

Request for Applications

8-week Summer Program in Comparative Effectiveness and Patient-Centered Outcomes Research

Purpose

In a time of accelerated scientific discovery, researchers are needed to translate research to the clinical setting. A national shortage of such investigators is well documented and specialized training is needed early in the career development process. Furthermore, with a continued national focus on comparative effectiveness research (CER) and patient centered outcomes research (PCOR) there is a growing need for training in these areas. Clinically-focused students in the earliest stages of training may have an interest but limited experience in research in PCOR, CER and related topics. The summer program at UAB provides an opportunity for a hands-on research experience leading to the generation of research products, all within a supportive, mentored research environment.

Opportunity

The Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS) Summer Program is an 8-week, mentored summer research program open to students of the CCTS' Partner Network that have completed their first year education in a program leading to a MD or PharmD. Competitively selected students are responsible for the completion of a mentored research project and the preparation of a written abstract, poster and oral presentation summarizing their findings. Underrepresented minorities and/or disadvantaged individuals are encouraged to apply. **Previous research experience is not required.**

Potential research content (may include but are not limited to):

- Patient-centered outcomes research (PCOR)
- Comparative effectiveness research (CER)
- Translating research evidence into practice and policy
- Healthcare efficiency and disparities
- Healthcare quality measurement and improvement
- Implementation science
- Pharmaco-epidemiology and patient safety
- Risk communication
- Health informatics

Seminar Series

In addition to mentored research, a weekly seminar series will focus on professional development and provide exposure to core competencies in clinical and translational research and CER/PCOR.

Topics for the 8-week Summer Enrichment Program*

Week 1: Orientation, How to be a mentee? Developing an IDP	Week 5: Responsible Conduct of Research
Week 2: Introduction to CER/PCOR	Week 6: Stats 101
Week 3: CER/PCOR Study Design 101	Week 7: Community/Stakeholder Engagement in PCOR
Week 4: Information Finding and Evaluation of CER/PCOR Literature	Week 8: Trainee Presentations

* Each session is approximately 2 hours in length and held on Monday mornings.

Application

A **cover letter** of interest containing applicant contact information, timeframe available, and two references is required. In addition, the following attachments are required:

1. Current CV including GPA and relevant test scores (i.e. GRE Scores V, Q, Adv and/or MCAT or PCAT Scores)
2. Official letter of good standing from current Medical or Pharmacy School (usually comes from the local Registrar's office)
3. Letters of recommendation (2)
4. One to two page personal statement clearly addressing each of the following:
 - a. Reason for interest in participating in a patient centered outcomes research experience,
 - b. How this summer experience connects to long-term career goals, and
 - c. Describe research experience to date (if any).

The deadline for application is 5 p.m. March 4, 2015; notification by March 24, 2015.

Additional information

- The training program period is Monday, June 8 2015 to Friday, July 31, 2015. In select circumstances, alternate starting and ending dates may be possible.
- Trainees must devote full-time effort (40 hours week). Clinical duties are limited to those that are an integral part of the research training experience.
- The stipend for the 8-week program is \$3820. Housing on the UAB campus is available for out-of-town students. The cost of housing is the trainee or the trainee's home institution responsibility. (*Communication with CCTS Partner Network site leads will occur regarding housing costs.*)
- The target applicant pool will have finished their first year of medical or pharmacy school. However, those that have been admitted to a pre-professional, clinical program are eligible to apply if they are able to meet the other requirements of the program.
- This is a federally funded program. Thus, trainees must be US citizens or have permanent residency status in order to be appointed.
- Short-term training is not intended, and may not be used, to support activities that would ordinarily be part of a research degree program.

Questions? Contact the CCTS (ccts@uab.edu) or 205.934.7442.

Visit the CCTS website: www.uab.edu/ccts

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