2015 HHMI Summer Medical Fellows Program

OVERVIEW
The HHMI Summer Medical Fellows Program provides an 8–10 week research experience for medical, dental, and veterinary students in the laboratories of HHMI investigators, early career scientists, HHMI professors or Janelia researchers. This fellowship program is primarily aimed at those students who wish to use the summer research experience to explore continuing research through a year-long research training program. Subsequent applications to the year-long Medical Research Fellows Program are not limited to the laboratory in which the summer experience was obtained. Students from all medical, dental and veterinary schools in the U.S. are encouraged to apply for this beneficial educational opportunity. Up to 20 fellowships will be awarded in 2015.

THE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE
Awardees will undertake a basic, translational, or applied biomedical research project for the summer, which will provide them with an increase in scientific knowledge and skills, and enable them to benefit from a rich research training experience. For those students with prior research experience, the summer HHMI program can offer additional training gains that will have an impact on the student’s progress and continuation in research. Each mentor is limited to one applicant per competition cycle. The host institution must be located in the U.S.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT
• Stipend of $500/week for 8–10 weeks
• Up to $1,000 for roundtrip relocation costs, if the research is conducted at an institution other than the home school

ELIGIBILITY
• Medical, dental, and veterinary students in good standing in their first or second year at schools located in the U.S.
• Applicants must be able to conduct full-time research for a minimum of 8 consecutive weeks (10 weeks preferred) in the laboratory of an HHMI investigator, early career scientist, HHMI professor or with a Janelia researcher.
• Students who have already received an HHMI Summer Medical Fellows Program award, a one-year award from any year-out research training program, who are enrolled in a combined professional degree/Ph.D. program (e.g., M.D./Ph.D.), or who already have a Ph.D. in a laboratory-based biomedical science are not eligible to apply.
• Students may not be enrolled in regular coursework or clinical rotations during the summer fellowship period.
• Students may not concurrently receive funding from another source for summer research.
• Those who are not U.S. citizens must provide evidence of their eligibility to participate in this program by the award acceptance deadline of March 27, 2015.

APPLICATION PROCESS
Applicants should review the list of current HHMI investigators, early career scientists, HHMI professors (http://www.hhmi.org/scientists) and Janelia researchers (http://www.janelia.org/people/scientists); and consider those who have already indicated a willingness to serve as mentors for the summer program, listed on the Summer Medical Fellows mentors Web page (http://www.hhmi.org/programs/medical-research-fellows-program/summer-program/research-and-mentors/mentor-list).

Students should learn about the research underway in prospective mentors’ labs (e.g., via their Web sites, PubMed searches, etc.) and contact investigators of interest. The prospective mentor may request the student’s CV and have further discussions with the student about his/her background, experience and interests. If the mentor and student decide to proceed with the application, they will work together to develop the research proposal and the mentor will submit an applicant assessment and training plan in support of the student’s application.

TIMELINE:
• Online application in the HHMI Competition System: www.hhmi.org/competitions opens November 3, 2014
• Application deadline is February 16, 2015
• Award notifications will be made on March 20, 2015
• Deadline for acceptance of award is March 27, 2015
• Flexible summer start date — 8–10 consecutive weeks required

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:
• Applicant
  † Contact information
  † Educational History (from AMCAS or equivalent)
  † Summary (abstract) of proposed research
  † Research plan — co-written by mentor and student (maximum 2 pages)
  † Prior research experience — project title, dates, mentor
  † Personal statement — why applicant is interested in this summer research experience and his/her scientific interests (1 page)
• Dean
  † Dean’s confirmation (may be from a student affairs dean, advisory dean, etc.) that the student is in good standing and may be excused from required academic activities during the 8–10 week summer fellowship period
• Mentor
  † Applicant assessment, training goals for the student and training environment (1–2 pages)
  † Comment on why you selected this student to work in your laboratory and how you think
the student would benefit from this experience.

- What will the student be doing and how will he/she be trained?
- What do you expect the student will learn?
- How will you mentor this student?
- Comment on the experiences the student should expect (e.g., lab members available for additional mentorship, developmental activities, lab meetings, short courses of 1–2 days, presentations, etc.).

**EVALUATION AND SELECTION**

The HHMI reviewers will evaluate each applicant's demonstrated scholarship and promise for future achievement in biomedical research. The panel will also consider the appropriateness of the designated mentor and the research project for training in the proposed area of research, the quality of the training environment, and the mentor's stated plans for training the applicant. The review committee will evaluate the impact of the research experience and how it would further the applicant's development in relation to the level of any previous research experience.

The final selection of awardees will be made by HHMI based on the review committee evaluations and the program goals. *Evaluations of the review committee will be confidential.*

For further information contact:
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Visit: [www.hhmi.org/medfellowships](http://www.hhmi.org/medfellowships)