



Summer Student Research Program

Science making miracles

www.cfri-training.ca

The Child & Family Research Institute's Summer Student Research Program fosters research awareness and interest in the undergraduate and medical community. The program attracts students from local, national and international academic institutions, and exposes them to research in the area of children's and women's health. Since 1987, the program has provided more than 800 students an opportunity to participate in research projects related to child and family health under the supervision of researchers from the Child & Family Research Institute or the Children's and Women's Health Centre of British Columbia.

The Research Education Office at the Child & Family Research Institute (CFRI) coordinates the Summer Student Research Program (SSRP) which includes summer studentships and an education program.

CFRI SUMMER STUDENTSHIPS

These studentships are given to top ranked students based on scholarly achievement, scientific merit of the proposed project, and the potential benefits applicants will gain from the experience. Students provided with a studentship work up to a maximum of 12 weeks between May and August.

Who is eligible to apply for these studentships?

- Medical students
- Undergraduate students in sciences/allied sciences returning to an undergraduate program in the fall.

Out-of-province applicants registered at a recognized university are welcome to apply.

How do I find a supervisor?

CFRI researchers with an academic or clinical appointment based at CFRI or the Children's and Women's Health Centre of British Columbia are eligible to supervise summer students.

It is up to applicants to contact potential supervisors. Applicants are advised to visit the CFRI website at www.cfri.ca to view researcher profiles. Researchers may commit to students well before the application deadline; therefore it is strongly recommended that applicants initiate this process as early as practicable. Registration forms are available in early January and are due mid-March.

What if I don't get a CFRI Summer Studentship?

There are other potential sources of funding for summer students including funds from supervisor's research grants, departmental funds or external funding agencies. Students with non-CFRI funding may apply to participate in the education program. Externally-funded students are accepted into the program on a first-come basis. These students must be onsite and supervised by a faculty member associated with CFRI or Children's and Women's Health Centre of British Columbia.

Continued

SSRP Education Program

SSRP EDUCATION PROGRAM

The SSRP includes an education program which provides students an opportunity to:

- Learn about other research projects
- Present their own research project
- Network with students, trainees and researchers

The education program is eight weeks in length and accepts 64 students. Students funded by CFRI are automatically registered in the program. All other students must register as an externally funded student. Applicants may also audit the program. Auditing students are not eligible to present their research project during the seminar series but may participate in the Poster Day.

ORIENTATION

Orientation sessions are offered in May and mid-June. These sessions provide participants an overview of the program and its requirements. The orientation session is an opportunity for students to acquaint themselves with others in the SSRP, and to familiarize themselves with the Institute and hospital facilities.

WORKSHOPS

A variety of workshops are offered to participants between May and June. These include library searching skills, lab safety, animal care, presentation skills, and preparing scientific posters. Those working in wet labs or with animals are required to complete a lab safety or animal care workshop; all other workshops are optional.



SEMINAR SERIES

The seminar series occurs over eight weeks in June and July and includes presentations by SSRP participants and faculty members. All CFRI-funded and External Students are expected to give short presentations on their summer research project. These presentations take place weekly on Tuesday mornings.

Faculty presentations are scheduled on Thursday mornings. These presentations offer students a greater awareness of the breadth and diversity of research occurring onsite in areas of basic science, clinical, and health related research.

POSTER DAY

At the end of July, a Poster Day is held to showcase the summer student research projects. Participants are grouped into basic science or clinical research categories and judged on their presentation and poster.

Application forms for the CFRI Summer Student Research Program can be accessed at www.cfri-training.ca.

"This program was a great way to explore the vast and varied world of health research, and gave me an opportunity to meet and mingle with many like-minded individuals."

–2010 CFRI Summer Student

"An excellent way to get to know peers just as interested in research as you are. Overall, this program gives you a taste of what the scientific community is like."

–2010 CFRI Summer Student