



**KOOPMAN
MEDICAL
STUDENT
RESEARCH
EXCELLENCE
AWARD**

**OVERVIEW
AND CRITERIA**

This prestigious award is named in honor of Distinguished Professor and Chairman Emeritus of The Department of Medicine **William J. Koopman, MD**, who earned worldwide recognition for defining the critical role synovial tissue and autoantibodies play in rheumatoid arthritis.

While previous research experience is certainly considered, an important goal of the internship is also to develop highly motivated students who are new to biomedical research. During the summer training period, applicants will also be required to attend a six-session lecture series entitled, "Understanding the Research Enterprise," which addresses research ethics, hypothesis generation, human and animal welfare issues, and more.

Award Overview and Applicant Criteria

- First year medical students with a passion for research and interest in medical or health-related research
 - Project will be conducted during the summer between the MS1 and MS2 years
- Summer internship program (8 to 10 week) with a research mentor who has primary appointment in The Department of Medicine
 - Identification of a prospective mentor and prior discussion of the project with the mentor is **required**

Application Process

- Select a faculty sponsor with a primary or secondary appointment in The Department of Medicine
- Outline a research project with sponsor
- Application Deadline: **April 4, 2022**
- [Submit an Application](#)

Review Process

- Applications will be reviewed and scored by the Research Development Group
 - This panel is comprised of physicians and basic researchers representing divisions within The Department of Medicine
- Review criteria includes how well the applicant has identified his/her mentor and research goals

Interview and Final Selection

- Up to six semi-finalist will be invited to interview with the Research Development Group **during the third week of March** to discuss research interests and potential Department of Medicine mentors
 - Members of the Research Development Group may assist in the identification of mentors
- Successful applicants (and mentors) will provide a one-page abstract describing the summer training plan
 - Submission of the abstract will be required for final approval of the internship
- Abstracts should be submitted to the Research Development Group by **mid-May**

Awards

- Awards will be given annually to up to four outstanding medical students within The Department of Medicine
- Stipend of \$500/week over the course of summer training
- \$1500 travel allowance (to be used within two years)

Presentations

- Each trainee will be **required** to present results of his/his research experience at the following:
 - Medical Student Research Day
 - Trainee Research Symposium (TRS) in the spring of the following award year
 - Specialty Seminar (more information to follow)

For questions or additional information, please contact **DOM Research - domresearch@uabmc.edu**.