in the combined BS/MD program.

After completing eight-weeks of research in the respective laboratories, students present their research projects at the Summer Student Research Poster Symposium held in early August. At the symposium students are interviewed and required to explain the results displayed in their poster presentation.

NOTE: The eight-week program begins the first week of June and concludes on or before July 31st. The SSRP Poster Symposium is held the first week in August (date TBD).

Projects may include a small stipend and other projects are available thru work-study or volunteerism. Every year by the end of February, new projects will be posted for the upcoming prospective Summer Program Participants. Please use this link to access current projects: SSRP Student Information

The eight-week program runs from June through July 31ST concluding with the SSRP Poster Symposium held the first week of August (dates to be announced).

Support is limited to research that is conducted at New Jersey Medical School or an affiliate and is sponsored by a New Jersey Medical School faculty member.

Stipend support is available for a limited number of research projects. Stipend support is also reserved for entering first-year medical students and rising second-year medical students. Undergraduate students in the combined BS/MD program may perform research projects as a volunteer while fulfilling their credit requirement. Review for funding consideration is performed by the faculty review committee’s. Please be sure to indicate on the project form if your project is Cancer and/or Heart, Lung and Blood related, so that projects are reviewed by the appropriate committee.

II. ELIGIBLE PROJECTS:
Suitable research projects must include the following elements:

- Project title
- Hypothesis
- Study design
- Techniques to be employed
- Data collection methods and analysis techniques
- Evaluation criteria/interpretation methodology
- Specific delineation of the student’s role in the project

Each project description should clearly state the hypothesis to be tested, briefly outline the research program, delineate the specific responsibilities that the student will assume in the project and elaborate the statistical methods to be employed in the analysis of the data.
Although most projects will be part of the larger research program of each investigator, the proposed summer project should be capable of being completed within the eight-week program. Faculty may submit multiple projects for distribution to students; however, support for more than one student per faculty sponsor will not be guaranteed.

III. NON-ELIGIBLE PROJECTS/ WORK-STUDY
Projects that are NOT ELIGIBLE for review and stipend support are:

Any project whose primary focus is:
- Single patient case studies
- Library research
- Computer programming
- Clinical data entry from charts
- Development of educational materials
- Writing pamphlets, papers, or abstracts

Note: Projects not eligible for SSRP Support can be offered to students as Work-study. See website below for more information.
http://njms.umdnj.edu/research/orsp/WorkStudyFacultyInformation.htm

IV. RESEARCH COMPLIANCE:
Projects involving human and/or animal subjects MUST have IRB and/or IACUC approval. Students will not be allowed to enroll in projects that do not have the appropriate approvals.

V. STUDENT SELECTION:
Students will have access to the project listing via the SSRP website and subsequently, will contact the faculty whose project interests them. Faculty members are encouraged to meet with every interested student prior to selecting a specific student. Faculty and students should discuss the details of the project, the responsibilities of the student, and the expectations of each other before completing and signing the Student Application Form.

VI. PROJECT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JANUARY 11TH