

RASP

Research and Science Program University of Colorado Denver

PURPOSE OF RASP

To support high-performing undergraduate students from diverse and traditionally under-represented groups in the pursuit of a baccalaureate degree in science and prepare them for research careers in the biomedical field by providing supplemental instruction, science-related enrichment activities, help with application to graduate school, advanced hands-on technical training and intensively mentored research experiences.

PROGRAM

Students who are enrolled at the Downtown Denver Campus of UCD will be part of a learning community. All RASP students will attend the same science academies, will receive supplemental instruction in gatekeeper courses, and will further attend weekly workshops to aid with study skills, time-management and test taking strategies. Monthly workshops on aspects of Scientific Communication will prepare students for publishing their own research results. Prior to the freshman year during the summer of 2008, selected students will attend a 2 week Summer Science Academy and a Freshman Seminar. Students who proceed through the program will be paid for their participation in a research-intensive laboratory experience with distinguished science faculty at the Anschutz Medical Campus and will travel to national meetings to present their results. Training in advanced molecular biology and systems biology laboratory techniques will also be offered. Students are expected to apply to graduate school and will receive GRE training and assistance in the application process. Salary and tuition for graduate students will be provided. Some participating basic science programs at UCD include biochemistry and molecular genetics, cell biology, experimental pathology, basic reproductive science, immunology, microbiology, molecular biology, neuroscience, pharmacology, and pulmonary science.

ELIGIBILITY

Participants are selected on the basis of academic achievement, interest in biomedical science research careers, and inclusion in an under-represented group or category (first generation college attendee, low income / financial need, or ethnic identity as African American, Hispanic, American Indian/Alaska Native, or Southeast Asian/Pacific Islander). Applicants must demonstrate aptitude in one or more laboratory science courses. Other requirements include:

- Minimum index score of 93/ACT score of 25, 2.8 GPA in high school science courses;
- Two (2) letters of recommendation (at least one, preferably both, from science faculty);
- A personal statement of interest in graduate education and future career goals;
- Current transcript (copy acceptable).

EVALUATION AND CREDIT

Summer Science Academy grades will be determined by attendance and participation, assignments based on lectures and labs, and individual projects. Academic credit will be offered for completing the course. Attendance and participation in workshops is mandatory for continuing with the program. Academic credit may be requested for upper division research internships.

SALARY

Participants in mentored research will receive a salary of \$10/hour for up to 15 hours of research during the academic year and 40 hours during the summer, as agreed upon between the student and the mentor. Graduate students will receive salary, tuition and health service fees. Housing will not be provided; however, students are encouraged to explore the residential opportunities at the new UCDHSC dormitories.

APPLICATIONS

Application materials (Part I, transcript, letters, personal statement) should be sent to:

Julie Westerdahl

julie.westerdahl@ucdenver.edu

Administrator

RASP Research and Science Program

University of Colorado Denver

Box C-272, 12700 East 19th Avenue

PO Box 6511

Aurora, CO 80045

Tel: (303) 724.6108

Sonia Flores, Ph.D., RASP Director

E-Mail: sonia.flores@ucdenver.edu

Karen Jonscher, Ph.D., RASP Coordinator

Email: karen.jonscher@ucdenver.edu

RASP Training Program University of Colorado Denver Application

Name: _____

Birth Date ___/___/___ Soc. Sec. # _____

Current Mailing Address (Until this date: ___/___/___): _____

Permanent (family) Mailing Address (if different than above): _____

E-mail address: _____ Telephone No: _____

University / College and Major: _____

Intended graduation date: _____ Current cumulative GPA: _____

Disciplines of special interest to me in the biomedical sciences: _____

***I am a member of the following underrepresented group or category (first generation college attendee, low income/financial need/received Pell Grant, African American, Hispanic, American Indian, Alaska Native, Southeast Asian, Pacific Islander)

My experience in high school regarding science and laboratories have been:

ON THE BACK OF THIS FORM, OR ON A SEPARATE PAGE, DESCRIBE YOUR CAREER GOALS AND EXPLAIN HOW THIS INTERNSHIP WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THOSE GOALS.

Send this application, 2 letters of recommendation from faculty members or advisors, a copy of your transcript, and your personal statement to:

Julie Westerdahl
RASP Program
University of Colorado Denver
Campus Box C-272, 12700 East 19th Avenue
Aurora, CO 80045