

Chicago **EYES** on Cancer

Educators and **Youth Enjoy Science**

The Chicago EYES on Cancer program welcomes secondary science teachers from the Chicago area to expand their capacity for inquiry-driven, project-based instruction. EYES teacher research fellows conduct research full-time for two consecutive summers in the laboratories of established cancer researchers, gaining authentic 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 a cancer-based scientific lecture series and career talk series, individualized mentoring, and a culminating research symposium for colleagues, family and members of the scientific community. During the school year, fellows receive ongoing support as they implement new knowledge and skills in the classroom. Fellows receive a taxable stipend of \$9,600 the first year and \$10,800 the second.

2023 SUMMER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Orientation: Saturday, June 10, 9AM – 2PM (tentative)
- Research experience: June 19– August 4, 35-40 hours/week; On-campus research placements are contingent on university, local and state policies for COVID safety as of spring 2023, including vaccination requirements.

2023-24 ACADEMIC YEAR ACTIVITIES

- Professional Learning Community (PLC) meetings: October 7, 2023; December 2, 2023; February 3, 2024; April 6, 2024 (Saturdays, 9AM-3PM; dates tentative pending release of CPS 2023-24 calendar)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Currently employed full-time as a high school science teacher
- Strong commitment to advancing students' capacity for inquiry-driven, project-based science learning
- Ability to commit to the full two-year program, including 7-week research experiences (35-40 hours/week) for two consecutive summers and 4 Saturday PLC meetings for two consecutive school years
- United States citizen or permanent resident

Teachers of those underrepresented in biomedicine, encompassing all relevant social, behavioral as well as health sciences, are strongly encouraged to apply. Applications are encouraged from any individuals with a demonstrated commitment to increase the full participation of underrepresented groups in biomedicine.

Please refer to <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-20-031.html> for additional information.

ADMISSION

Admission to Chicago EYES on Cancer is based on applicants' stated interest in the program, their capacity to impact the science learning experiences of underrepresented youth, and letters of support. To apply:

- Submit online application (https://redcap.link/EYES_teacherapp_2023) by 11:59PM Central on Monday, February 20.
- Arrange for your principal/department chair to submit a letter of support by 11:59PM Central on Monday, February 20.
- Applicants who advance to the second round: Complete an in-person interview with the program leadership team, scheduled the week of February 27.

Conflict of Interest Policy: 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 for secondary science teachers at https://redcap.link/EYES_teacherapp_2023. Be prepared to enter the following information:

Employment Information

- Current school name, address and phone number
- Current and anticipated assigned courses and grade levels
- Current CV or resume (please include all coursework and certifications that reflect your level of expertise in the biomedical sciences, e.g., undergraduate classes in cellular and molecular biology, chemistry, etc.)

Program Information

- Your top three areas of interest, based on the following fields of cancer research:
 - **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, anti-tumor immunity, and regulation of cell proliferation, death, metabolism, motility and metastasis.
 - **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.
 - **Computational Cancer Biology:** Analysis and interpretation of genomic and other large-scale data (bioinformatics) to understand the causes, risk and outcomes of cancer.
 - **Cancer Imaging:** Development of innovative imaging technologies and analysis tools and methodologies to improve cancer detection, diagnosis and treatment.
 - **Cancer Engineering:** A type of biomedical or molecular engineering that applies engineering principles and design concepts to improve the prevention, detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer.
 - **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 to the following questions (limit 250 words per response):
 - Describe your role in the science education of underrepresented youth. Please include relevant activities outside of the classroom in addition to your regular teaching and advising responsibilities.
 - How would the Chicago EYES on Cancer program enhance your capacity as a science educator for underrepresented youth?
 - What goals do you have for your participation in the Chicago EYES on Cancer Program?
 - Is there anything else you'd like us to know about you?

Letter of Support

- Name, email, and phone number of either your principal or department chair, who will submit a letter of support on your behalf. You are responsible for making sure the letter is submitted by 11:59PM Central on Monday, February 20, 2023. An instruction sheet for letter writers can be downloaded at www.uchicagomedicine.org/EYES. The online submission form for letters of support can be accessed here: https://redcap.link/EYES_teacherLOS_2023.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

- February 20, 2023: Application and letter of support due by 11:59PM Central
- Week of February 27, 2023: On-campus admissions interviews (evening)
- March 10, 2023: Acceptance notification
- March 17, 2023: Commitment deadline

CONTACT

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