

Cleveland Clinic Summer Mentorship

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the daily schedule of a student? What are the work hours? Can we work after hours and on weekends?

A: The typical daily schedule for a student includes lectures, laboratory training, lunch, meetings, and self-studies (research, reading, and writing). Normal work hours are Monday through Friday from 8 to 5pm. Working after hours and weekends is optional. All students working late must leave the laboratory after 7pm.

Q: What is the goal of the mentorship?

A: The summer mentorship program offers students a unique experience to work alongside reproductive scientists and clinicians on novel research projects, participate in writing review book chapters and articles, interact with male infertility specialists, and attend daily lectures. The goal of the program is to get students to hone their public speaking skills, record laboratory values, conduct preliminary statistical analysis, and gain a deeper understanding on how to write a manuscript for publication in a medical journal.

Q: What is the proper attire?

A: Proper attire is business professional. For men, a dress shirt, dress pants and a tie are appropriate. It is not necessary to wear a suit. Examples of appropriate wear for women include clean, neat, non-wrinkled skirts, suits, dresses, tailored pants, slacks (ankle-length), blouses, shirts, sweaters, blazers, sports coats and turtlenecks. Dresses and skirts must be of sufficient length. Jeans and denim material are not appropriate. Other inappropriate attire include revealing, form fitting or see-through clothing, T-shirts, sweat pants, jogging suits, tank tops, shorts, jeans, leggings, Capri style pants, overalls, sandals or shoes without backs, flip-flops, shoes worn without socks or hosiery, fishnet or patterned hosiery, and midriff shirts.

Q: Are we provided any identity badges and lab coats?

A: Yes, you will have your picture taken for badges. Badges are to be worn above the waist. Lab coats will also be provided. In order to receive the Graduation Certificates, students must return their ID badges.

Q: Are we expected to bring our laptops? What if I do not have a laptop?

A: Yes, each student is expected to bring their own laptop. A laptop is required to do your research projects and homework.

Q: Do we need to bring any school supplies?

A: Pens, pencils, highlighters, paper, notepads, stapler, hole-punchers, and binders are provided. Students will also have access to printers and copiers.

Q: Do we have lectures daily? If so how many?

A: Yes, lectures are scheduled daily and students will be provided the daily schedule with speakers and topics.

Q: Is lunch and dinner provided?

A: A week's worth of \$7 lunch vouchers are issued by our Summer Mentorship Coordinators on each Monday. Breakfast is provided every day during morning didactics.

Q: Is parking provided for students who drive to campus?

A: Yes, students shall receive free parking permissions from the hospital's parking services department.

Q: Am I required to attend all the lectures?

A: Yes, attendance is mandatory.

Q: Are morning didactics mandatory?

A: Yes, morning didactics are mandatory. They are necessary for further learning, developing public speaking skills, voicing any concerns from the previous days, and discussing changes to the schedule.

Q: How are the writing projects assigned?

A: Writing topics are determined prior to the student's arrival. Selection of topics are random and after all students have received their topics, students can switch based on their preference.

Q: Can a student work on more than one project? Can multiple students work on the same project?

A: Yes, a student may work on more than one project but it is optional. Additional projects are only given if your mentor believes your first project's quality will not deteriorate given the additional work load.

Q: Will our articles be published in peer-reviewed journals?

A: Only articles that are written with the rigor required for publication will be selected for a manuscript.

Q: How is the lead author on writing projects determined?

A: Lead authorship is given to those students who develop the outline, create the first draft, discuss editing with their mentors, and oversee the submission (after the conclusion of the mentorship) of the manuscript for publication. If collaboration of students occur, the student who puts the most work towards acceptance of their manuscript for publication may get lead authorship.

Q: Are the writing projects completed before the conclusion of the mentorship?

A: All writing projects need to be completed prior to final day of the mentorship. Students with multiple topics are likely to continue working on their own after the mentorship has ended. If an article needs further revisions in order to be published, students can stay longer or edit their papers at home.

Q: Can we work on another project at the conclusion of the mentorship?

A: Students have a variety of ways to continue being involved with ACRM projects. They can elect to stay after the completion of the mentorship to pursue other projects.

Q: How do I find a place to stay? How do I find a roommate?

A: A list of hotels and local apartments with short term rentals will be provided. A student may contact other students to ask for interest in room share. Last year, most students stayed in an apartment; some stayed alone while others shared apartments.

Q: When and where will this work be published?

A: The work usually takes one to two years before it may get published. However, there is no guarantee that a paper will be accepted for publication. The work is usually published in a book or high impact journal such as Fertility Sterility, Reproductive Biomedicine Online, Urology, Reproductive Biology and Endocrinology, etc.

Q: I am more interested in observing surgeries; will I be able to see them?

A: There is a very limited opportunity to observe surgeries as the focus of the program is clinical research.

Q: Are the students expected to give presentations before the conclusion of the mentorship?

A: Yes, all students are expected to create a presentation based on their writing topic and present it to the group at the end of the mentorship. The goal is to share what they have learned.

Q: Explain more about the scientific presentations towards the end of mentorship.

A: Over the course of the mentorship, each student will have a better understanding of a particular topic of their choice, and the presentation is an opportunity for students to share their knowledge with other students and their peers.

Q: Explain the awards: Best Student and Best Presentation. Who selects the winner?

A: Both awards, Best Student and Best Presentation, are voted (anonymously) by mentors and a select panel of judges at the end of the mentorship. In addition the Best Student will be chosen based on their performance on multiple choice questionnaires, laboratory assessments, the final submission of their paper, and the results of the final lab skill test.

Q: Can I volunteer or acquire further employment during the mentorship?

A: No, there is no time for volunteering as students need to work on their projects after normal business hours. The mentorship has been scheduled in advance and cannot be changed to accommodate other avenues of employment.