



# AMERICAN COLLEGE OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

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## Minority Affairs and Cultural Diversity Committee's Summer Scholars Program

### Purpose

The Minority Affairs and Cultural Diversity Committee of the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) is committed to outreach through scholarship and mentorship. We believe that there should be a focus on undergraduate medical trainees underrepresented in medicine for mentorship and research to increase representation of these groups in gastroenterology.

Our summer program serves the dual purpose of highlighting the field of gastroenterology along with increased exposure to academic medicine.

### Program Information

#### *Eligible Participants*

There are two criteria that students must meet in order to be eligible for the summer fellowship. First, eligible students must be currently enrolled in an accredited allopathic or osteopathic medical school, be in good academic standing at their program and be in either their first, second or third year of medical school. Second, eligible students must be from a racial/ethnic group that is from one of the following underrepresented groups: American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black, Afro-Caribbean, or African American, Hispanic or Latino, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.

#### *Application Process*

The application can be accessed at <http://gi.org/acg-summer-scholars-program-student-application/>. Along with demographic data we will require two short essays (less than 500 words each) that describe overall career goals and purpose for participating in our fellowship program and two letters of recommendation (preferably from faculty who have worked with the student). Applications can be submitted online through the link noted above. The application deadline is **April 15, 2018**.

#### *Faculty Mentors*

Faculty mentors will be current members of the ACG. They do not have to be from an underrepresented minority group but must be affiliated with an academic institution where their research is conducted. All attempts will be made to match the accepted fellows with an appropriate mentor.

#### *Program Curriculum*

The program will span approximately 8-10 weeks and will include the following activities:

- Work on research project with a current mentor (i.e. experiments, data gathering, data synthesis, presentations, etc.)
- Shadowing of physicians in either the outpatient or inpatient setting
- Assigned reading of 1-2 pertinent articles

### *Potential Research Areas in Which Students Can Participate*

Given that GI research has significantly evolved over the last several decades, selected students will be able to select from a broad range of summer research experiences. Examples of various types of research offered to students would include, but not be limited to:

- **Basic science:** encompasses familiar scientific disciplines such as biochemistry, microbiology, physiology, and pharmacology, and their interplay, and involves laboratory studies with cell cultures, animal studies or physiological experiments.
- **Clinical research:** branch of healthcare science that determines the safety and effectiveness (efficacy) of medications, devices, diagnostic products and treatment regimens intended for human use. These may be used for prevention, treatment, diagnosis or for relieving symptoms of a disease.
- **Educational research:** examines education and learning processes and the human attributes, interactions, organizations, and institutions that shape educational outcomes. Scholarship in the field seeks to describe, understand, and explain how learning takes place throughout a person's life and how formal and informal contexts of education affect all forms of learning.
- **Health sciences research:** multidisciplinary field of scientific investigation that studies how social factors, financing systems, organizational structures and processes, health technologies, and personal behaviors affect access to health care, the quality and cost of health care, and ultimately our health and well-being.

### **Deliverables and Requirements**

Awardees will have to acknowledge of the following requirements:

- a) Complete a fellowship program assessment survey at the conclusion of the fellowship,
- b) Submit a scientific progress report prior to completion of the fellowship,
- c) Submit at least one project abstract to a local, regional or national conference within the academic year of the summer fellowship,
- d) Acknowledge the *ACG Summer Scholars Program* in all presentations, abstracts, and publications (peer-reviewed or otherwise),

### **Award**

Two fellowship recipients will be chosen and each awarded \$5,000. This amount is inclusive of travel, lodging, and stipend expenses for the 8-10 week research fellowship.

### **For more information please contact:**

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