2015 Summer Research Internship Program

Program
The Department of Native Hawaiian Health’s Summer Research Internship (SRI) Program provides a limited number of college and university students the opportunity to participate in a clinical, community-based, or translational research study, and a medical curriculum organized by the Research Division of the Department of Native Hawaiian Health. Students are competitively selected.

Preference is given to students with a good academic record, a commitment to learn more about clinical research, and an interest in a career in medicine. While students at all academic levels post high school may apply, evidence of achievement in advanced course work and research experience strengthens an application. Specific experience or competencies may be required for placement on particular projects. All students should be mature, curious, meticulous in scholarly work, and aware that research often takes many hours of tedious work to produce results.

Purpose
The program is designed to expose students to clinical, community-based, or translational research and its role in the field of medicine. It provides hands-on experience to discover how research can be integrated into a medical career.

Program Dates and Time Commitment Expected from the Student
The program will be conducted June 15 – August 7, 2014. Students must be available beginning Monday, June 15, 2014. To successfully complete the program, students should be willing to make a commitment of 40 hours per week for the entire 8-week period, and attend all scheduled curriculum activities. Optional activities, such as observing surgeries and shadowing physicians, are available to all students. If students are interested in maximizing their involvement in the program (participating in the full medical curriculum and optional activities) committing to other summer courses/activities during the 8-week period is strictly prohibited.

Research Experience
Each student is matched with a Principal Investigator and his or her clinical, community-based, or translational research project; usually a pilot study. Every effort will be made to consider the student’s interests and qualifications when projects are assigned.
Students will work directly with their Principal Investigator (affiliated with the Department of Native Hawaiian Health) and will be supported by the Summer Research Internship Program staff. Students are required to attend the formal medical curriculum, which includes three to five scheduled weekly meetings on topics related to research, careers in health care and scheduled visits to medical facilities.

The Principal Investigator (PI) oversees the research aspects of the project work. The student is responsible for coordinating and carrying out any assignments to accomplish project objectives, under the direction of the PI and Summer Student Research Program staff. Students will complete a written project report describing their work, and will present their findings at a scientific presentation held during the last week of the program.

The specific duties to accomplish each project vary. However, a typical research project has the following tasks, some or all of which may be done by the student:

- Conduct a literature review and summarize the findings. This serves to familiarize the student with the current state of knowledge as well as to provide a basis for the introduction and discussion for the final presentation and/or optional paper.
- Critically design and review the data collection instrument and study protocol. This procedure must be well thought out in order to obtain the information necessary to answer the research questions.
- Assist in collecting study data through reviewing medical records, interviewing or testing patients, or other means.
- Develop a computer database or continue one already established; enter data and validate it.
- Analyze data (with assistance), applying appropriate statistical tests and interpreting the results.
- Prepare a final report including the documentation of study methods, analysis of findings, and sufficient information that a project may be completed or interpreted after the student leaves.
- Present research subject matter, hypotheses, and results to an audience of health care professionals and non-professionals, using appropriate audio-visual aids.

Additional Information:

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