Funds are available for student research scholarships. The purpose of these research scholarships is to provide students within the College of Medicine the opportunity to enhance their ability to seek out information and to analyze and apply it to the solution of a defined problem. The stipends are limited to students accepted for admission who plan to enroll in medical school at the University of Nebraska College of Medicine for the fall of 2018 and currently enrolled first year medical students. This program will not support projects that require travel outside of the State of Nebraska. The student will spend 8-10 weeks in the research endeavor, and is expected to spend a significant number of hours (40/week) in the laboratory.

College of Medicine funding sources will be used to make awards based on the competitiveness of the proposals. The applications will be reviewed by the Research and Development Committee. Students will find there are opportunities for research in any basic or clinical area of medicine, as well as medical education research. There is no need for a student to apply for any specific funding source. Ultimately, the Research and Development Committee identifies the appropriate funding source for each award.

In addition to the funding provided by the College of Medicine, the department of Surgery will also support research student positions. There is also one rural research opportunity available. This funding is geared towards current first year medical students who are pursuing a surgical career and if interested, students should contact Stacia Luther at 402.559.4632 or stacia.luther@unmc.edu.

The application must include a research plan of two to four pages that includes background, hypothesis and specific aims, and a methods section. The methods section should also include a

Criteria for Assessment of the Applications

- Is there a scientific or educational basis for the project? Does it follow from data found in the literature or the sponsor’s laboratory? (Background Section)
- Is the basic science or educational research plan sound? Will the data be analyzed in a proper fashion with appropriate procedures? (Methods Section)
- Is the project realistic in terms of scope? Can the student master the necessary techniques in the time allotted? Is there an appreciation for the possible difficulties or pitfalls?
- To what extent will the proposed project provide a research/learning experience? What interaction with the faculty sponsor will the student have? Is the student going to learn something about the scientific process as opposed to just learning techniques, fact-finding, chart review or data generation?

The Research and Development Committee will evaluate all research applications submitted by students.

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description of the data analysis plan. **The student must write the proposal.** Proposals containing obvious verbatim copies of sections from faculty advisor’s grants will be rejected. Each applicant is requested to provide additional biographical information using the attached application form. Note also that projects consisting of only retrospective chart review will not receive highest priority and may not be funded. A letter of support is required from the faculty sponsor under whose supervision the research is to be carried out. This letter should make clear the role of the student in the proposed research activity and the commitment of the faculty member in spending a significant amount of time in direct contact with the student.

**If the research project requires IRB or IACUC approval, the mentor must ensure that approval is finalized prior to the start of the project.** Awards are to be used for student stipends, and thus, the faculty sponsor is expected to provide laboratory space, supplies and any necessary additional financial support. This should be confirmed in the sponsor’s letter. A faculty sponsor cannot support more than one student for summer research and must have an appointment in the College of Medicine.

The maximum award will be $3,750 per student. That total will be prorated based on the amount of time spent in the research endeavor (8-10 weeks). The Dean’s Business Office will make the awards.

**Students should access the UNMC web site, www.unmc.edu to search for faculty willing to serve as sponsors in research projects.** The student’s mentor for their research project must be a College of Medicine faculty member. If a student needs assistance, please call 402.559.8242 or email sacox@unmc.edu.

Applications are due Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2018. Send them to the Office of Research and Development located in MSC, Room 4017, ZIP 5520 or by email to sacox@unmc.edu.

Notification of awards will be by letter with a general effective date of May 1. **An abstract written with assistance from the faculty sponsor is due the first Monday in Oct.** It will be one to two pages in length and include an Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results and Conclusion section. All scholarship recipients are encouraged to present the results of their research at the annual Midwest Student Biomedical Research Forum in the spring. The student should acknowledge the source of support.

**Award stipends are considered taxable income.**