Inquiry Funding Office
Guide to Summer Explore Research

**OVERVIEW:**

Summer Explore is an optional period of scholarship between the first and second years of the Bridges Curriculum. During this eight-week period, students are encouraged to let their curiosity and sense of discovery take the lead, whether that be to explore internationally, engage locally, or connect with a UCSF mentor on research. Completion requirements include:

Funded projects must include the following:
- 8 full-time contiguous weeks (including one week vacation)
- UCSF faculty mentorship
- Abstract and poster presentation at Explore Symposium

**TIMELINE:**

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<tr>
<th>MIS1</th>
<th>Meet IA</th>
<th>Explore Labspot</th>
<th>Confirm Mentor</th>
<th>Submit Application</th>
<th>Notice of Funding</th>
<th>Sign Contract</th>
<th>Research Begins</th>
<th>Abstract &amp; Poster</th>
<th>Explore Symposium</th>
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<td>Fall</td>
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<td>March 1st</td>
<td>March 15th</td>
<td>April 15th</td>
<td>April 22nd</td>
<td>June 18th</td>
<td>Dec. 11th</td>
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**INTRAMURAL FUNDING SOURCES:**

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<tr>
<th>SOM Summer Explore Research</th>
<th>Education Science Summer Fellowship</th>
<th>Center for Community Engagement – Service Learning Grant</th>
<th>Heiman Summer Research Fellowship</th>
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<tr>
<td>- $3,500 stipend</td>
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<td>- All forms of medically-related research (e.g. clinical research, basic research, education research, and social science research) carried out full-time for during the summer between the first and second year of medical school</td>
<td>- Teams of students and faculty build and refine the Bridges curriculum, while establishing new ways of training to be a physician.</td>
<td>- Partnership projects and activities where community-based organizations and UCSF affiliates work together to address community needs, including but not limited to school-based health education, community health assessments, health promotion and prevention, workforce development/economic inclusion, or health policy development.</td>
<td>- UCSF medical students will be provided the opportunity to engage in either independent or team based research or education projects with an Orthopedic faculty mentor.</td>
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<td>- Length: 8 weeks total (1 week for vacation)</td>
<td>- Program Start: June 18th</td>
<td>- Program Start: June 18th</td>
<td>- Program Start: July 1</td>
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<td>- Program Start: June 18th</td>
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**Application Due April 1st**
Contact inquiry@ucsf.edu

**Application Due April 1st**
Contact david.rachleff@ucsf.edu

**Application Due April 1st**
Contact james.rouse@ucsf.edu

**Application Due March 1st**
Contact nicola.sequeira@ucsf.edu

**OTHER SHORT-TERM FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

UCSF Dermatology Summer Research Fellowship
Vanderryn Summer Preceptorship for Underserved Communities
School of Medicine Global Health Research Grant
School of Medicine International Programs Grant for Clinical Experiences
PROF-PATH:

The UCSF School of Medicine also offers additional mentorship and training opportunities for students under-represented in medicine or those whose work affects UIM students. The main components of PROF-PATH are the customized Careers-In-Progress (CIP) sessions. These workshops focus on enhancing academic and emotional competence skills in research to facilitate professional success. Most importantly, PROF-PATH Fellows join a strong learning community of faculty and student scholars offering one another support and guidance. To apply, simply complete the additional question regarding your unique life experiences on the Inquiry Funding Application.

Please contact the Inquiry Funding Office with questions inquiry@ucsf.edu.

NEXT STEPS:

The Inquiry Funding Faculty and Staff are here to help make this process as seamless as possible. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have. Below are some quick next steps to get you started:

1. START WITH LABSPOT – login and “Join a New Program” to view the timeline for Summer Explore.
2. BROWSE UCSF PROFILES - locate potential mentors with available projects under “Find an Opportunity.”
3. CHECKOUT APPLICATION SAMPLES – see good and not-so-good example submissions by type.
4. REVIEW THE PROPOSAL WRITING MODULES – prepared by a longtime grant reviewer.
5. REVIEW THE RUBRICS FOR GRANTS – see how your application will be scored.
6. CONTACT US – to book a 1:1 with an Inquiry Funding Director

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Is there an information session?
Yes – learn more about Inquiry Funding and Summer Explore during Inquiry Immersion. Look for the OPTIONAL “Inquiry Funding Proposal Workshop.”

When should I start thinking about this?
If you are considering research over the summer and are reading this FAQ, you should begin browsing available projects now on Labspot. The process begins with choosing a mentor and a project, then working with your mentor to formulate a proposal. Consider the end of February of your first year the deadline for having a good idea of your mentor and project.

Could I receive another grant to help support my living expenses?
The Summer Explore Grant includes a $3,500 stipend. Receiving additional external grants is allowable IF the total award amount does not exceed $3,500. For example, if you are awarded a Summer Explore grant and find out that you were also awarded an external $2,000 grant, your Summer Explore grant will be reduced to $1,500 to keep your overall package in alignment with other student packages ($1,500 Summer Explore + $2,000 External = $3,500).

Could I start my research before the standard start date?
Your project time is not a registered class, nor is it tracked. Instead, the scope of work including starting and ending dates should be negotiated with your mentor prior to submission of your project to the Inquiry Funding Office. You are under no obligation to continue working on a project beyond the given period.