

Chicago **EYES** on Cancer

Educators and **Y**outh **E**njoy **S**cience

Chicago EYES on Cancer 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 \$3,100 per year; college students receive \$4,000 per year.

2022 SUMMER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE June 20 – August 12; On-campus research placements are contingent on university, local and state policies for COVID safety as of spring 2022, including vaccination requirements.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- 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

Individuals from groups underrepresented in biomedicine, encompassing all relevant social, behavioral as well as health sciences, are strongly encouraged to apply. Applications are encouraged from any individual 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 highly competitive. Roughly ten applicants are accepted each year based on their stated interest in the program, academic record and third-party recommendations. To apply:

- Submit the online application form by **11:59PM on Monday, January 24, 2022**. The online application form is accessible here: https://redcap.link/EYES_app_2022.
- Arrange for two individuals (at least one teacher/professor) to complete the online applicant recommendation form by **11:59PM on Monday, January 24, 2022**. Download an instruction sheet for recommenders here: www.uchicagomedicine.org/EYES. Recommenders can access the online recommendation form here: https://redcap.link/EYES_rec_2022.
- Applicants who advance to the second round: Complete an in-person interview with the program leadership team, scheduled for **Monday, February 21, 2022**.

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.*

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APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Access the application form at https://redcap.link/EYES_app_2022. Be prepared to enter the following information:

Academic Information

- Current school name, address and phone number
- Current GPA (overall, unweighted)
- Most recent school transcript (PDF document labeled <LastName_FirstInitial Transcript>, e.g., Rowley_J Transcript)

Note: Transcripts do NOT have to be official. However, they should include courses and grades from the beginning of your freshman year. Your name and the name of your school should be clearly visible.

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):
 - Of the learning opportunities related to careers in science and medicine, why have you chosen to apply to EYES?
 - How do you hope this program will help you move forward with your academic and career plans?
 - What qualities and experiences do you have that best prepare you for the demands of EYES?
 - Is there anything else important for us to know about you?

RECOMMENDATIONS

Arrange for two individuals (at least one teacher/professor) to complete the online recommendation form on your behalf by **11:59PM on Monday, January 24, 2022**. Download an instruction sheet for recommenders here: www.uchicagomedicine.org/EYES.

Recommenders can access the online recommendation form here: https://redcap.link/EYES_rec_2022.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

- January 24, 2022: Application and two recommendations due by 11:59PM
- February 21, 2022: On-campus admissions interviews
- March 1, 2022: Acceptance notification
- March 15, 2022: Commitment deadline

CONTACT

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