Applying for a Year of Research

Timeline, Sign-off & Checksheet

FIRST NAME: ___________________ LAST NAME: ___________________ UCSF EMAIL: ________________

Step 1: Meet with your college advisory mentor

Take time to meet with your college advisory mentor to discuss whether or not a year of research is right for you. Does it fit your career goals? Are you academically ready for it?

Mentor Signature: ___________________________ Date: __________

Step 2: Meet with your potential Pathways director

Decide which Pathway to Discovery relates best to your project and meet with the director of that Pathway to learn what being in a Pathway entails. Directors should also be able to advise you about your potential project interests and how they can further your career.

Director Signature: ___________________________ Date: __________

Step 3: Submit a Letter of Intent by October 30th, 2015

By the time you submit an LOI you should know which Pathway you are declaring, what grants you are applying for (extramural or intramural), and you should have a tentative project title. It is not required that you have a mentor in place yet. You will also submit the two above signatures from your Pathway director and your college advisory mentor at by October 30th.

Step 4: Meet with a co-director of RAPtr (Urmimala Sarkar or Mallar Bhattacharya or Dan Lowenstein)

The co-directors of RAPtr will discuss your project and mentorship with you, giving you more concrete direction if needed. They will later be writing a Dean’s letter on your behalf, so this is a very important step!

Step 5: Submit a draft of your proposal and a short pre-medical school biography paragraph by December 18, 2015 to the co-director of RAPtr you met with

In order for the co-directors of RAPtr to write a dean’s letter for your application, they must have (1) a brief paragraph describing your academic, work, and, if applicable, research experiences prior to medical school and (2) a rough draft of your proposal in hand. Without these, they will be unable to write a letter and your application will be incomplete.
Step 6: For yearlong RAPtr grants, the application is due January 15, 2016 (date may differ for extramural agencies)

If you are applying for an intramural yearlong RAPtr grant you must submit a completed application by 5:00pm on this date. Your application materials should include 2 letters of recommendation, full transcripts (unofficial are acceptable), a mentor endorsement form (submitted separately by your mentor), and a dean’s letter (appended by RAPtr).

OPTIONAL STEP 7: If you are applying for an extramural grant that requires a Dean’s letter, request a Dean’s letter with minimum 6 weeks notice.

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CONTACTS

Dr. Urmimala Sarkar, RAPtr Co-Director
Email Dr. Sarkar
Dr. Sarkar is interested in patient safety for ambulatory chronic disease patients. She focuses on the role of communication in safety, especially for vulnerable populations, and on health information technology to improve safety. For more information, please see Dr. Sarkar's UCSF Profile.

Dr. Dan Lowenstein, RAPtr Co-Director
Email Dr. Lowenstein
Dr. Daniel H. Lowenstein is Professor and Vice Chairman in the Department of Neurology at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), Director of the UCSF Epilepsy Center, and Director of Physician-Scientist and Education Training Programs for the UCSF School of Medicine. For more information, please see Dr. Lowenstein's UCSF Profile.

Dr. Mallar Bhattacharya, RAPtr Assistant Director
Email Dr. Bhattacharya
Mallar comes to us from a background in basic science research relating to lung disease. After completing medical school at Harvard and internal medicine residency at Johns Hopkins, he came to UCSF for his pulmonary and critical care fellowship. Mallar’s research focuses on 1) cellular mechanisms of airway contraction in asthma; and 2) vascular barrier function in acute lung injury and pulmonary edema. Mallar is excited to mentor students as they explore careers in research supported by the RAPtr program. For more information, please see Dr. Bhattacharya's UCSF Profile.