Program Application Information

Application Deadline

February 6, 2015 at 2:00 pm. Apply at http://precis2.preciscentral.com/Link.aspx?ID=8193980AE300BAB6

Eligibility

Interested 1st-2nd year veterinary students from any accredited veterinary college in the United States or Canada are encouraged to apply.

- Students must have completed at least one year of the Veterinary Curriculum by May of the program year
- Veterinary School must be AVMA accredited and located in the US or Canada
- Trainees must be in good academic standing
- Travel expenses for non-local students are not provided.
- International students are not eligible to apply (Pre-approved Merial International students are the only exception)
- NIH Trainees must be US Citizens

Program Commitments

- Complete a 10-12 week research project during the summer term under the guidance of an approved CVMBS faculty mentor
- Complete an Institutional Responsible Conduct of Research Training Class (offered as part of program)
- Participate in program activities (weekly seminars and tours)
- Produce a final poster presenting their research findings

Students must certify that they understand this is a full time commitment (40 hours/week) over the summer and that they can devote the required time if they accept an offer.

Students selected for NIH positions must commit to a 12 week program. Students selected for other positions may select a 10, 11 or 12 week option, based on their availability. Students selected for exchange programs must commit to at least an 8 week project.

It is possible for students to take a few days or a week during the summer off with prior permission, but students will only be paid for weeks they work.

Stipend

- $11.71/hr for 10-12 weeks (40 hour work week).
- Taxes, medicare and mandatory retirement contributions (in lieu of social security) are automatically deducted by payroll.
2015 Open Positions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Positions Open</th>
<th>Project Length (weeks)</th>
<th>Mentor stipend match required?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NIH</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merial</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris Animal Foundation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchange Programs</td>
<td>2-3</td>
<td>8-12</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The selection committee will review all applications and award positions based on application quality, eligibility and research focus. Students do not need to indicate which funding source they are applying for other than students applying for exchange programs.

2014 Open Position Details

The Merial Summer Scholars Program has been continuously funded through Merial (formerly Merck-Merial) for over a decade. Acceptable project topics can focus on any area of research and students with minimal prior research experience are preferred by the agency.

Projects must be 12 weeks in length and acceptable project topics will focus on research in public and human health. Students must be US citizens. Selected awardees will be required to complete an additional online NIH enrollment process.

The selection committee will select applications from all projects submitted to proceed to the MAF full proposal Fellowship application. We will guide applicants through the additional application process (typically due in April). Proposals will focus on projects of interest to MAF that comply with the Foundation’s health study policy.

CVMBS and University of Alaska, Fairbanks will provide funds for up to two students to conduct research at UAF. Funded positions will provide stipend and up to $2,000 in travel expenses. Students who do not have pre-existing connections with faculty at University of Alaska-Fairbanks should contact Dr. Todd O’Hara after reviewing potential mentors on the UAF website. Please cc Cathy Griseto on the correspondence. If you have a preferred topic interest area, please provide that information in your inquiry, but do not contact UAF faculty directly. Only CSU PVM students in good standing are eligible to apply. Students must commit to at least an 8-week project conducted at UAF.

Funding is available for one research position at the Royal Dick School of Veterinary Studies / The Roslyn Institute. Funded positions will provide stipend and up to $2,000 in travel expenses. Students should contact Dr. Randy Basaraba to discuss possible faculty contacts. Only CSU PVM students in good standing are eligible to apply. Students must commit to at least an 8-week project conducted at RDSVS.
Required Application Components

- Complete online application questions
- 2 letters of reference emailed to Aimee.Oke@Colostate.edu by February 6, 2015 (faculty should email the letters directly to Aimee)
  - One reference should provide a letter attesting to your motivation, independence, reliability and other character attributes
  - The second reference should ideally be provided by the CSU or UAF faculty mentor who has agreed to support your summer research program. This letter should contain a) a short description of the research you will undertake as part of the summer program; and b) that the mentor has the laboratory and financial resources to support your research (this includes the ¼ of the summer stipend)

Application Content and Guidelines

- Please use 4.0 scale for GPAs (convert any GPAs using different scale)
- In College/University History, please list undergraduate school first, followed by any graduate school or other higher education opportunities. Do not list high schools or current Vet Med Program.
- For GRE scores, Verbal and Quantitative scores range from 200-800. Analytical scores range from 0-6 points. Please check that you report scores under appropriate field.

Q1. How would participation in the CSU Summer Veterinary Scholar Program advance your career goals?
Q2. How would you describe your participation in basic or clinical research?
  a. Very little prior experience (please answer questions 3a and 3b)
     Q3a. What has motivated you to participate in research this summer?
     Q3b. What are your goals for participation in a research experience this summer?
  b. Some prior research experience (please answer questions 4a and 4b)
     Q4a. Describe your research experiences and what you found to be rewarding about them.
     Q4b. How would participation in CSU’s veterinary summer research program further advance your interest in research and/or career goals?

Q5. What have you done to explore summer research options and mentors who might sponsor your research this summer? If you have identified a mentor and project, please describe here.

Q6. (Only for applicants interested in summer research at the University of Edinburgh (RDSVS, Scotland) or the University of Alaska, Fairbanks)
a. Describe any previous travel or work experiences and how prior experiences influenced you to apply for the RDSVS/UAF summer research programs

b. What if any faculty, facilities or programs offered at RDSVS/UAF summer research program would advance your interests and/or career goals

c. If you have applied to work internationally, describe your prior international experience or other pertinent information relating to your previous experiences, personal and professional qualifications for this program

**Application Review Information**

**Overall Impact/Merit:**
Reviewers will assess applications for completeness, enthusiasm for program, mentor identification, project type and mentor qualifications and support. (1-10 points)

**Scored Review Criteria:** Each category is worth 1-5 points

1. **Student Attributes-** GPA, college history, GRE
2. Participation as it relates to career goals
3. Relationship of prior research experience to motivation to participate
   - Note: prior research is not required, and lack of experience will not be penalized, but students without basic or clinical research experience should articulate a rationale and motivation for application.
4. Proposed research program and mentor identification
5. Letters of support (5 points each letter)

**Exchange Program (RDSVS/UAF) Criteria**

1. Rationale for application to these research exchange programs
2. Prior research experience that provides confidence that the exchange will be successful
3. Prior overseas/externship experience that provides confidence that the exchange will be culturally successful
4. Evidence of investigation of research opportunities at site of choice.

**Timeline**

Applications and Letters of Reference Due: February 6, 2015 2 pm
Review by Selection Committee: February, 2015
Award Notices Sent: Mid-March
Hiring Paperwork: Mid-April
Program Start Date: May 18, 2015