



Pediatric Health Research Summer Scholars Program

Purpose: The Health Research Summers Scholars Program is truly an investment in the future. The program tends to attract the best and brightest students year after year. It is the hope of those who participate in and support this program that we will develop advanced research skills and backgrounds in persons who will enhance the future of medicine. Over the years, many of these highly-trained individuals have returned to the arena of medicine, increasing the research base and the pool of talented individuals engaged in scientific pursuits. Through this program, we are training the future research talent that may bring the Children's Mercy Research Institute into its shining future.

Goals: This program is designed to provide students with a structured research experience in biomedical research. This is a highly competitive program offering 6 positions on an annual basis to work with selected principal investigators on their research studies. Summer scholars will serve as assistants for research activities within one of CM's laboratories, clinics, or departments. Under the supervision of an investigator, summer scholars will assist in compiling, storing, and analyzing data and/or samples for a research study.

Eligible Students: This program is primarily aimed at college students who have finished at least 2 years of their undergraduate education in a field related to medicine or allied health and have an interest in pursuing further education in the biomedical sciences (including research). All applicants must have a 3.0 GPA or higher.

Mentors: Each summer scholar works closely with a faculty investigator and participates in a hypothesis-driven research project, which means the experience could be one in the laboratory or assisting with data analysis.

Project Time Frame: This program is expected to last approximately 10 weeks, with a starting date of the beginning of June and an ending date in August; all summer scholars participate in an end-of-summer luncheon and present their research. Each presentation will be allotted 10 minutes followed by a 5 minute question/answer session. As a result, many of the projects give scholars the opportunity to be listed as a co-author on an article that is published in a peer-reviewed, scientific journal.

Funding: Children's Mercy Research Institute has provided funding for these positions. Summer scholars will be compensated with an hourly wage, payable biweekly.

How to Apply: Selected research projects for the Summer Scholars Program will be determined before February 15th and will be described as part of the application process. Children's Mercy will be accepting applications via their online career website between the middle of February until the middle of March. If you have questions regarding the application process and exact dates, please contact Jennifer Pearl at jepearl@cmh.edu after January 15th.