

2025 Program Guidelines

Summer Student Research Program (SSRP)

I. PROGRAM OBJECTIVE:

The goal of the SSRP is to provide an outstanding and educational research opportunity to incoming 1st year and rising 2nd year Rutgers New Jersey Medical School students as well as undergraduates in the combined BS/MD program.

After completing eight-weeks of research in respective laboratories, students present their research projects at the Summer Student Research Closing Ceremony held in late July. At the closing ceremony students will present a PowerPoint presentation (5-minutes/individual & 10-minutes/group) on research their outcomes during the eight-week period.

NOTE: The eight-week program will begin the first week of June and conclude on or before July 31st. This year our Kick-off to the SSRP will be held on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at 11:00am.

This is a competitive program with a limited number of stipend funded projects. Students are required to complete an application, attach current resume, and include a brief statement indicating any prior research experience and state how it relates to the current project. Completed applications should be emailed to: Ms. Giovanna Comer at comergi@rutgers.edu and copy Ms. Andreca Frater at af734@njms.rutgers.edu. The application and attachments will be forwarded to the faculty mentor for review. If the student has met the qualifications for the project, he/she will be contacted by the faculty mentor to schedule an interview. This process could take 2-3 weeks for completion. Students are encouraged to call or email the respective Faculty Mentor regarding any questions relating to current projects.

NOTE: Stipend support is available for a limited number of research projects. Stipend support is also reserved for incoming 1st year and rising 2nd year medical students. Undergraduate students in the combined BS/MD program may participate as an unpaid intern while fulfilling their credit requirements.

II. ELIGIBLE PROJECTS:

Suitable research projects **must** include the following elements:

- Project title
- Hypothesis
- Study design
- Techniques to be employed
- Data collection methods and analysis techniques
- Evaluation criteria/interpretation methodology
- Specific delineation of the student's role in the project

Each project description should clearly state the hypothesis to be tested, briefly outline the research program, and describe the specific research activities related to the project.

Approved/posted research projects are a part of larger federal/state/private research funded projects that are customized for student participants to reach successful outcomes within the eight-week span of the program. Rutgers New Jersey Medical School mentors may submit multiple projects for review/approval; however, support of more than one project is not guaranteed.

III. RESEARCH COMPLIANCE:

Projects involving human and/or animal subjects MUST have IRB and/or IACUC approval. Students will not be permitted to enroll in projects without the required approvals and training requirements.

IV. STUDENT SELECTION:

SSRP applications should be emailed to Ms. Giovanna Comer: comergi@njms.rutgers.edu and copy Ms. Andra Frater: af734@njms.rutgers.edu. Faculty mentors are encouraged to meet with all students who applied to the program and meet eligibility requirements, prior to selecting a final candidate. Faculty mentors and students should discuss the details of the project, the responsibilities, and expectations before completing and signing the student application.