Children’s Hospital Los Angeles
Childrens Center for Cancer and Blood Diseases

CHLA/USC SUMMER ONCOLOGY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION - SUMMER 2015

The Summer Oncology Research Fellowship Program for students in health science fields, which has been sponsored by CHLA and USC since the 1970’s, is once again being offered for the Summer of 2015. Fellowships have traditionally been awarded to students from universities and medical schools throughout the United States. Prior candidates have been exceptional students. They have actively participated in clinical or laboratory research studies during their fellowship, and some have authored or co-authored peer reviewed publications as well as presented their work at major national and international scientific meetings. Many have gone on to academic medical careers.

This program is intended to provide the highest quality experience for first-year medical school students pursuing interests in oncology research. While the program has traditionally been designed for those students who have completed their first year of medical school, highly qualified undergraduates majoring in the health science fields can be considered to participate in the program as auditors only. Faculty mentors are located both at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles and at the USC Keck School of Medicine.

Each year, the Executive Committee of the Summer Oncology Research Fellowship Program reviews and selects approximately 20 applicants by early March. Students are asked to designate five areas of interest on their application, which is taken into consideration when matching accepted students with their mentors. Potential mentors review the accepted students’ applications in their selected areas of interest and make final selections from this pool. After a match has been made, the mentor approves the fellow’s research project and supervises the student throughout the fellowship period. The fellow’s project should have a well-defined objective, as he/she will need to give a brief written and oral presentation at the end of the summer and could result in a scientific abstract and/or publication.

The students are paid a weekly stipend of $350 for a minimum of six weeks or maximum of ten weeks. A limited amount of funds are available as reimbursement for travel and housing on a case-by-case basis for those students from outside the greater Los Angeles area. While participating in the program, students will be expected to attend a lecture series on aspects of pediatric oncology at CHLA designed specifically for them and will be encouraged to attend other scientific lectures in their area of research. Applications for Summer 2015 must be postmarked by, January 31, 2015.

Contact Information:

Program Manager
Rosa Lopez – Email: RosLopez@chla.usc.edu or Call (323) 361-2238

Fellowship Coordinator
Kelly Stapleton – Email: kstapleton@chla.usc.edu or Call (323) 361-4983
Program Leadership

Established in the 1970's, the Summer Oncology Research Fellowship Program is designed for students in health science fields seeking for opportunities to conduct pediatric oncology research. Under the guidance of Program Director Dr. Stuart E. Siegel and a team of dedicated faculty mentors from Children's Hospital Los Angeles and USC Keck School of Medicine, the program is oriented to educate medical students in clinical and laboratory research studies.

Program Description

The six to ten week fellowship program is sponsored by the Division of Hematology-Oncology at CHLA as well as the Department of Pediatrics. Depending on their area of interest, fellows have the opportunity to be matched with one research project during the summer on topics such as acute lymphoblastic astrocytoma, supratentorial tumors of the nervous system, retinoblastoma, neuroblastoma, radiation oncology, carcinogenic compounds, immunotherapy, laser medicine, anti-angiogenic agents, thymopoiesis, cell therapy, biomarker development, imaging, and childhood sarcoma. Over the years, some fellows have authored or co-authored peer reviewed publications as well as presented their work at major national and international scientific meetings. The Summer Oncology Fellowship also offers an Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Program developed by Keck Medical Center led by the Norris Cancer Hospital and Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center in partnership with CHLA. Students with a particular interest in issues affecting AYA patients will have the opportunity to conduct research and participate in experiential learning focused on this patient population.

To Apply

Each year, the program's executive committee reviews and selects as many as 20 applicants by early March. Prospective fellows are asked to download, complete, and submit our application form by late January. Applications should be submitted electronically to HSOP@chla.usc.edu. See application for specific guidelines on how to apply.
2015 Summer Oncology Research Fellowship

NAME: ____________________________
   Last                              First                              Middle

BIRTHDATE: __________________________  BIRTH PLACE: __________________________

MEDICAL / GRADUATE SCHOOL: __________________________

CURRENT ADDRESS: __________________________

PHONE: (____) __________________________

SCHOOL E-MAIL ADDRESS: __________________________

PERSONAL E-MAIL ADDRESS: __________________________

PERMANENT ADDRESS: __________________________
(If different)

YEAR IN UNIVERSITY OR MEDICAL / GRADUATE SCHOOL: __________________________

ARE YOU A U.S. CITIZEN? _________
IF NO, DO YOU HAVE A PERMAMENT RESIDENT (GREEN) CARD? _________

Signature: __________________________  Date: __________________________

DEADLINE: Saturday, January 31, 2015
2015 Summer Oncology Research Fellowship Application

You may provide a typed answer to the following questions in the space provided or on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Please consider what your interests may be in the fields of general and/or pediatric oncology including biochemistry, cell biology, epidemiology, immunology, molecular biology, pathology, pharmacology, clinical pediatric or adult oncology research, psychosocial oncology, radiation oncology, hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, radiology, surgery and neurosurgery. Please rank your top five choices below, with 1 being highest.

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

5. 

2. Personal Statement: Describe briefly why you wish to participate in the Summer Oncology Fellowship Program at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles and USC Keck School of Medicine. (1-2 pages, double-spaced)

ALSO PROVIDE:

1. Current Curriculum Vitae;

2. A recent photograph;

3. Two (2) letters of recommendation from faculty members familiar with your work, emailed directly from the author to HSOP@chla.usc.edu with subject: “Summer Oncology LOR 2015 - [Your first and last name]”

4. If you are applying for the AYA portion of the Fellowship please include a second personal statement with your application; and

5. One (1) letter from your school’s administration verifying your status as a current student in good standing emailed directly to us and/or Official School Transcripts. Letters of recommendation written for your medical school application will not be accepted.

PLEASE EMAIL COMPLETED APPLICATION TO: HSOP@chla.usc.edu
WITH SUBJECT: "Summer Oncology Application 2015 - [Your first and last name]"
Example: Summer Oncology Application 2015 - John Smith
Send application, CV, and photo in one PDF file.

Stuart E. Siegel, MD - Program Director
Rosa Lopez - Program Administrator
Kelly Stapleton - GME coordinator

NOTE: Please do not call or email Dr. Siegel. All inquiries should be made directly to Rosa Lopez or Kelly Stapleton. Thank you!

Deadline: Saturday, January 31, 2015