Duke Skin Disease Research Center
2015 – 2016 Duke SDRC Mentored Research Program for Third Year Medical Students

REQUEST FOR APPLICATION:
Application Deadline: 11:59 p.m. ET, April 1, 2015

The Duke Skin Disease Research Center (SDRC) seeks to advance discovery and translation in skin biology and disease, by providing access to critical difficult-to-duplicate technologies and resources to facilitate studies at the gene, cellular, tissue, and animal levels with relevance in understanding skin biology and pathogenesis of skin disease. The SDRC is funded through resources provided by Duke University School of Medicine, Pinnell Center for Investigative Dermatology and National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases of the National Institutes of Health.

I. Purpose

The Duke Skin Disease Research Center (SDRC) is offering mentored research opportunities for Duke University 3rd year medical students for the 2015-2016 academic year. This program is designed to build a diverse and inclusive community of individuals with interest in biomedical research investigating skin biology and skin diseases. The Duke SDRC defines diversity in the biomedical research community broadly including but not limited to racial, ethnic, disadvantaged backgrounds, disabilities and LGBT. We believe that through an increasingly diverse biomedical research community we will broaden the breadth and depth of research and patient care to the benefit of society. Rising 3rd year medical students interested in research careers in biomedical research, skin biology, and skin diseases are invited to apply. Mentors for this program will include members of the Duke Skin Disease Research Center. This community of researchers involves members from the Departments of Dermatology, Medicine, Pharmacology and Cancer Biology, Surgery, Pathology, Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, Immunology, Chemistry and Biomedical Engineering. Research activities include basic and translational projects and are located on the Duke Medical Center Campus.

The goals of the Duke SDRC Mentored Research Program are:

- Develop the interest of highly motivated medical students with an interest in biomedical research to the study of skin biology and skin diseases.
- Increase the diversity and inclusiveness of the research community that is focused on skin biology and skin diseases.

Duke SDRC mentored research fellowships for 3rd year Duke medical students will provide support for a 9 month research fellowship. Support will also be available for research fellows to attend the annual meeting of the Society for Investigative Dermatology to present their work. Students will participate in the educational activities of the SDRC including research seminars, work in progress seminars, and clinical conferences. Third year Duke medical students must identify a mentor and project as part of the application process.

II. Key Dates

- Full Application Submission Deadline: April 1, 2015
- Final Selection: April 17, 2015
- Acceptance Deadline: May 15, 2015
- Funding Period: 10 month fellowship between August 2015 to May 2016
III. Eligibility

- Rising Duke University 3rd year medical students interested in research careers in biomedical research, skin biology and skin diseases. Student needs to be a US citizen or US permanent resident.

IV. Funding

Each award will consist of:

- Stipend of $4000.
- Support to attend the annual meeting of the Society for Investigative Dermatology to present research.
- Up to $3000 provided to Duke SDRC mentor’s laboratory to support proposed research.

V. Selection Process and Review Criteria

Application Submission: Awards are made after review of the application by the Duke SDRC Review Committee. The Duke SDRC Review Committee will consider the following when evaluating applications:

- Description of your career goals and plans including your interest in biomedical research and in skin biology and disease.
- Previous research experience and how that influenced your career plans.
- Description of how your participation in this program will help meet the program goals of increasing an interest in research in skin biology and disease and increasing diversity in the skin biology and disease research community.
- Description of Research Project (Abstract, Specific Aims, Research Plan, Budget, References) 5-page limit including tables and figures using single line spacing and a font no smaller than Arial 11, and 1-inch margins. References do not count toward the 5-page limit.
- Letter of support from proposed Duke SDRC mentor
- Evaluation of medical school transcript

VI. Application Procedure

Duke SDRC utilizes the DTMI MyResearchProposal@Duke online application software to accept applications. To apply

- Refer to the [step-by-step user’s guide](http://bit.ly/myresearchproposal) for applying via the DTMI MyResearchProposal@Duke software.
- Select the “2015 – 2016 Duke SDRC Mentored Research Program for Third Year Medical Students” funding opportunity and follow the instructions.

MORE INFORMATION

For additional information on this funding opportunity, please contact Duke SDRC at DukeSDRC@dm.duke.edu.