Medical Student Summer Research Program

Funds are available for student research scholarships.

The purpose of the general College of Medicine (COM) Medical Student Summer Research Program (MSSRP) is to provide COM students an opportunity to enhance their research skills by seeking out information, analyzing data, and applying a solution to a defined problem. Funds are available for rising second year medical students at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. This program will not support projects that require travel outside of the State of Nebraska. The student will spend eight weeks in the research endeavor and is expected to be engaged full-time on the research project during this time.

To apply for the MSSRP, students must find a faculty research mentor. With the mentor, students should develop a research proposal of two to four pages that includes the following sections: background, hypothesis and specific aims, and methods. The methods section should also include a description of the data analysis plan.

The student must write the research proposal. Proposals containing obvious verbatim copies of sections from their faculty sponsor's grants will be rejected. Also, projects consisting of only retrospective chart review will not receive highest priority and may not be funded. In addition to the research proposal, students should complete the MSSRP application, attach a CV, and have their faculty sponsor complete the faculty acknowledgment form.

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 other necessary materials. A faculty member should not support more than one student for summer research and must have an appointment in the COM. MSSRP will not support applicants who have any other paid appointment within the University of Nebraska system that will overlap with the dates of MSSRP.

The award will be $3,200 per student. The Dean's Business Office will make the awards. **Award stipends are considered taxable income.*

Students should access the UNMC COM website to search for faculty and their research interests. If after searching for a research mentor you are unsuccessful, please email Dr. Kari Nelson at kari.nelson@unmc.edu for assistance.

Applications are due Sunday, Feb. 11, 2024 by 11:59 p.m., no exceptions.

Students will be notified of funding determination by May 1. **Following participation, an abstract written with assistance from the faculty sponsor will be requested.** It will be one to two pages in length and include an Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results and Conclusion sections. Scholarship recipients are also encouraged to present the results of their research at the Midwest Student Biomedical Research Forum (MSBRF). The student should acknowledge MSSRP as a source of research support.

In addition to the funds available through MSSRP, the Department of Surgery also has funds available for student research scholarships through the Summer Student Research Program of Excellence. This is a full-time program geared towards students who are interested in pursuing a surgical career. They also have the Howard R. and Marilyn B. McCollister Memorial Fund Rural Surgery Research Program, which matches selected students with a faculty sponsor at a rural partner site in Nebraska. If interested, students should contact Stefani Coleman at **stefani.coleman@unmc.edu**.

Additionally, the IDeA-CTR has funds available for student research scholarships for students interested in rural primary care. If interested, students should reach out to emily.frankel@unmc.edu.

Submission Checklist (all submitted via the online application form)

- [ ] **Research proposal (including background, hypothesis, specific aims, and methods)**
- [ ] **MSSRP Application form**
- [ ] **Faculty-sponsor acknowledgment form** (will be emailed to the faculty sponsor you indicate on your application)
- [ ] **Current CV**

College of Medicine | Medical Student Summer Research Program
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