Chicago EYES on Cancer

Educators and Youth Enjoy Science

The Chicago EYES on Cancer program welcomes high school and college students to explore exciting careers in cancer research. Participants work full time for two consecutive summers in the laboratories of established cancer researchers, gaining hands-on experience in areas at the forefront of the field: cancer immunology, pharmacogenomics of anticancer agents, experimental cancer therapeutics, cancer disparities, and more. The summer experience also includes career development and skill-building workshops, a cancer-based faculty lecture series, individualized mentoring, and a culminating research symposium for family, friends, and members of the scientific community. During the school year, participants complete monthly activities exposing them to key facets of the cancer field, from basic scientific concepts to patient care and advocacy. High school participants receive a taxable stipend of $2,600 per year; college students receive $3,500 per year.

PROGRAM DATES: June 18 – August 10, 2018

**Chicago Public School students are encouraged to apply. Arrangements will be made to accommodate the program’s conflict with the school district’s calendar.**

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
- Member of a group underrepresented in the biosciences: Racial/ethnic minority (African American, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, or Pacific Islander), economically disadvantaged, first-generation college-bound, or living with a disability
- High school sophomore, junior or senior, OR college freshman or sophomore at time of application
- At least 16 years of age at start of program
- United States citizen or permanent resident
- Strong interest in a career in scientific research or medicine
- Strong academic record, particularly in math and science
- Ability to commit to the full two-year program, including 8-week research experiences (40 hours/week) for two consecutive summers and monthly enrichment activities during the academic year

ADMISSION
Admission to Chicago EYES on Cancer is highly competitive: roughly ten participants are accepted each year. Selection is based on applicants’ stated interest in the program, academic record, and third-party recommendations. To apply:
- Submit the online application form (http://j.mp/2zhoBGP) before midnight on January 21st, 2018.
- Identify two individuals (at least one teacher) to complete the applicant recommendation form. The Chicago EYES on Cancer team will contact your recommenders directly with instructions after you submit your online application.
- Applicants who advance to the second round: Complete an in-person interview with the program leadership team, scheduled for Monday, February 19th, 2018.

Conflict of Interest: The selection of applicants is managed by the program leadership team. Immediate family members of the leadership team, UChicago faculty, or the Chicago EYES on Cancer Advisory Committee are ineligible for the program. All applications will be subject to the Conflict of Interest Policy.
APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS
Access the Chicago EYES on Cancer application form at [http://j.mp/2zhoBGP](http://j.mp/2zhoBGP). Be prepared to enter the following information:

**Academic Information**
- Current school name, address and phone number
- Current GPA (overall, unweighted)
- Most recent school transcript (upload as a Word or PDF document)

**Program Information**
- Areas of research interest, based on the following categories:
  - **Molecular Mechanisms of Cancer**: Investigation of the molecular and cellular events that cause cancer and result in uncontrolled tumor cell growth and spread. Includes the study of gene mutations, signaling pathways, and regulation of cell proliferation, death, metabolism, motility and metastasis.
  - **Immunology and Cancer**: Study of the interaction between the host immune system and cancer, and manipulation of that interaction to promote immune-mediated tumor destruction in patients with cancer.
  - **Clinical and Experimental Therapeutics**: Research that focuses on identifying novel molecular targets for cancer therapy and translating research findings into clinical application by implementing new therapies, tests or tools into cancer patient care.
  - **Advanced Imaging**: Development of innovative imaging technologies and analysis tools and methodologies to improve cancer detection, diagnosis and treatment.
  - **Cancer Prevention and Control**: Determination of the environmental, genetic, psychological, biobehavioral, and economic factors underlying the development, risk, prevention, diagnosis, prognosis, and survivorship of cancer.
  - **Cancer Disparities**: Understanding the underlying factors that cause certain populations to face an unequal burden of cancer incidence or mortality and devising strategies to reduce or eliminate those differences.
- Responses (no more than 250 words each) to the following questions:
  - What qualities and experiences do you have that best prepare you for the demands of the Chicago EYES on Cancer program?
  - Of the learning opportunities related to careers in science and medicine, why have you chosen to apply to Chicago EYES on Cancer?
  - How do you hope this program will help you move forward with your academic and career plans?
  - Is there anything else important for us to know about you?

**Recommenders**
- Name of two individuals (at least one teacher) who will submit a recommendation on your behalf
- Recommenders’ email addresses and phone numbers

*The Chicago EYES on Cancer team will contact your recommenders directly with further instructions*

**APPLICATION DEADLINES**
- January 21, 2018: Application forms due by midnight
- January 28, 2018: Recommendations due by midnight
- February 19, 2018: On-campus admissions interviews
- March 1, 2018: Acceptance notification
- March 15, 2018: Commitment deadline

**CONTACT**
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